

**TO: ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION** 

COMMITTEE

AGENDA DATE: January 26, 2023

FROM: PLANNING & DEVELO	PMENT SERVICES	AGENDA TIME 1:30 PM/ No. 2
	ergy Heliport I Use Permit #22-00	008 SUPERVISORY DISTRICT #4
LOCATION: 6896 Crumme	er Road,	APN: <u>020-110-049-000</u>
Calipatria, CA	92233	PARCEL SIZE:+/- 78.77 Acres
GENERAL PLAN (existing)	Agriculture	GENERAL PLAN (proposed)NA
ZONE (existing) _ A-3-G (Heavy Agr	riculture with Geothern	mal Overlay) ZONE (proposed) N/A
GENERAL PLAN FINDINGS	CONSISTENT	☐ INCONSISTENT ☐ MAY BE/FINDINGS
PLANNING COMMISSION DEC	<u> CISION</u> :	HEARING DATE:
	APPROVED	☐ DENIED ☐ OTHER
PLANNING DIRECTORS DECI	SION:	HEARING DATE:
	☐ APPROVED	☐ DENIED ☐ OTHER
ENVIROMENTAL EVALUATION	V COMMITTEE DEC	CISION: HEARING DATE: 01/26/2023
		INITIAL STUDY: #22-0016
☐ NEGA	ATIVE DECLARATION	☐ MITIGATED NEG. DECLARATION ☐ EIR
DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS /	APPROVALS:	
PUBLIC WORKS AG APCD E.H.S. FIRE / OES SHERIFF. OTHER	<ul> <li>NONE</li> <li>NONE</li> <li>NONE</li> <li>NONE</li> <li>NONE</li> <li>IID. Caltran</li> </ul>	ATTACHED ATTACHED ATTACHED ATTACHED ATTACHED ATTACHED ATTACHED ATTACHED

### **REQUESTED ACTION:**

(See Attached)

# □ NEGATIVE DECLARATION □ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Initial Study & Environmental Analysis For:

### **CalEnergy Heliport Project**

CUP #22-0008 IS #22-0016



Prepared By:

### **COUNTY OF IMPERIAL**

Planning & Development Services Department 801 Main Street El Centro, CA 92243 (442) 265-1736 www.icpds.com

January 2023

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### **SECTION 1** INTRODUCTION

### A. PURPOSE

This document is a policy-level, project level Initial Study for evaluation of potential environmental impacts resulting with the proposed with the proposed Conditional Use Permit (CUP) #22-0008 for a proposed Heliport. For purposes of this document, the abovementioned project will be called the "proposed application". (Refer to Exhibit "A" & "B").

### B. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) REQUIREMENTS AND THE IMPERIAL COUNTY'S **GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING CEQA**

As defined by Section 15063 of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and Section 7 of the County's "CEQA Regulations Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA, as amended", an Initial Study is prepared primarily to provide the Lead Agency with information to use as the basis for determining whether an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Negative Declaration, or Mitigated Negative Declaration would be appropriate for providing the necessary environmental documentation and clearance for any proposed project.

- According to Section 15065, an EIR is deemed appropriate for a particular proposal if the following conditions occur:
- The proposal has the potential to substantially degrade quality of the environment.
- The proposal has the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.
- The proposal has possible environmental effects that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.
- The proposal could cause direct or indirect adverse effects on human beings.

in any significant effect on the environment.			
According to Section 15070(b), a Mitigated Negative Declara	tion is deemed	appropriate if i	t is determined
that though a proposal could result in a significant effect, mitig	ation measures	are available t	o reduce these

According to Section 15070(a), a **Negative Declaration** is deemed appropriate if the proposal would not result

This Initial Study has determined that the proposed applications will not result in any potentially significant environmental impacts and therefore, a Negative Declaration is deemed as the appropriate document to provide necessary environmental evaluations and clearance as identified hereinafter.

This Initial Study and Negative Declaration are prepared in conformance with the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et. seq.); Section 15070 of the State & County of Imperial's Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15000, et. seq.); applicable requirements of the County of Imperial; and the regulations, requirements, and procedures of any other responsible public agency or an agency with jurisdiction by law.

Pursuant to the County of Imperial Guidelines for Implementing CEQA, depending on the project scope, the County

Initial Study, Environmental Checklist Form & Negative Declaration for CalEnergy's Heliport Project CUP #22-0008

significant effects to insignificant levels.

of Imperial Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and/or Planning Director is designated the Lead Agency, in accordance with Section 15050 of the CEQA Guidelines. The Lead Agency is the public agency which has the principal responsibility for approving the necessary environmental clearances and analyses for any project in the County.

### C. INTENDED USES OF INITIAL STUDY AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION

This Initial Study and Negative Declaration are informational documents which are intended to inform County of Imperial decision makers, other responsible or interested agencies, and the general public of potential environmental effects of the proposed applications. The environmental review process has been established to enable public agencies to evaluate environmental consequences and to examine and implement methods of eliminating or reducing any potentially adverse impacts. While CEQA requires that consideration be given to avoiding environmental damage, the Lead Agency and other responsible public agencies must balance adverse environmental effects against other public objectives, including economic and social goals.

The Initial Study and Negative Declaration, prepared for the project will be circulated for a period of 20 days (30-days if submitted to the State Clearinghouse for a project of area-wide significance) for public and agency review and comments. At the conclusion, if comments are received, the County Planning & Development Services Department will prepare a document entitled "Responses to Comments" which will be forwarded to any commenting entity and be made part of the record within 10-days of any project consideration.

### D. CONTENTS OF INITIAL STUDY & NEGATIVE DECLARATION

This Initial Study is organized to facilitate a basic understanding of the existing setting and environmental implications of the proposed applications.

### **SECTION 1**

**I. INTRODUCTION** presents an introduction to the entire report. This section discusses the environmental process, scope of environmental review, and incorporation by reference documents.

### **SECTION 2**

II. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM contains the County's Environmental Checklist Form. The checklist form presents results of the environmental evaluation for the proposed applications and those issue areas that would have either a potentially significant impact, potentially significant unless mitigation incorporated, less than significant impact or no impact.

**PROJECT SUMMARY, LOCATION AND EVIRONMENTAL SETTINGS** describes the proposed project entitlements and required applications. A description of discretionary approvals and permits required for project implementation is also included. It also identifies the location of the project and a general description of the surrounding environmental settings.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS** evaluates each response provided in the environmental checklist form. Each response checked in the checklist form is discussed and supported with sufficient data and analysis as necessary. As appropriate, each response discussion describes and identifies specific impacts anticipated with project implementation.

### **SECTION 3**

**III. MANDATORY FINDINGS** presents Mandatory Findings of Significance in accordance with Section 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines.

Initial Study, Environmental Checklist Form & Negative Declaration for CalEnergy's Heliport Project CUP #22-0008

- IV. PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED identifies those persons consulted and involved in preparation of this Initial Study and Negative Declaration.
- V. REFERENCES lists bibliographical materials used in preparation of this document.
- VI. NEGATIVE DECLARATION COUNTY OF IMPERIAL
- VII. FINDINGS

### **SECTION 4**

- VIII. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS (IF ANY)
- IX. MITIGATION MONITORING & REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP) (IF ANY)

#### E. SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

For evaluation of environmental impacts, each question from the Environmental Checklist Form is summarized and responses are provided according to the analysis undertaken as part of the Initial Study. Impacts and effects will be evaluated and quantified, when appropriate. To each question, there are four possible responses, including:

- 1. No Impact: A "No Impact" response is adequately supported if the impact simply does not apply to the proposed applications.
- 2. Less Than Significant Impact: The proposed applications will have the potential to impact the environment. These impacts, however, will be less than significant; no additional analysis is required.
- 3. Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated: This applies where incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact".
- 4. Potentially Significant Impact: The proposed applications could have impacts that are considered significant. Additional analyses and possibly an EIR could be required to identify mitigation measures that could reduce these impacts to less than significant levels.

### F. POLICY-LEVEL or PROJECT LEVEL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

This Initial Study and Negative Declaration will be conducted under a policy-level, project level analysis. Regarding mitigation measures, it is not the intent of this document to "overlap" or restate conditions of approval that are commonly established for future known projects or the proposed applications. Additionally, those other standard requirements and regulations that any development must comply with, that are outside the County's jurisdiction, are also not considered mitigation measures and therefore, will not be identified in this document.

### G. TIERED DOCUMENTS AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

Information, findings, and conclusions contained in this document are based on incorporation by reference of tiered documentation, which are discussed in the following section.

### 1. Tiered Documents

As permitted in Section 15152(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, information and discussions from other documents can be included into this document. Tiering is defined as follows:

"Tiering refers to using the analysis of general matters contained in a broader EIR (such as the one prepared for a general plan or policy statement) with later EIRs and negative declarations on narrower projects; incorporating by reference the general discussions from the broader EIR; and concentrating the later EIR or negative declaration solely on the issues specific to the later project."

Tiering also allows this document to comply with Section 15152(b) of the CEQA Guidelines, which discourages redundant analyses, as follows:

"Agencies are encouraged to tier the environmental analyses which they prepare for separate but related projects including the general plans, zoning changes, and development projects. This approach can eliminate repetitive discussion of the same issues and focus the later EIR or negative declaration on the actual issues ripe for decision at each level of environmental review. Tiering is appropriate when the sequence of analysis is from an EIR prepared for a general plan, policy or program to an EIR or negative declaration for another plan, policy, or program of lesser scope, or to a site-specific EIR or negative declaration."

Further, Section 15152(d) of the CEQA Guidelines states:

"Where an EIR has been prepared and certified for a program, plan, policy, or ordinance consistent with the requirements of this section, any lead agency for a later project pursuant to or consistent with the program, plan, policy, or ordinance should limit the EIR or negative declaration on the later project to effects which:

- (1) Were not examined as significant effects on the environment in the prior EIR; or
- (2) Are susceptible to substantial reduction or avoidance by the choice of specific revisions in the project, by the imposition of conditions, or other means."

### 2. Incorporation By Reference

Incorporation by reference is a procedure for reducing the size of EIRs/MND and is most appropriate for including long, descriptive, or technical materials that provide general background information, but do not contribute directly to the specific analysis of the project itself. This procedure is particularly useful when an EIR or Negative Declaration relies on a broadly-drafted EIR for its evaluation of cumulative impacts of related projects (*Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation v. County of Los Angeles* [1986, 177 Ca.3d 300]). If an EIR or Negative Declaration relies on information from a supporting study that is available to the public, the EIR or Negative Declaration cannot be deemed unsupported by evidence or analysis (*San Francisco Ecology Center v. City and County of San Francisco* [1975, 48 Ca.3d 584, 595]). This document incorporates by reference appropriate information from the "Final Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Assessment for the "County of Imperial General Plan EIR" prepared by Brian F. Mooney Associates in 1993 and updates.

