

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
FOR THE ORNI 21, LLC GEOTHERMAL PROJECT, ORNI 21, LLC.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department, as lead agency, is circulating for public review a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed ORNI 21, LLC Geothermal Project.

Project Title: Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed ORNI 21, LLC Geothermal Project. (SCH No. 2011061029).

Project Location: The proposed geothermal project is located on private land (Wister Area) within the unincorporated area of the County of Imperial, approximately 3 miles north of the community of Niland. The majority of the proposed project is located within the Salton Sea Known Geothermal Resource Area. The proposed binary geothermal power plant would occupy a single parcel (003-200-020), located east of English Road and South of Gillespie Road, near the center of the geothermal well field. The proposed geothermal well field would encompass an area that is generally bounded by the Coachella Canal and Coachella Canal Road to the northeast, Cuff Road to the east, Beach Road and the Imperial Irrigation District's (IID) "U Lateral" to the south, and State Route 111 to the west. The project's proposed geothermal well field contains 145 privately-owned parcels leased or owned by ORNI 21, LLC.

Project Description: The proposed project is the development of a 49.9 megawatt (MW-net) binary geothermal power plant and well field consisting of approximately 9,976 acres of private land. The project components would cover approximately 195 acres of land and include a binary geothermal power plant; a geothermal well field with up to 50 geothermal wells; above and below ground pipelines; access roads; a substation at the power plant, a switching station; a single-circuit 230-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line to interconnect from the power plant substation to the switching station; and, a water pipeline to bring water from the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) East Highline canal to the power plant for cooling water. The project also includes a Zone Change, a Tentative Parcel Map and a Request for Variance.

Anticipated Environmental Effects: The EIR analyzes potential impacts associated with the following: Aesthetics; Agricultural Resources; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Geology/Soils; Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Climate Change; Growth-Inducing Impacts; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology/Water Quality; Land Use/Planning; Noise; Public Services/Utilities; Recreation; Transportation/Circulation; and Cumulative Impacts.

Availability: The Draft EIR can be reviewed at the following location: Imperial County, Planning & Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243.

Comments: Written comments regarding the Draft EIR should be directed to Mr. Armando G. Villa, AICP, Director of Planning & Development Services, Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 and must be received **no later than November 1, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.** (public review period **September 12, 2013** through **November 1, 2013**). A Final EIR incorporating public input will be prepared for consideration by the Imperial County Planning Commission at a future public meeting. For environmental review information regarding this project, please contact Mr. Armando G. Villa, AICP, Director of Imperial County Planning & Development Services at (760) 482-4236.

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