

REVISED
Imperial County
Planning & Development Services Department

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF DRAFT EIR FOR IRIS CLUSTER SOLAR FARM PROJECT AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC EIR SCOPING MEETING

The Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Iris Cluster Solar Farm Project (Ferrell Solar Farm, Rockwood Solar Farm, Iris Solar Farm, and the Lyons Solar Farm and collectively, the "Projects") as described below. A public scoping meeting for the proposed EIR will be held by the Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department on **May 15, 2014** at 6:00PM. The scoping meeting will be held at the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 2nd Floor, County Administration Center located at 940 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243. Comments regarding the scope of the EIR will be accepted at this meeting.

SUBJECT: Iris Cluster Solar Farm Project EIR

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONSIDERATION: To Be Determined.

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed Iris Cluster Solar Farm Project (Ferrell Solar Farm, Rockwood Solar Farm, Iris Solar Farm, and the Lyons Solar Farm and collectively, the "Projects") is located approximately 2 miles west of the City of Calexico, California on privately owned, undeveloped agricultural land encompassing approximately 1,422 acres, in southern Imperial County. The Projects are generally located between State Route 98 to the south, Kubler Road and Preston Road to the north, Weed Road to the east, and Brockman Road to the west.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Ferrell, Rockwood, Iris and Lyons Solar Projects involve the construction of four utility-scale Photovoltaic (PV) solar facilities, on four non-contiguous independent sites encompassing approximately 1,422 acres. Each Project would include a ground mounted photovoltaic solar power generating system, supporting structures, inverter modules, pad mounted transformers, a water treatment system, plant control system, access roads and fencing, an O&M building, and an on-site substation. Each Project would have its own O&M building and onsite substation(s); but may utilize shared facilities with one or more neighboring solar project(s). Each Project would also connect to a 230 kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line which may also be shared with one or more neighboring solar project(s). Each Project is proposed under a separate Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Project Applicant: 85JP 8ME, LLC.

Ferrell Solar Farm (CUP13-0054): The solar array field will encompass a total of 367 acres on two parcels of land (Assessor Parcel Numbers [APNs]: 052-180-042 and 059-050-001). This particular project site is anticipated to generate up to 90 megawatts (MW) of energy.

Rockwood Solar Farm (CUP13-0057): The solar array field will encompass a total of 396.2 acres on three parcels of land (APNs: 052-180-040, 052-180-048, and 052-180-064). This particular project site is anticipated to generate up to 100 MW of energy.

Iris Solar Farm (CUP13-0055): The solar array field will encompass a total of 520.8 acres on three parcels of land (APNs: 059-050-002, 059-050-003, and 059-120-001). This particular project site is anticipated to generate up to 130 MW of energy.

Lyons Solar Farm (CUP13-0056): The solar array field will encompass a total of 138.4 acres on two parcels of land (APNs: 052-180-053 and 052-180-058). This particular project site is anticipated to generate up to 40 MW of energy.

URBAN AREA PLAN: None, located in unincorporated area of County of Imperial

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT: District 2, Supervisor Jack Terrazas

ANTICIPATED SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS: The EIR will analyze potential impacts associated with the following: Aesthetics; Agricultural Resources; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Cumulative Impacts; Geology/Soils; Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Climate Change; Growth-inducing Impacts; Hazards/Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Water Quality; Land Use and Recreation; Public Services; Transportation/Circulation; and Utilities and Service Systems including water supply and energy.

COMMENTS REQUESTED: The Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department would like to know your ideas about the effects this project might have on the environment and your suggestions as to mitigation or ways the project may be revised to reduce or avoid any significant environmental impacts. Your comments will guide the scope and content of environmental issues to be examined in the EIR. Your comments may be submitted in writing to Patricia Valenzuela, Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243. Available project information may be reviewed at this location.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION REVIEW PERIOD: April 22, 2014 through May 27, 2014