When an EIR or Negative Declaration incorporates a document by reference, the incorporation must comply with Section 15150 of the CEQA Guidelines as follows:

- The incorporated document must be available to the public or be a matter of public record (CEQA Guidelines Section 15150[a]). The General Plan EIR and updates are available, along with this document, at the County of Imperial Planning & Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 Ph. (442) 265-1736.
- This document must be available for inspection by the public at an office of the lead agency (CEQA Guidelines Section 15150[b]). These documents are available at the County of Imperial Planning & Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 Ph. (442) 265-1736.

- These documents must summarize the portion of the document being incorporated by reference or briefly describe information that cannot be summarized. Furthermore, these documents must describe the relationship between the incorporated information and the analysis in the tiered documents (CEQA Guidelines Section 15150[c]). As discussed above, the tiered EIRs address the entire project site and provide background and inventory information and data which apply to the project site. Incorporated information and/or data will be cited in the appropriate sections.
- These documents must include the State identification number of the incorporated documents (CEQA Guidelines Section 15150[d]). The State Clearinghouse Number for the County of Imperial General Plan EIR is SCH #93011023.
- The material to be incorporated in this document will include general background information (CEQA Guidelines Section 15150[f]). This has been previously discussed in this document.

### Environmental Checklist

- 1. Project Title: CalEnergy's Heliport Project Conditional Use Permit #22-0008 Initial Study #22-0016
- 2. Lead Agency: Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department
- 3. Contact person and phone number: Diana Robinson, Planning Division Manager, (442)265-1736, ext. 1751
- 4. Address: 801 Main Street, El Centro CA, 92243
- 5. E-mail: dianarobinson@co.imperial.ca.us

11.

- 6. **Project location**: The project site is located at 6896 Crummer Road, Calipatria, further identified as Assessor's Parcel Number 020-110-049-000 and legally described as Par 1 of PM 2281 of SE 1/4, Section 5, Township 12 South, Range 13 East, S.B.B.M.
- 7. **Project sponsor's name and address**: CalEnergy Operating Corporation

7030 Gentry Road, Calipatria, CA 92233

- 8. General Plan designation: Agriculture
- 9. **Zoning**: A-3-G (Heavy Agricultural with Geothermal Overlay Zone)
- 10. Description of project: CalEnergy is proposing to construct and operate a helicopter landing pad ("Heliport") for the purpose of corporate use and to aid facility emergency response situations. It is being proposed within less than 1 acre within the approximately 78-acre parcel and accessory to the existing geothermal facility, currently permitted under Conditional Use Permit (CUP) #05-0054 Unit 5 Region 1. According to the project description provided by applicant, construction is expected to take 4-6 weeks and will involve use of standard construction heavy equipment such as an excavator, forklift, and concrete mixer truck among others. The helipad is expected to be used once or twice every six months or as needed.
- 11. **Surrounding land uses and setting**: The project site is a geothermal facility and is surrounded by agricultural fields, some with injection wells and tubes, accessory to the geothermal facility. Neighboring parcels are also zoned A-3-G (Heavy Agricultural with Geothermal Overlay). The Salton Sea is within a mile to the west.
- 12. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.): A) Planning Commission
- 13. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentially, etc.?

Note: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code, Section 21080.3.2). Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code, Section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code, Section 21082.3 (c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

California Native American Tribes have been consulted through the AB 52 consultation process; however, no responses were received.

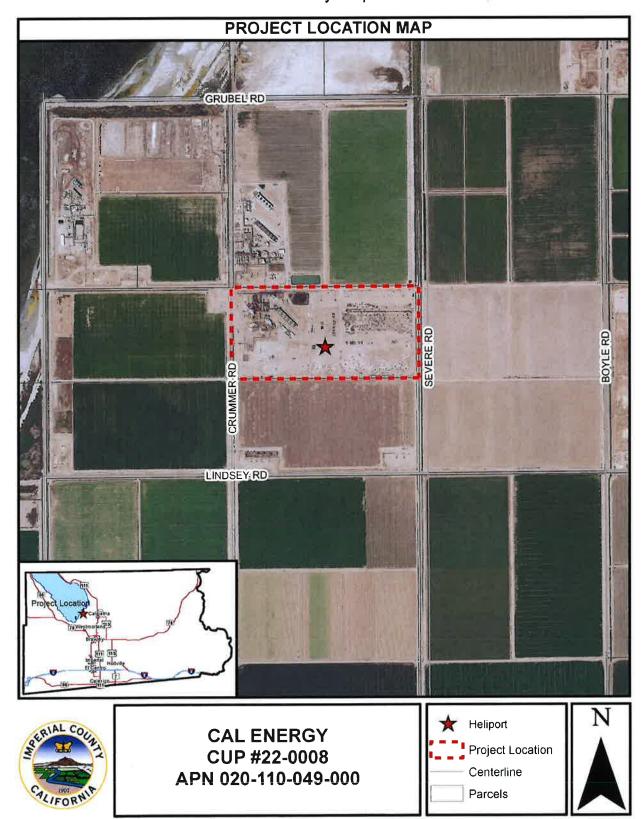
### **ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

The environmental factors ch hat is a "Potentially Significa							
Aesthetics	☐ Agri	culture and Forestry Res	sources [	] /	Air Quality		
☐ Biological Resources	☐ Cult	ural Resources		E	Energy	,	
☐ Geology /Soils	Gree	enhouse Gas Emissions		]	Hazards & Haza	ardous Materials	
☐ Hydrology / Water Quality	Land	d Use / Planning		_ I	Mineral Resourc	ces	
Noise	Pop	ulation / Housing		_ F	Public Services		
Recreation	☐ Tran	sportation		] 1	Fribal Cultural F	Resources	
Utilities/Service Systems	Wild	fire		N	Mandatory Find	ings of Significance	е
ECLARATION will be prepared from that although the gnificant effect in this case by MITIGATED NEGATIVE DE Found that the proposed IPACT REPORT is required Found that the proposed Found Found that the proposed Found Found The Found T	proposed proje ecause revision ECLARATION project MAY I	ns in the project hawill be prepared.  nave a significant	ave been made by effect on the en	y or aç	greed to by nent, and a	the project pr	opon
itigated" impact on the envirusment to applicable legal nalysis as described on attailly the effects that remain to	ronment, but at standards, and ched sheets. A	least one effect 1 I 2) has been ad In ENVIRONMEN	l) has been adequal dressed by mitig	uately ation	analyzed i measures	n an earlier d based on th	ocum le eal
Found that although the properties of the proper	een analyzed a (b) have beer visions or miti	adequately in an n avoided or mi gation measures	earlier EIR or NE tigated pursuant that are imposed	EGAT to t d upo	IVE DECLA that earlier on the prop	ARATION pur EIR or NE	rsuar GAT
ALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT	OF FISH AND	WILDLIFE DE M	IINIMIS IMPACT	FINDI	NG: Y	es	] No
EEC VOTES PUBLIC WORKS ENVIRONMENTAI OFFICE EMERGE APCD AG SHERIFF DEPART	NCY SERVICES		NO ABSENT	1			
m Minnick, Director of Planr	Mh			6	2023	3	

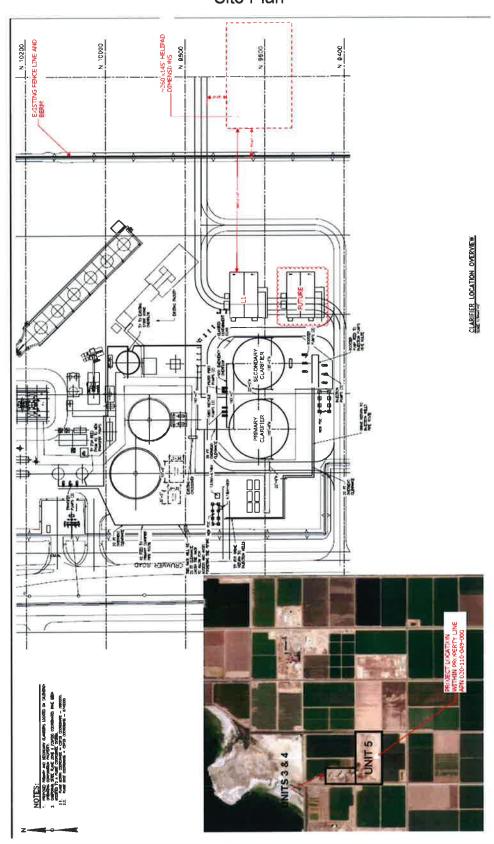
### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

- A. Project Location: The project site is located at 6896 Crummer Road, Calipatria, further identified as Assessor's Parcel Number 020-110-049-000 and legally described as Par 1 of PM 2281 of SE ¼, Section 5, Township 12 South, Range 13 East, S.B.B.M.
- **B.** Project Summary: CalEnergy is proposing to construct and operate a helicopter landing pad ("Heliport") for the purpose of corporate use and to aid facility emergency response situations. It is being proposed within less than 1 acre within the approximately 78-acre parcel and accessory to the existing geothermal facility, currently permitted under Conditional Use Permit (CUP) #05-0054 Unit 5 Region 1. According to the project description provided by applicant, construction is expected to take 4-6 weeks and will involve use of standard construction heavy equipment such as an excavator, forklift, and concrete mixer truck among others. The helipad is expected to be used once or twice every six months or as needed.
- **C.** Environmental Setting: The project site is a geothermal facility and is surrounded by agricultural fields, some with injection wells and tubes, accessory to the geothermal facility. Neighboring parcels are also zoned A-3-G (Heavy Agricultural with Geothermal Overlay). The Salton Sea is within a mile to the west.
- D. Analysis: The project site is zoned A-3-G (Heavy Agricultural with Geothermal Overlay) per Zoning Map #53 (Title 9, Section 92553.00). The proposed use is permitted with a Conditional Use Permit in accordance with Title 9 Division 5, Chapter 9, Section 90509.02 ii. The proposed use is consistent with the Imperial County General Plan's designation, and the Imperial County's Land Use Ordinance. In addition, the adoption of the CEQA Initial Study for this project would be consistent with applicable County and State ordinances and regulations.
- E. General Plan Consistency: The project site is designated as "Agriculture", according to the County's General Plan Land Use Map. The proposed project is not expected to conflict with the County's General Plan, and can be found consistent with the Land Use and Renewable Energy Elements.

# Exhibit "A" Vicinity Map



### Exhibit "B" Site Plan



### **EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:**

- A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance

		Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
l. <b>AE</b>	STHETICS				
Excep	t as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the p	project:			
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista or scenic highway?				
	<ul> <li>a) The project is not located near a designated scenic vising Scenic Highways Element. The proposed helipad would not No impacts are expected.</li> </ul>	ta or scenic hig be visualized fr	nway as per the imperom the roads since it	is a flat concre	rculation & ete surface.
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				$\boxtimes$
	b) The closest fragment of a highway that is designated as " located to the east of the Sea. No scenic resources are nearb				e project is
c)	In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surrounding? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area would the project coefficient with applicable			$\boxtimes$	
	urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?  c) The project area has been previously disturbed and the p significant levels are expected.	roposed use is t	flat and above ground	level; therefore	e, less than
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?  d) Lighting for construction shall be shielded or directed o used during the day or as needed. Additional lighting for second project area. Less than significant impacts are expected.	nsite to minimiz	ze potential impacts. T roposed but will be sh	ine helipad wo	uld only be ected to the
II.	AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES				
Agricu use in enviro the sta	termining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significal ultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining who mental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled bate's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Asses in measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted	I by the California ether impacts to by the California I ssment Project a	a Department of Consent forest resources, includ Department of Forestry and the Forest Legacy A	vation as an opti ing timberland, and Fire Protec ssessment proje	onal model to are significant tion regarding ect; and forest
a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?			$\boxtimes$	
	<ul> <li>a) The project site is not classified as Prime Farmland, Ur classified as "Urban and Build-Up Land" and "Other Land" and Mapping Program<sup>1</sup>; therefore, less than significant impacts a</li> </ul>	ccording to the (	nor Farmland of Stat California Department	ewide Importa of Conservatio	nce, and is n Farmland
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract? b) The project is consistent with the uses allowed with a C Geothermal Overlay) zone. The County has no active William	onditional Use I	Permit under the A-3-0cts; therefore, no impa	G (Heavy Agric	⊠ ultural with ed.
c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?				$\boxtimes$
-					

<sup>1</sup> California Important Farmland https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/agriculture/

			Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No impact (NI)
	С	) No impacts to forest land are expected to occur since the	area is not with	in or near any forest n	or timberland	areas.
d	n d	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?  i) There is no forest land in the area of the project locationsequence of the approval of the proposed project; therefore	tion and no co	nversion to non-fores	st use would	OCCUF as a
е	r to F to e F	nvolve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?  2) Although the proposed use is not directly related to farming Permit, in accordance with Division 5, Chapter 9. The project is mpacts are expected.	ng, it is consiste	ent with the allowed us fied as farmland, there	es with a Conditore, less than	Litional Use significant
Wh	ere av	<b>QUALITY</b> railable, the significance criteria established by the applicable air on to the following determinations. Would the Project:	quality managen	nent district or air pollution	on control distric	ct may be
а	o q a c	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?  a) APCD was contacted through the ICPDS's "Request for construction activities must adhere to the Air District's rule activities must adhere to the Air District's rule quality.	les and regulati	ions, including but no	ot limited to, F	Rule 801 of
b	o) F c u s b	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?  b) The construction activities would cause temporary in considerable net increases of pollutants are expected. Regardigures and potential stakeholders and during emergencies beginnificant impacts are expected.	mpacts to the	environment and sur	rrounding roa	ds, but no
C	o c p it	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutants concentrations?  c) The workers at the geothermal facility are the closest so protective measures in place for all workers and although the t is not near the facility as to impact sensitive receptors. The geothermal building with sensitive receptors. Less than sign	project site is w ne proposed hel	vithin the same parcel a lipad will not be within	as the geother	mal facility,
O	e d	Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?  1) The proposed helipad is not expected to create odors si Construction activities will be temporary; therefore, less than			a to be used f	or landing.
IV.	BIOL	OGICAL RESOURCES Would the project:				
· 8	í h s p a a t t	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through nabitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?  a) The Imperial County General Plan's Conservation and Ope the project site is not within a designated sensitive habitat, being within the Burrowing Owl Species Distribution Model. has been previously disturbed, less than significant impacts	and Figure 2 " Since no vertice	Sensitive Species Map al structures are being	p" shows the	project site

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> IC General Plan Conservation and Open Space Element Figure 1 https://www.icpds.com/assets/planning/conservation-open-space-element-2016.pdf

		Potentially Significant Impact ( <b>PSI</b> )	Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impac (NI)
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?  b) The project site is surrounded by flat agricultural fields a natural community; therefore, no impacts are expected to or		☐ d within or near any ri	☐ parian habitat ∢	⊠ or sensitive
c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?  c) The proposed project site is mostly surrounded by agriculture however, since the project does not include water or wastever.	ultural flat lands, vater, less than s	and is less than 2 milignificant impacts are	es from the Sa	lton Sea;
d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?  d) The proposed project is not expected to impact the mov located as close to a body of water so that it could be impact National Wildlife Refugee area, according to Figure 3 "Agenc Open Space Element, but is not expected to create impacts."	ted by the project by Designated Ha	t. The area is close to bitats" of the Imperial	a Sonny Bono	Salton Sea
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinance protecting biological resource, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?  e) There are no policies protecting biological resources that less than significant impacts are expected.	at apply to the so	cope of work of the pr	⊠ oposed project	:; therefore,
f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?  f) There are no conflicts expected with any of the mentioned	plans within the	 project area; therefore	, no impacts ar	⊠ e expected.
V. <b>C</b>	ULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project:				
a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?  a) The Imperial County General Plan's Conservation and O Cultural Sensitivity Map" shows that the project site is not and no comments were received when asked for consultation	within any knov	vn areas of Native Am	erican Cultural	
b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?  b) The project site does not appear to be within the vicinity Map <sup>4</sup> from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. The fideep enough to cause an impact on buried resources pursu therefore, no impacts are expected.	foundations for t	he proposed helipad a	are not expecte	d to be
c)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?  c) There are no cemeteries within the vicinity of the proje §7050.5, CEQA §15064.5, and California Public Resources C than significant levels.	ct site. Complia Code §5097.98 w	nce with the Californiould bring any potent	⊠ a Health and S ial project impa	Gafety Code acts to less

Potentially

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Imperial County General Plan Conservation and Open Space Element Fig 6 http://www.icpds.com/CMS/Media/Conservation-&-Open-Space-Element-2016.pdf 4 2011 California Tribal Lands Map

_			Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impaci ( <b>NI</b> )
VI.	ENEI	RGY Would the project:				
á	,	Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?  a) The project will not require energy for operations but may energy are expected since the construction would be temporare expected.	require for con	struction purposes. No weeks; therefore, les	⊠ lo substantial a s than significa	amounts of ant impacts
t	(	Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?  b) The proposed heliport is meant to be an accessory struc energy source. No impacts are expected regarding conflicts plan.	ture of the exis	sting geothermal facil	ity, which is a by or renewable	renewable efficiency
/II. (	GEOL	LOGY AND SOILS Would the project:				
а		Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including risk of loss, injury, or death involving:			$\boxtimes$	
	ā	a) According to the latest State of California Special Studie miles of a known fault; therefore, the proposed helipad s Building Code to incorporate the most stringent earthquak grading plan requirements shall bring the project impacts	hall be designe ke resistant me	ed to comply with the asures. Compliance w	latest Californ	ia Uniform
	1	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42?  1) The site has been previously disturbed and it not with expected to occur regarding rupture of a known earthquaker.	in a fault zone;	therefore, less than s	⊠ ignificant impa	Cts are
	2	<ul> <li>Strong Seismic ground shaking?</li> <li>The project consists on a flat concrete area for lar therefore, no impacts regarding ground shaking are expense.</li> </ul>	nding of helico	pters and no raised s	structures are	⊠ proposed;
	3	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction and seiche/tsunami?  3) According to the Department of Conservation Regulate areas; therefore, no impacts are expected.	Ory Maps, the p	oject site is not withir	The designate	⊠ d Tsunami
	4	) Landslides? 4) Also using the Department of Conservation Regulat landslide hazard zone; therefore, no impacts are expecte	tory Maps, it w	as found that the site	e is not locate	⊠ d within a
b)	b le	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?  The proposed project would not cause for substantial grouetter or plan to I.C. Public Works Department (PWD) for approcompliance with PWD would cause the project's impacts to be	val, designed to	prevent soil erosion		inage oil.
c)	w po su c) aj	e located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable or that tould become unstable as a result of the project, and otentially result in on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, ubsidence, liquefaction or collapse?  The nature of the project would not cause for issues with pproved building permit would be required for review of adess than significant impacts are expected.	unstable grou quate foundation	nd. The area is not won design to prevent o	ithin a fault zo	ne and an therefore,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Fault Activity Map of California http://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/fam/

-			Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
	d)	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in the latest Uniform Building Code, creating substantial direct or indirect risk to life or property?  d) Since no structures are being proposed for human occ	Unancy less th	an significant impact	⊠ s are expected	
		expansive soils.	cupancy, less th	an signincant impact	a are expected	i regarding
	e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?  e) No septic tanks are being proposed, therefore, no impacts	are expected			
	_	,	s are expected.			
	f)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?  f) The project is on previously disturbed land and no paleon	itological resour	ces have been identif	ied; therefore,	⊠ no impacts
		are expected.				
/III.	GRI	EENHOUSE GAS EMISSION Would the project:				
	a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			$\boxtimes$	
		The construction activities of the project are expected to Construction is anticipated to take between 4 to 6 weeks. Let	generate some t ss than significa	out not a substantial a int impacts are expect	mount of emissed to occur.	sions.
	b)	Conflict with an applicable plan or policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			$\boxtimes$	
		b) The California Air Resources Board (CARB)'s AB 32 Sc threshold for GHG emissions for a project with these characte County's requirements in the building permit and construc- significant.	eristics and dura	tion. <sup>6</sup> Compliance wi	th APCD and all	l applicable
IX.	HA	ZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Would the project	et:			
	a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				$\boxtimes$
		<ul> <li>a) The proposed project does not have the potential to creat transportation, use or disposal of hazardous materials, sinc are expected to occur.</li> </ul>	te a significant he they are not p	nazard to the public or part of the scope of w	r environment t ork; therefore,	through the no impacts
	b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonable foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				$\boxtimes$
		b) As stated above, no hazardous materials are included in	the proposed pr	oject; therefore, no im	pacts are expe	cted.
	c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				$\boxtimes$
		c) There are no schools within one-quarter mile of the project	ct site; therefore	e, no impacts are expe	cted.	
	d)	Be located on a site, which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant			$\boxtimes$	
110-						

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> CARB's AB 32 Scoping Plan https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/document/updatedscopingplan2013.htm Initial Study, Environmental Checklist Form & Negative Declaration for CalEnergy's Heliport Project CUP #22-0008

			Potentially		
		Potentially Significant	Significant Unless Mitigation	Less Than Significant	(Mr. Innocent
		Impact (PSI)	Incorporated (PSUMI)	Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
	hazard to the public or the environment? d) Government Code Section 65962.5 requires the Departme list of hazardous waste and substances sites from the DTSC EnvironStor Database <sup>7</sup> , the proposed helipad is not expecte and limited helicopter trips; therefore, less than significant in	EnviroStor Dated to create imp	tabase. Although the pacts due to the nature	roject site is li	sted in the
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?  e) According to Figure 1A of the 1996 Imperial County Airpo located within two miles of an airport, nor is it located within occur.	Tt Land Use Con an airport land	npatibility Plan (ALUC use plan; therefore, no	Plan), the proj impacts are e	⊠ ect is not xpected to
f)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation			$\boxtimes$	
	plan?  f) The proposed project shall comply with all County requimpairing its implementation and is meant to provide additional significant levels are expected.	uirements relate	ed to any applicable on the for emergency land	emergency pla	n to avoid , less than
g)	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?  g) The project site is located within a Local Responsibility A Zone Map. <sup>8</sup> Zones are classified based on a combination of threatening buildings, as well of the likelihood of the area buno impacts are expected.	how a fire will b	ehave and the probabi	lity of flames a	nd embers
НҮ	DROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY Would the project:				
a)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?  a) The scope of work does not include water; therefore, no in	mpacts are expe	Cotted.		$\boxtimes$
b)	Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?  b) Groundwater use is not a part of the scope of work of this	project; therefo	ore, no impacts are exp	Dected.	$\boxtimes$
c)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:			$\boxtimes$	
	c) According to the Imperial County Public Works requirer patterns are designed to avoid alterations of streams or to ne all County Building (ICPDS) and Public Works (PW) Departmental impacts to be less than significant.	gatively affect th	ne surrounding water	ources. Comp	liance with
	(i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;			$\boxtimes$	
	(i) As previously stated, adherence to the approved gra alterations to the existing drainage patterns. Less th				y negative
	<ul> <li>(ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;</li> </ul>			$\boxtimes$	

X.

Final Price True 8 FRAP Fire Hazard Severity Zones <a href="https://eqis.fire.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=Sacramento&tour=True">https://eqis.fire.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=Sacramento&tour=True</a>

			Potentially	Potentially Significant	Less Than	
			Significant	Unless Mitigation	Significant	
			Impact ( <b>PSI)</b>	Incorporated (PSUMI)	Impact (LTSI)	No Impaci (NI)
		(ii) As previously stated, the applicant's compliance with IC avoid contribution of runoff. Less than significant impacts at (iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed		egarding grading/drai	nage plans will	prevent or
		the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or;			$\boxtimes$	
		(iii) The applicant's compliance with ICPDS and PWD rega of runoff or polluted water, or alter stormwater drainage s impact levels. In addition, no water is expected to be used	ystems would lo			
		<ul><li>(iv) impede or redirect flood flows?</li><li>(iv) The project site is within Flood Zone A, according to the</li></ul>				
		therefore, subject to review in accordance with said restr the flat nature of the proposed helipad, less than significa			onstruction pla	ans. Due to
	d)	In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?				$\boxtimes$
		d) According to the California Emergency Management Age within a Tsunami Inundation Area for Emergency Planning; t				t site is not
	e)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?			$\boxtimes$	
		<ul> <li>e) No water is expected to be used for the operations of the the construction of the project; therefore, less than significan plans.</li> </ul>				
XI.	LA	ND USE AND PLANNING Would the project:				
	a)	Physically divide an established community?  a) The project would not physically divide any established city, which is City of Calipatria; therefore, no impacts can be		it is approximately 5	miles west of t	⊠ the nearest
	b)	Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?  b) The proposed use is allowed pursuant to Section 90509.03 to any applicable land use plans are expected.	☐ 2 ii), subject to a	n approved Condition	al Use Permit. I	⊠ No impacts
XII.	MII	NERAL RESOURCES Would the project:				
	a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				$\boxtimes$
		a) The project site area is not located in or near any exist Conservation and Open Space Element, Figure 8 "Existing M				
	b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				$\boxtimes$
		<ul> <li>b) As previously stated, the proposed project would not resu in the Imperial County General Plan Conservation and Open S no impacts are expected to occur.</li> </ul>				
XIII.	NO	DISE Would the project result in:				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Federal Emergency Management Area (FEMA) https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search#searchresultsanchor
<sup>10</sup> Imperial County Conservation and Open Space Element Figure 8 https://www.icpds.com/planning/land-use-documents/general-plan/conservation-and-open-space-element

			Potentially Significant Impact	Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
-			(PSI)	(PSUMI)	(LTSI)	(NI)
	a)	Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?  a) The proposed project would trigger noise levels with the e substantial levels since the activities would take between 4 to				
	L			· ·	·	
	b)	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?  b) As previously stated, temporary noise levels and vibratio levels would have to be maintained within the County's groundborne vibration. Adherence to the "Noise Element" significant levels.	allowed thresh	nold to avoid nuisan	ces regarding	excessive
	c)	For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?  c) No known private airstrip is located near the vicinity of the	project; therefo	ore, no impacts are ex	Dected.	
XIV.	PO	PULATION AND HOUSING Would the project:				
	a)	Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and business) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?  a) The proposed project consists on a helipad to be used occ No impacts are expected to population growth.	Casionally for st	aff, service providers	and emergency	⊠ y landings.
	b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?  b) Since no housing is being proposed as part of the project	; no impacts are	e expected to occur.		$\boxtimes$
XV.	Pl	UBLIC SERVICES				
	a)	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:  a) The project would not cause for the need of any provisio would not substantially affect any type of public service, or than significant impacts are to be expected.	ons or cause for except an increa	alterations involving	⊠ governmental nstruction activ	☐ facilities. It rities. Less
		Fire Protection?     Less than significant levels are expected due to the nature.	of the project,	 being a flat helipad to	⊠ be used occas	ionally.
		Police Protection?     Less than significant levels are expected to police protection.			$\boxtimes$	
		3) Schools?	П	П	П	$\bowtie$
		<ol> <li>No schools and no population growth are expected as a reare expected.</li> </ol>	esult of approvi	ng the proposed helip	ad; therefore, i	no impacts
		4) Parks? 4) The proposed project is not within a park or would cause f	 for the need to a	liter one; therefore, no	impacts are ex	⊠ xpected.

Potentially

				Potentially Significant	Significant Unless Mitigation	Less Than Significant	
				Impact	Incorporated	Impact	No Impact
,	,			(PSI)	(PSUMI)	(LTSI)	(NI)
		5) Other Public Facilities? 5) No other public facilities would be aff	ected by the propos	ed project; theref	ore, no impacts are e	xpected.	$\boxtimes$
Χ	VI. <b>RI</b>	ECREATION					
	a)	Would the project increase the use neighborhood and regional parks or of facilities such that substantial physical defacility would occur or be accelerated?  a) Since the proposed site is not within a substantial physical defacility would occur or be accelerated?	ther recreational sterioration of the	a, parks or recrea	Lional facilities, no im	pacts are expe	⊠ ected.
	b)	Does the project include recreational facilities construction or expansion of recreational facilities have an adverse effect on the environment.	cilities which might				⊠
		existing recreational facilities; therefore,		existing eational of the proposed project; therefore, no impacts are expected.  existing eational of the ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   existing and impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recreational facilities, no impacts are expected.   ential areas, parks or recrea			
XVII.	TR	ANSPORTATION Would the project:					
	a)	Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or the circulation system, including transit, roa pedestrian facilities?	dway, bicycle and		a mann of travel in	_	
		, -		i is illeant to add	a means of traver in t	.ase of all elle	rgency.
	b)		> ıblic Works and Calt			submittal and	
		Section 15064.3 subdivision (b).	e iess than significai	nt and no conflict	s are expected regar	aing CEQA Gui	luelines
	c)	Substantially increases hazards due to a feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	intersections) or				_
		<ul> <li>c) No design features have been propos impacts are being expected.</li> </ul>	ed that could damag	e or cause a sub	stantial burden on tra	ıffic; therefore,	no
	d)	Result in inadequate emergency access? d) The project is meant to facilitate emer	gency access to the	site; therefore, n	o impacts are expect	red.	
XVIII.	TF	RIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES					
	a)	Would the project cause a substantial advestignificance of a tribal cultural resource, Resources Code Section 21074 as either as cultural landscape that is geographically define size and scope of the landscape, sacrewith cultural value to a California Native Ar	defined in Public ite, feature, place, efined in terms of ed place or object				$\boxtimes$
		that is:  a) The project site is not within the vicin California Native American Tribe, accord	ity of any area that h ding to the Imperial an Cultural Sensitivi	<b>County General</b>	Plan Conservation a	nd Open Space	e Element,
		(i) Listed or eligible for listing in the C of Historical Resources, or in a				$\boxtimes$	

Potentially

			Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
		historical resources as define in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k), or (i) The project site has been previously disturbed a Code Section 21074 or 5020.1 (k); therefore, less tha				esources
	0	<ul> <li>(ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth is subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American Tribe.</li> <li>(ii) There is no substantial evidence to determine the significance.</li> </ul>	□ this site as a re	□	⊠ ont pursuant to	
		referenced codes; therefore, less than significant im				
XIX.	UTI	LITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project:				
	a)	Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?		Cand placeting but was		
		<ul> <li>a) The project would not require water for operation, except thresholds related to water nor wastewater; therefore, no imp</li> </ul>			nu not exceed	ally
	b)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?  b) No water will be required for the operation of the helipad. a canal, the same mechanism can be used for construction a				
	c)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?  c) No wastewater is expected from this project, expect for co	onstruction and	Cleaning, which be ter	⊠ nporary in natu	Ire. Less
		than significant impacts are expected.		•		
	d)	Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?			$\boxtimes$	
		d) The proposed project is not expected to generate waste in be generated from construction activities; therefore, less than			Waste is only e	expected to
	e)	Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?  e) The proposed project shall comply with all federal, state a	 nd local statues	and regulations. Com	⊠ ipliance with sa	☐ aid codes
		shall cause for impacts to be less than significant.				
XX.		.DFIRE ed in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very hi	nh fire hazard se	verity zones would the	Project <sup>.</sup>	
'	а)	Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or		Conco, House the		$\bowtie$
		<ul><li>emergency evacuation plan?</li><li>a) The project is not expected to impact an emergency responsion impacts are expected.</li></ul>	nse for wildfire	since the area is not v	س vithin an wildfi	_

		Potentially Significant Impact (PSI)	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)	Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)	No Impact (NI)
b)	Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?  b) The project will not have occupants on site other than whe landings. Since the area is not within a wildfire zone, no impa			or corporate sta	⊠
c)	Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?  c) No infrastructure is expected to be required since the area accessory structure to the geothermal facility. No impacts are			would be consid	⊠ dered an
d)	Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?  d) The area is not within an unstable zone where people or st	ructures could	□ be in risk; therefore, r	no impacts are	⊠ expected.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21083.05, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 65088.4, Gov. Code; Sections 21080(c), 21080.1, 21080.3, 21083.3, 21083.3, 21093, 21094, 21095, and 21151, Public Resources Code; Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino, (1988) 202 Cal. App. 3d 296; Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors, (1990) 222 Cal. App. 3d 1337; Eureka Citizens for Responsible Govt. v. City of Eureka (2007) 147 Cal. App. 4th 357; Protect the Historic Amador Waterways v. Amador Water Agency (2004) 116 Cal. App. 4th at 1109; San Franciscans Upholding the Downtown Plan v. City and County of San Francisco (2002) 102 Cal. App. 4th 656.

Revised 2009- CEQA Revised 2011- ICPDS Revised 2016 - ICPDS Revised 2017 - ICPDS Revised 2019 - ICPDS

Potentially Significant Impact (PSI) Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated (PSUMI)

Less Than Significant Impact (LTSI)

No Impact (NI)

# SECTION 3 III. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following are Mandatory Findings of Significance in accordance with Section 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines.

а)	Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, eliminate tribal cultural resources or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?		B	
b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)		B	
c)	Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?		B	

### IV. PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED

This section identifies those persons who prepared or contributed to preparation of this document. This section is prepared in accordance with Section 15129 of the CEQA Guidelines.

### A. COUNTY OF IMPERIAL

- Jim Minnick, Director of Planning & Development Services
- Michael Abraham, AICP, Assistant Director of Planning & Development Services
- Diana Robinson, Planning Division Manager
- Imperial County Air Pollution Control District
- Department of Public Works
- Fire Department
- Ag Commissioner
- Environmental Health Services
- Sheriff's Office

### **B. OTHER AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS**

- Native American Heritage Commission
- Imperial Irrigation District

(Written or oral comments received on the checklist prior to circulation)

#### V. REFERENCES

- California Important Farmland https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/agriculture/
- IC General Plan Conservation and Open Space Element Figure 1
- https://www.icpds.com/assets/planning/conservation-open-space-element-2016.pdf Imperial County General Plan Conservation and Open Space Element Fig 6 http://www.icpds.com/CMS/Media/Conservation-&-Open-Space-Element-2016.pdf
- 4. 2011 California Tribal Lands Map
- 5. Fault Activity Map of California http://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/fam/
- CARB's AB 32 Scoping Plan
- https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/document/updatedscopingplan2013.htm EnviroStor Database http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=Sacramento&tour=True
- FRAP Fire Hazard Severity Zones <a href="https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/">https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/</a>
  Federal Emergency Management Area (FEMA) <a href="https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search#searchresultsanchor">https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search#searchresultsanchor</a>
- 10. Imperial County Conservation and Open Space Element Figure 8 https://www.icpds.com/planning/land-usedocuments/general-plan/conservation-and-open-space-element
- 11. "County of Imperial General Plan EIR", prepared by Brian F. Mooney & Associates in 1993; and as Amended by County in 1996, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2006 & 2008, 2015, 2016.

#### VI. **NEGATIVE DECLARATION – County of Imperial**

The following Negative Declaration is being circulated for public review in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act Section 21091 and 21092 of the Public Resources Code.

**Project Name:** 

CalEnergy's Heliport Project – Conditional Use Permit #22-0008 Initial Study #22-00xx

**Project Applicant:** 

CalEnergy Operating Corporation

**Project Location:** 

The project site is located at 6896 Crummer Road, Calipatria, further identified as Assessor's Parcel Number 020-110-049-000 and legally described as Par 1 of PM 2281 of SE 1/4, Section

5, Township 12 South, Range 13 East, S.B.B.M.

Description of Project: CalEnergy is proposing to construct and operate a helicopter landing pad ("Heliport") for the purpose of corporate use and to aid facility emergency response situations. It is being proposed within less than 1 acre within the approximately 78-acre parcel and accessory to the existing geothermal facility, currently permitted under Conditional Use Permit (CUP) #05-0054 Unit 5 Region 1. According to the project description provided by applicant, construction is expected to take 4-6 weeks and will involve use of standard construction heavy equipment such as an excavator, forklift, and concrete mixer truck among others. The helipad is

expected to be used once or twice every six months or as needed.

### VII. FINDINGS

This is to advise that the County of Imperial, acting as the lead agency, has conducted an Initial Study to determine if the project may have a significant effect on the environment and is proposing this Negative Declaration based upon the following findings:

The same of the sa		al Study shows that there is no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on comment and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
		The Initial Study identifies potentially significant effects but:
(	(1)	Proposals made or agreed to by the applicant before this proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration was released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur.
(	(2)	There is no substantial evidence before the agency that the project may have a significant effect on the environment.
(	(3)	Mitigation measures are required to ensure all potentially significant impacts are reduced to levels of insignificance.
		A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
to suppo available	rt this fi for revi	egative Declaration means that an Environmental Impact Report will not be required. Reasons nding are included in the attached Initial Study. The project file and all related documents are ew at the County of Imperial, Planning & Development Services Department, 801 Main Street, 243 (442) 265-1736.
		NOTICE
The publi	ic is inv	ited to comment on the proposed Negative Declaration during the review period.
1-1	26	2023 Sor July
Date of D	etermina	ation Jim Minnick, Director of Planning & Development Services

The Applicant hereby acknowledges and accepts the results of the Environmental Evaluation Committee (EEC) and hereby agrees to implement all Mitigation Measures, if applicable, as outlined in the MMRP.

Applicant Signature

### **SECTION 4**

VIII.

**RESPONSE TO COMMENTS** 

(ATTACH DOCUMENTS, IF ANY, HERE)

IX.	MITIGATION MONITORING & REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP)	
(ATTACH DOCUME	NTS, IF ANY, HERE)	



# Imperial County Planning & Development Services Planning / Building

# RECEIVED

APR 11 2022

March 25, 2022 REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND COMMENTS

Jim Minnick

IMPEHIAL COUNTY

The attached project and materials are being sent to you for you well and as an early rectification that the following project is being requested and being processed by the County's Planning & Development Services Department. Please review the proposed project based on your agency/department area of interest, expertise, and/or jurisdiction.

To: County Agenc	iles	State Agencies/Other	Cities/Other			
			O(tios) Outo			
<ul> <li>         ☐ County Executive Offi         Esperanza Colio-Warren/         ☐ County Counsel – Eri         ☐ APCD – Monica Souce</li> </ul>	/Ben Salorio ic Havens	☐ IC Sheriff's Office – Robert  Benavidez/Ray Loera/Scott Sheppeard  ☐ County Airport – Janell Guerrero  ☐ CHP – Ernesto Ruedas/ Monica	<ul><li>             ⊠ City of Calipatria – Jorge Galvan         </li><li>             ⊠ Calipatria Fire Dept. – Jesse Llanas         </li></ul>			
Dessert		Tavares/Jose Serrano	IID - Donald Vargas			
⊠ EHS – Jeff Lamoure/I Andrade/Jorge Perez/Var     ⊠ Public Works – Guille	nessa R Martinez		Marine Corps Air Station - Yuma - Community Planning & Liaison Office - Mary Ellen Finch			
Gay	anio menuozaloonii		<ul> <li>✓ Naval Air Facility – Marybeth Dreusike</li> <li>✓ Fort Yuma – Quechan Indian Tribe -</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>✓ Assessors – Robert N</li> <li>✓ Board of Supervisors</li> <li>District #4</li> </ul>	- Ryan E. Kelley -		H. Jill McCormlck/Jordan D. Joaquin  Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians – Thomas Tortez  Torres-Martinez Indian Tribe – Joseph Mirelez			
□ Ag. Commissioner – I     □ Gomez/Jolene Dessert/ S     ○ Ortiz     □ IC Fire/OES Office – I	Sandra Mendivil/ Carlos	v				
Estrada/Robert Malek	Andrew Loper Amedo					
		736 or ICPDSCommentLetters@co.imperia				
•	Project ID: CalEnergy Operating Corporation - Conditional Use Permit #22-0008/Initial Study #22-0016					
Project Location:	6922 Crummer Road, Cal	lipatria, CA 92233 / APN 020-110-049-000				
Project Description: Current use of property is geothermal plant. Use will not change. CUP involves adding a helicopter landing pad to property for general transportation (personnel, dignitaries, etc.) and to provide emergency evacuation of injured persons.						
Applicants: Sudheep Pavithran/CalEnergy Operating Corporation						
Comments due by: April 11th, 2022 at 5:00PM						
COMMENTS: (attach a se		no comments, please state below and mail, fax,	or e-mail this sheet to Case Planner)			
Name: Ana Gomez Signature: Signature: Tille: Ag Biologist II						
Date: 4/11/2022 Telephone No.: 442 265 1500 E-mall: analgomez @ co.imperial. co.us						
Date: 4/11/2022	Talephone Hon					

801 Main St. El Centro, CA. 92243. (442) 265-1736 Fax (442) 265-1735 planninginfo@co.imperial.ca.us...www.icpds.com

### Valerie Grijalva

From:

Ana L Gomez

Sent:

Monday, April 11, 2022 8:41 AM

To:

Jim Minnick; ICPDSCommentLetters

Cc:

Shannon Lizarraga

Subject:

Attachments:

**CUP22-0008 CalEnergy Operating Corporation** 

CUP22-0008 No comments.pdf

RECEIVED

APR 11 2077

IMPERIAL COUNTY

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

### Good morning,

The Ag Commissioner has no comments on CalEnergy Operation Corporation for applicants Sudheep Pavithran/CalEnergy Operating Corporation.

### Best,

### Ana Gomez

Agricultural Biologist/Standards Specialist Special Projects Division Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner Sealer of Weights and Measures (442) 265-1500 analgomez@co.imperial.ca.us

TELEPHONE: (442) 265-1800 FAX: (442) 265-1799



April 11, 2022

Mr. Jim Minnick Planning & Development Services Director 801 Main St. El Centro, CA 92243 RECEIVED

APR 07 2022

IMPERIAL COUNTY
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

SUBJECT: Conditional Use Permit (CUP) 22-0008—CalEnergy Operating Corporation

Dear Mr. Minnick:

The Imperial County Air Pollution Control District ("Air District") thanks you for the opportunity to review the application for Conditional Use Permit (CUP) 22-0008 for the construction and operation of a helipad at the CalEnergy geothermal power plant located at 6922 Crummer Road in Calipatria, California, also described as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 020-110-049-000.

All construction activities must adhere to the Air District's rules and regulations, including but not limited to, Rule 801 of Regulation VIII.

The Air District's rule book can be accessed via the internet at <a href="https://apcd.imperialcounty.org/rules-and-regulations/">https://apcd.imperialcounty.org/rules-and-regulations/</a>. Should you have questions, please call our office at (442) 265-1800.

Sincerely, Curtis Blandoll

Curtis Blondell

APC/Environmental Coordinator

Reviewed by

Monica N. Sougier

APC Division Manager

CUP 22-0008

Page 1 of 2



### **COUNTY OF IMPERIAL**

## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

JANETTE ANGULO, M.P.A.

Director

STEVEN MUNDAY, M.P.H., M.S. *Health Officer* 

March 28, 2022

Jim Minnick, Planning & Development Director IC Planning & Development Services 801 Main Street El Centro, CA 92243

Subject:

Environmental Health Comments for CUP #22-0008

Dear Mr. Minnick,

The Imperial County Division of Environmental Health (DEH) is providing the comments below in response to the request for review and comments for CUP #22-0008. The project as described is a construction of a helicopter landing pad, located at 6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria, CA. The property is also described as Assessor's Parcel Number 020-110-049.

Please consider the following comments for the proposed project.

1. If the facility intends to add an aboveground petroleum storage tank containing jet fuel for the helicopter, please ensure the facility management contacts the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) Imperial CUPA and obtain proper permits for the aboveground petroleum storage tank to be regulated under the Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) program element. In the event a tank containing jet fuel at the property for the helicopter is added, the facility shall include the petroleum-based product in the facility petroleum inventory under the State website CERS.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 442-265-1888.

Sincerely,

Mario Salinas

Mario Salinas Environmental Compliance Specialist RECEIVED

MAR 28 2022

IMPERIAL COUNTY
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Division of Environmental Health, 797 Main Street, Suite B, El Centro, CA 92243 (442) 265-1888 (442) 265-1903 Fax icphd.org

# ATTACHMENT A APPLICATION

# CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT I.C. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPT. 8D1 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 482-4236

☐ APPROVED

FINAL ACTION:

DENIED

DATE

801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 482-4236

APPLICANT MUST COMPLETE ALL NUMBERED (black) SPACES - Please type or print -EMAIL ADDRESS PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME Sudheep Pavithran Sudheep.Pavithran@calenergy.com MAILING ADDRESS (Street / P O Box, City, State) ZIP CODE PHONE NUMBER 7030 Gentry Road, Calipatria, CA 92233 760-348-4006 APPLICANT'S NAME **EMAIL ADDRESS** 3. Sudheep Pavithran Sudheep.Pavithran@calenergy.com MAILING ADDRESS (Street / P O Box, City, State) ZIP CODE PHONE NUMBER 760-348-4006 7030 Gentry Road, Calipatria, CA 92233 **EMAIL ADDRESS ENGINEER'S NAME** CA, LICENSE NO. Bill Romines 1r P.E.#C73473/A-Contractor#808913 bill.romines@powereng.com PHONE NUMBER MAILING ADDRESS (Street / P O Box, City, State) ZIP CODE 66207 816-402-4240 POWER Engineers Inc. 16041 Foster, Overland Park, Kansas ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. SIZE OF PROPERTY (in acres or square foot) ZONING (existing) 6. 020-110-049-000 A-3-G 7. PROPERTY (site) ADDRESS 6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria, CA 92233 8. GENERAL LOCATION (i.e. city, town, cross street) The project site's approximately 13 mi. northwest of the City of Calipatria, CA, 15 mi. north of the City of Westmorland, CA, 1 mile east of the southeastern shore of the Salton Sea & 13.5 mi. southwest of the City of Niland, CA LEGAL DESCRIPTION The project area is expected to total less than one (1) acre within legally described APN 020-110-049-001 corresponding to the Salton Sea Unit 5 power plant at Southeast 1/4, North 1/2 of Section 5, Township 11 South, Range 13 East, San Bernadino Base & Meridian. PLEASE PROVIDE CLEAR & CONCISE INFORMATION (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF NEEDED) DESCRIBE PROPOSED USE OF PROPERTY (list and describe in detail) Current use of property is Geothermal Plant. Use will not change. CUP involves adding a Helicopter Landing Pad to property for general transportation (personnel, dignataries, etc.) and to provide emergency evacuation of injured persons. DESCRIBE CURRENT USE OF PROPERTY Geothermal Plant 12. DESCRIBE PROPOSED SEWER SYSTEM N/A, existing DESCRIBE PROPOSED WATER SYSTEM N/A, existing 13. DESCRIBE PROPOSED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM N/A, existing 14. IF YES, HOW MANY EMPLOYEES WILL BE AT THIS SITE? IS PROPOSED USE A BUSINESS? ☐ No No additional employees X Yes 1 / WE THE LEGAL OWNER (S) OF THE ABOVE PROPERTY REQUIRED SUPPORT DOCUMENTS CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION SHOWN OR STATED HEREIN IS TRUE AND CORRECT. SITE PLAN - Enclosed A. 03/21/2022 Sudheep Pavithran B. FEE Enclosed- Check No. 20664 for \$ 5500.00 Print Name
Sudheep Pavithran Dig U/Y Logardo, Sudhaap Placebin Date OTHER Unit 5 CUP 05-0054 - Review of Signature applicable conditions. OTHER Print Name Date Signature REVIEW / APPROVAL BY APPLICATION RECEIVED BY: OTHER DEPT'S required D P.W. APPLICATION DEEMED COMPLETE BY: DATE ☐ E.H.S. APPLICATION REJECTED BY: DATE APCD OES TENTATIVE HEARING BY: DATE 



May 13, 2022

Mr. Jim Minnick Imperial County Planning and Development Services 801 Main Street El Centro, CA 92243

Subject: Airport Land Use Commission Public Hearing – CUP 22-0008

CalEnergy Helipad Project - Minor Project Update

Dear Mr. Minnick:

This letter acknowledges the receipt of Notice of Public Hearing & Scheduled Hearing Date(s) received by mail on May 10, 2022. The Airport Land Use Commission has set a hearing to review CalEnergy's proposal to construct a Helicopter Pad to be located, at 6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria, CA, 92233.

After reviewing the application, we are kindly requesting minor updates to the original Conditional Use Permit application packet submitted on March 21, 2022. The updates for consideration are heliport design specifications that have matured since the submission of the original application.

Below are the application changes being requested:

- 1. Cover Letter Project Description and Regulatory Review (No change).
- 2. Attachment A Project Site Map
  - a. Update: Drawing providing supplemental design details. The drawing is titled, "CalEnergy Salton Sea Heliport Dimensions: Sikorsky S-92 (VH-92)".
  - b. Updated: Site Map depicting more accurate project footprint.
- 3. Attachment B Conditional Use Permit Application (No Change Project Location remains APN 020-049-000).

CalEnergy wishes to thank the Imperial County Planning and Development Services for reviewing this information. As usual, should you have any questions, please contact Osvaldo Flores at (760) 348-4212 or by email Osvaldo.Flores@CalEnergy.com.



CalEnergy Helipad May 16, 2022 Page 2

#### Sincerely,

Anoop
Sukumaran
Anoop Sukumaran
Director, IPP Environmental Services

#### Enclosure

Attachment A – Original Application Packet
Attachment B – Supplemental Drawing & Updated Site Map

cc: Patricia Valenzuela – Imperial County Planning and Development Services
Osvaldo Flores
Kamal Abdelkarim
Environmental File

## **Attachment A- Original Application Packet**



March 21, 2022

Mr. Jim Minnick Imperial County Planning and Development Services 801 Main Street El Centro, CA 92243

Subject: Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Classification – CalEnergy Helipad Project

Dear Mr. Minnick:

CalEnergy Operating Corporation (CalEnergy) is proposing to construct and operate a helicopter pad (Helipad) for the purpose of corporate use and to aide facility emergency response situations. The proposed Helipad will be located within the project area of the existing Unit 5, Region 1 facility operating under CUP No. 05-0054.

Attachment A contains illustrations showing the general area of the proposed site location and preliminary dimensions for the Helipad. Per Attachment A, proposed project will likely be sited to the south-east of the facility's main process train on a disturbed land within the CUP's project area, APN 020-110-049-000. The proposed Helipad project area will be less than 1 acre.

The construction and development of Helipad is subject to the requirements of Title 9, Division 2, Chapter 3 Subpart 90203.01 CUP, therefore a review of the conditions that pertain to the construction of the Helipad has been provided with this letter. The primary aim of this letter is to respectfully request an appropriate CUP classification, for the development of a Helipad in accordance with Land Use Permit.

#### **Project Location:**

The proposed Helipad site of less than 1 acre will be located at Unit 5 Region 1 Facility, 6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria, California, further identified as Assessor's Parcel Number 020-110-049-000. The Unit 5 project area totals approximately 78 acres and is located Southeast ¼, North ½, Section 5, Township 12 South, Range 13 East, San Bernardino Base and Meridian, Imperial County.



#### **Site Preparation:**

Site preparation will be performed prior to construction of the Helipad. Site preparation consists of construction of the reinforced concrete Helipad of less than 1 acre. The new surface will be graded and compacted prior to installing the new concrete helicopter pad.

#### Site Preparation Schedule

• Construction of the Helipad is expected to take 4-6 weeks and will involve use of standard construction heavy equipment such as excavator, forklift, and concrete mixer truck among others.

#### Land Use Analysis:

The proposed Helipad site will be located within a small portion of the project site for the Unit 5 Region 1 operating under CUP No. 05-0054. The power plant facility is operating in accordance with the County's General Plan, Renewable Energy Overlay Zone (RE) and Conditional Use Permit No. 05-0054. In addition, the surrounding land use is Zoned A-3 (Heavy Agriculture). In accordance with the Title 9, Division 5, Chapter 9 Section 90509.02(ii) this Helipad site is consistent with the General Plan and with the Imperial County Land Use Ordinances.

#### **CUP Analysis:**

CalEnergy interpretation of the Section 90203.09 action on a proposed Helipad CUP is provided as follows:

A. The proposed use is consistent with the goals and policies of the adopted County General Plan.

The proposed Helipad will be used for corporate use and to aide facility emergency response situation. The project site will be located within the existing boundaries of the Unit 5 Region 1 geothermal facility operating under CUP No. 05-0054.

B. The proposed use is consistent with the purpose of the zone or sub-zone within which the use will be used.

The proposed use will be ancillary and consistent with the existing geothermal facility operations operating under CUP # 05-0054 and will include activities, equipment or materials typically employed in the identified use ("Heliport") along with temporary equipment used during the construction of the helipad.

C. The proposed use is listed as use within the zone or subzone or is found to be similar to a listed or similar conditional use according to the procedures of Section 90203.00.

The proposed Helipad to be located within the existing geothermal facility that is subjected to a Conditional Use Permit in Land Use Ordinance, Division 5. The helicopter pad resembles or is of the same basic nature as a heliport use in renewable energy overlay

zone (RE), Division 17 or a conditional use in surrounding land use Zoned A-3 (Section 90509.02(ii) of the Imperial County code) that is already disturbed and has already been environmentally assessed.

D. The proposed use meets the minimum requirements of this Title applicable to the use and complies with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulation of the County of Imperial and the State of California

The proposed Helipad project will be subjected appropriate CUP classification and conditions incorporated by reference that will ensure the project complies with all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations the proposed use will be subjected.

E. The proposed use will not be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the public or impact the property and residents in the vicinity.

The project site will be located within the existing Unit 5 Region 1 geothermal facility operations and the employees use personal protective equipment to protect them from noise generated at the site. Therefore, the helipad will not be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the public or to the property and there are no nearby residents in the vicinity.

F. The proposed use does not violate any other law or ordinances

The proposed Helipad of less than 1 acre to be located at the existing geothermal facility will be subjected to appropriate CUP classification and conditions in accordance to applicable law or ordinances.

G. The proposed use is not granting a special privilege

The proposed Helipad will be located within the existing Unit 5 Region1 facility operating under CUP # 05-0054. Any impacts identified would be mitigated through project specific new condition use permit or amendment to CUP # 05-0054.

#### **Environmental Analysis:**

The proposed project is to be located on less than 1 acre within the boundaries of the Unit 5 Region 1 facility operating under CUP # 05-0054. The proposed project will have "No Impact" and will not create, add to, or alter potential environmental impacts from the existing geothermal power plant that were assessed in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Magma Power Plant #3 and the Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR) for a Geothermal Overlay Zone to be located at the Salton Sea, which was issued in December 1981. These CEQA studies were conducted by the Imperial County Planning and Development Services and recorded with the California Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse (SCH) as document #80102406. The conclusions and mitigation measures for Unit #3 EIR and the MEIR are reflected in the Conditional Use Permits (CUPs) for Unit 5 and for the other power generating units at Region 1 – i.e. Units 1, 2, 3 and 4).

#### California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Analysis:

Pursuant to CEQA Article 19 Categorical Exemption, Section 15301(e), or Section 15311(b) the proposed addition of helicopter pad of less than 1 acre will be located within the project area of the existing Unit 5, Region 1 facility operating under Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 05-0054. As ICPDS serves as the Lead Agency CalEnergy requests concurrence from ICPDS that the proposed project located within the existing boundary of Unit 5 Region 1 geothermal facility operation is consistent in use to the conditionally permitted use of geothermal operation or heliport and qualifies for Notice of Exemption (NOE).

#### CUP No 05-0054 and Helipad Cross Reference Matrix Analysis:

The following is a review of the applicable conditions of the CUP 05-0054 for the Unit 5 Region 1 facility that is consistent to proposed helipad activities.

CUP 05-0054 Condition #	Permit Condition Related to Helipad	Helipad Compliance
S-1	Authorized Scope of Activities (b) A Control room, office maintenance shop and other facilities are located the power plant site	Proposed Helipad activity will qualify as other facilities located at the Unit 5 facility
S-11	Noise: The power plant shall be equipped with noise control measures	Proposed Helipad activity will not be located within 1000 feet of any residence and the Helicopter operation will be intermittent in contrast to power plant continuous operation.
S-12	Project Design (b) Marking, and lighting of the drill rigs and permanent facilities shall be maintained in accordance to the Federal Aviation Administration Regulation	Proposed permanent Helipad facilities marking and lighting will be maintained in accordance with the Federal Aviation Administration Regulation
S-12	Project Design (f) All lights shall be directed or shield to confine any direct rays to the site and shall be muted to maximum extent consistent with safety and operation necessity	Proposed Helipad will be designed to be consistent with safety and operation necessity.

Based on the analysis contained herein CalEnergy respectfully seeks a determination from the lead agency ICPDS on the proposed Helipad project. Should you have any questions regarding

CalEnergy Helipad March 21, 2022 Page 5

this information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (442)-226-1035 or Anoop.Sukumaran@calenergy.com.

Sincerely,

Anoop Sukumaran Director, IPP Environmental Services

Enclosure

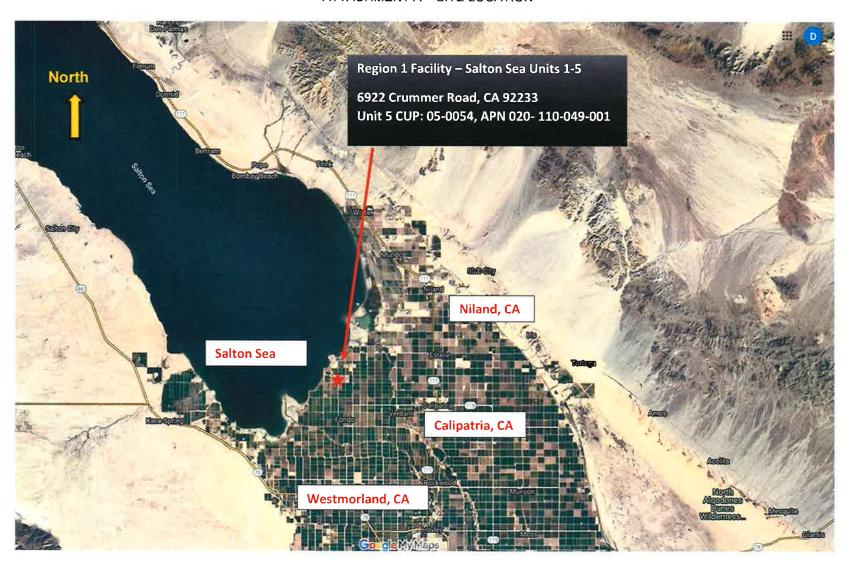
Attachments

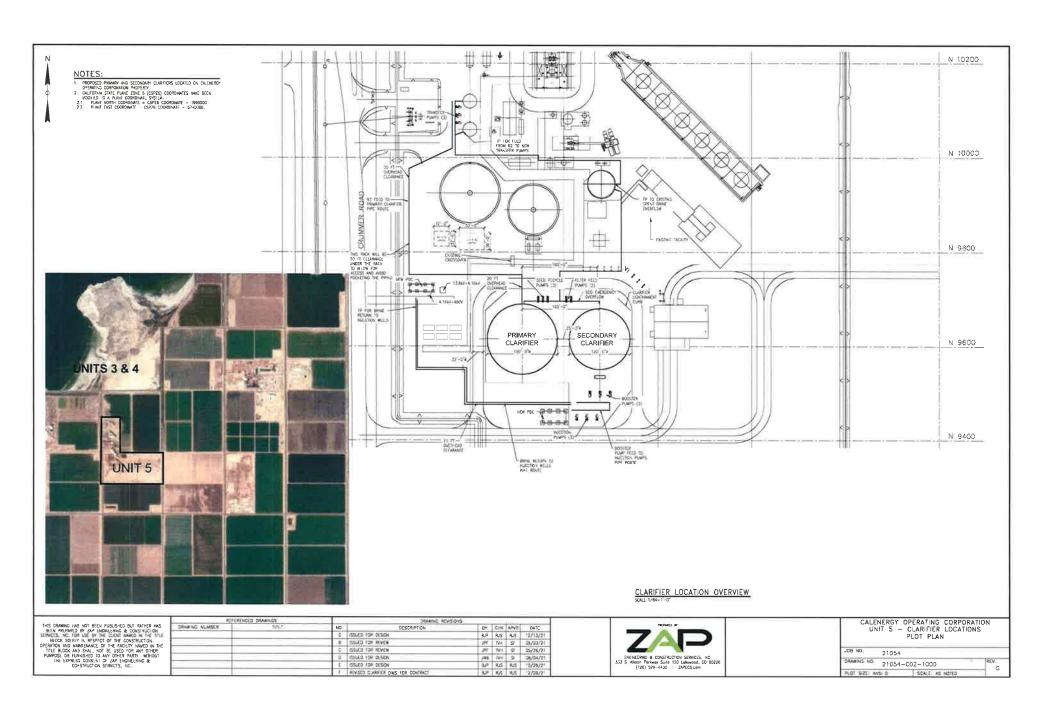
cc: Patricia Valenzuela – Imperial County Planning and Development Services

Osvaldo Flores Kamal Abdelkarim Environmental File

## **Attachment A- Project Site Map**

#### ATTACHMENT A - SITE LOCATION





## Attachment B – CUP Application

# CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT I.C. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPT. 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 482-4236

- APPLICANT MUST COMPLETE ALL NUMBERED (black) SPACES – Please type or print -

	PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME		EMAIL ADDRESS			
Sudheep Pavithran		Sudheep.Pavitl	Sudheep.Pavithran@calenergy.com			
2. MAILING ADDRESS (Street / P O Box, City, State)		ZIP CODE	PHONE NUMBER			
7030 Gentry Road, Calipatria, CA		92233	760-348-4006			
3. APPLICANT'S NAME		EMAIL ADDRES				
Sudheep Pavithran		Sudheep.Pavithr	Sudheep.Pavithran@calenergy.com			
4. MAILING ADDRESS (Street / P O Box, City, State)		ZIP CODE	ZIP CODE PHONE NUMBER			
7030 Gentry Road, Calipatria, CA			92233 760-348-4006			
4. ENGINEER'S NAME	E CA. LICENSE NO.		EMAIL ADDRESS			
5. MAILING ADDRESS (Street / P O Box	x. Citv. State)	ZIP CODE	PHONE NUMBER			
	., σ., σ.					
6. ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO.		SIZE OF PROPERTY	(in acres or square foot)	ZONING (existing)		
		78 acres		A-3-G		
7. PROPERTY (site) ADDRESS						
6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria,						
8. GENERAL LOCATION (i.e. city, to	own, cross street) The proje	ct site's approximately 13	3 mi. northwest of the City of	Calipatria, CA, 15		
mi. north of the City of Westmorland, CA,	1 mile east of the southeastern	shore of the Salton Sea	& 13.5 mi. southwest of the	City of Niland, CA.		
<ol><li>LEGAL DESCRIPTION The pro</li></ol>	ject area is expected to total	less than one (1) acre v	vithin legally described API	N 020-110-049-001		
corresponding to the Salton Sea Unit 5 power plant at Southeast 1/4, North 1/2 of Section 5, Township 11 South, Range 13 East, San Bernadino Base & Meridian.						
PLEASE PROVIDE CLEAR &	CONCISE INFORMA	TION (ATTACH SEP.	ARATE SHEET IF NEEDE	D)		
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CalEnergy Helipad March 21, 2022 Page 8

Attachment C – Fee (Mailed via UPS)



MAGMA POWER COMPANY PO Box 3006 Sioux City, IA 51102 Phone (712)277-7496

20664

16-49-6 1220

Union Bank 445South Figueroa Street HIS OCCUPATION CONTAINS MACRO-PRINT SECURITY LINES AN ANTHERTIC WATERMARK AND A THE HATOCHROMIC PADLOCK ICON. AUSBRICE OF THESE FEATURES WILL INDICATE A COPY. ADDITIONAL SECURITY INFO LISTED ON HEVERISE SIDE

Vendor No: 14024

Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars 00

Cents

Pay to the Order Of

IMPERIAL COUNTY OF

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

**801 MAIN ST** 

EL CENTRO, CA 92243

Check Amount

\$5,500.00

Date 16-MAR-22

Void 90 Days From Date of Issue

## OOO 20664# ## 122241501# 9080008381#

**Detach Before Depositing Check** 

MAGMA POWER COMPANY

PO Box 3006

Sioux City, IA 51102 Phone (712)277-7496 Vendor No: 14024 Check No:

20664

The Attached Check Is In Payment For Items Described Below

Invoice Date 15-MAR-22

Invoice Number 031522

Voucher/Description

204986/REGION 1 HELLPAD CONDITIONAL USE

**PERMIT FEE** 

Totals | 5,500.00

Gross

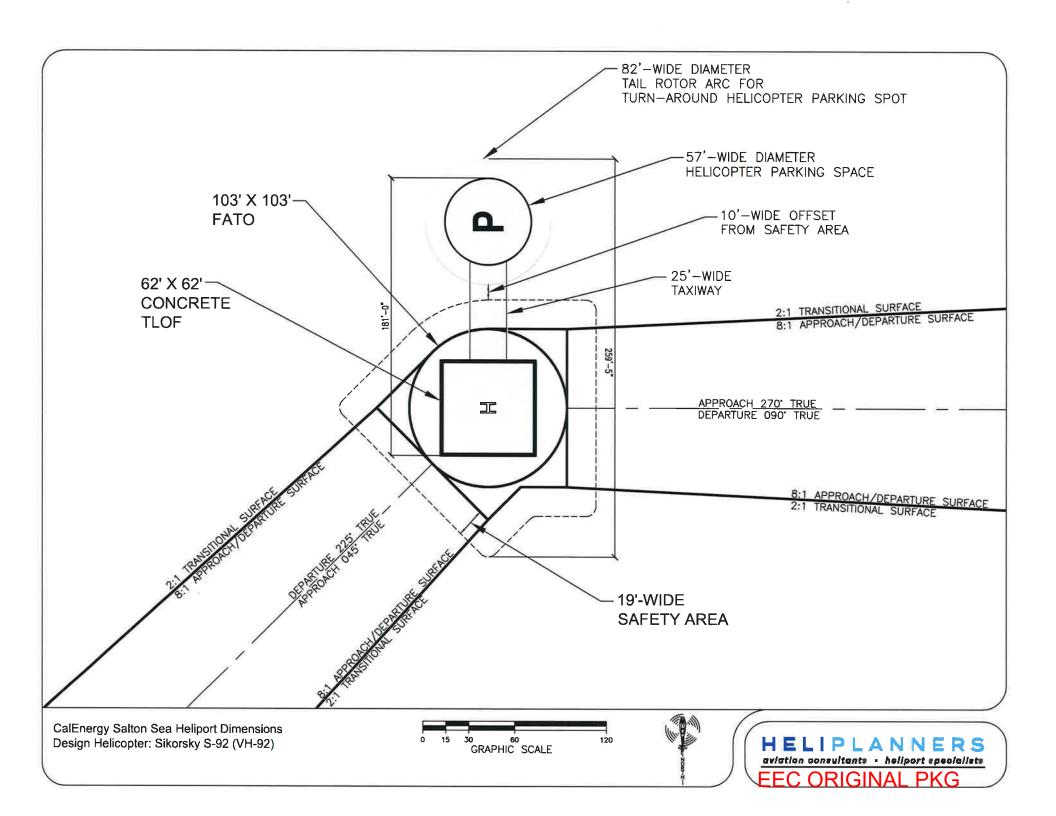
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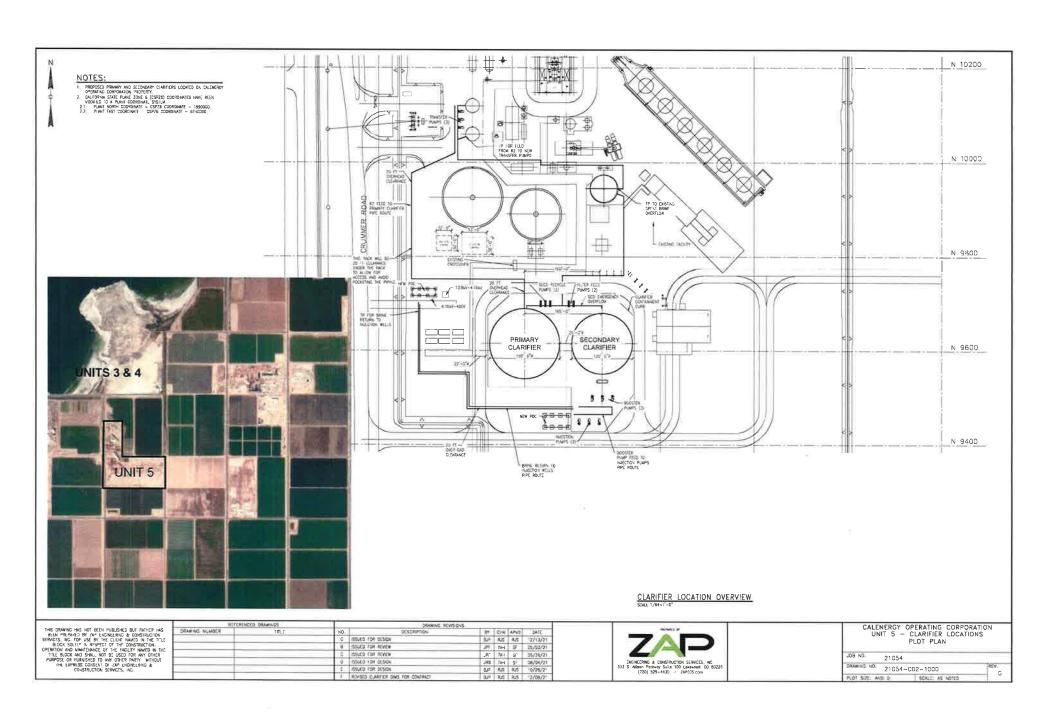
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**EEC ORIGINAL PKG** 

## Attachment B – Supplemental Drawing and Updated Site Map





# ATTACHMENT B ALUC PACKAGE



# Imperial County Planning & Development Services Planning / Building

Jim Minnick

TO:

**Commissioner Mike Goodsell** 

Commissioner Jenell Guerrero Commissioner Dennis Logue Commissioner Sylvia Chavez Commissioner Jerry Arguelles

FROM:

Jim Minnick, Secretary

Planning & Development Services Director

SUBJECT:

Public Hearing for the consideration of a Helicopter Pad for general transportation (personnel, dignitaries, etc.) and to provide emergency evacuation of injured persons (Conditional Use Permit #22-0008) located at 6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria, CA, 92233 (APN 020-110-049; Latitude 33°9' 8.767"N – Longitude 115° 38' 9.402"W) to determine Consistency with the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). [Patricia Valenzuela, Planner

IV] (ALUC 04-22)

DATE OF REPORT:

May 18, 2022

AGENDA ITEM NO:

3

**HEARING DATE:** 

May 18, 2022

**HEARING TIME:** 

6:00 p.m.

**HEARING LOCATION:** 

County Administration Center Board of Supervisors Chambers

940 Main Street El Centro, CA 92243

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is Staff's recommendation that the Airport Land Use Commission finds the proposed Helicopter Pad for general transportation (personnel, dignitaries, etc.) and to provide emergency evacuation of injured persons, located at 6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria, CA, 92233 to be consistent with the 1996 Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

#### **Project Location:**

The proposed Helicopter Pad will be located at 6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria, CA, 92233. The property is identified as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 020-110-049-000 and is further described as Parcel 1, of PM #02281 of the SE4, Section 5, Township 12 South, Range 13 East, S.B.B.M., Latitude 33°9' 8.767"N – Longitude 115°38' 9.402"W.

#### Project Description:

The applicant, CalEnergy Operating Corporation, is proposing Helicopter Pad (Helipad) for the purpose of corporate use and to aide facility emergency response situations. The proposed Helipad site is 50-feet by 50-feet located on the existing 78-acre Unit #5, Region 1 Geothermal Facility site operating under Conditional Use Permit #05-0054. Per Title 9, Division 5, Section 90501.12 (ii), the project requires a Conditional Use Permit (#22-0008) for the proposed Helicopter Pad, i.e. Heliport. Title 9, Division 14, defines a "Heliport" as an area of land or water or a structural surface which is used, or intended for use, for the landing and take-off of helicopters, and any appurtenant areas which are used, or intended for use, for heliport buildings and other heliport facilities.

The helicopter pad will be graded and compacted prior to the construction of the reinforced concrete slab. Construction time is estimated at four (4) to six (6) weeks, which involves heavy equipment such as excavators, forklifts, concrete mixer trucks, etc.

#### General Plan/ALUCP Analysis:

The proposed Helicopter Pad is located on a parcel just southeast of the Salton Sea, in an area designated as Agriculture according to the Imperial County General Plan. The project is not located near any County Public Airport or airstrip. The nearest airport is the Calipatria Municipal Airport located approximately seven (7) miles west of the project site.

The project site is zoned A-3-G (Heavy Agriculture, with a Geothermal Overlay) per the Imperial County Land Use Ordinance Title 9, Division 25, Section 92553.00.

The Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP), Chapter 2, Policies, Section 2.3 provides "Types of Actions Reviewed" by the Commission, which shall include:

"Any request proposal for a new airport or heliport whether for public use or private use" (Section 2.3.2(d), pg. 2-3)

The proposed conditional use permit has been submitted for the Airport Land Use Commission's review and determination of consistency with the 1996 Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) due to the nature of the application (Helicopter Pad, i.e. Heliport).

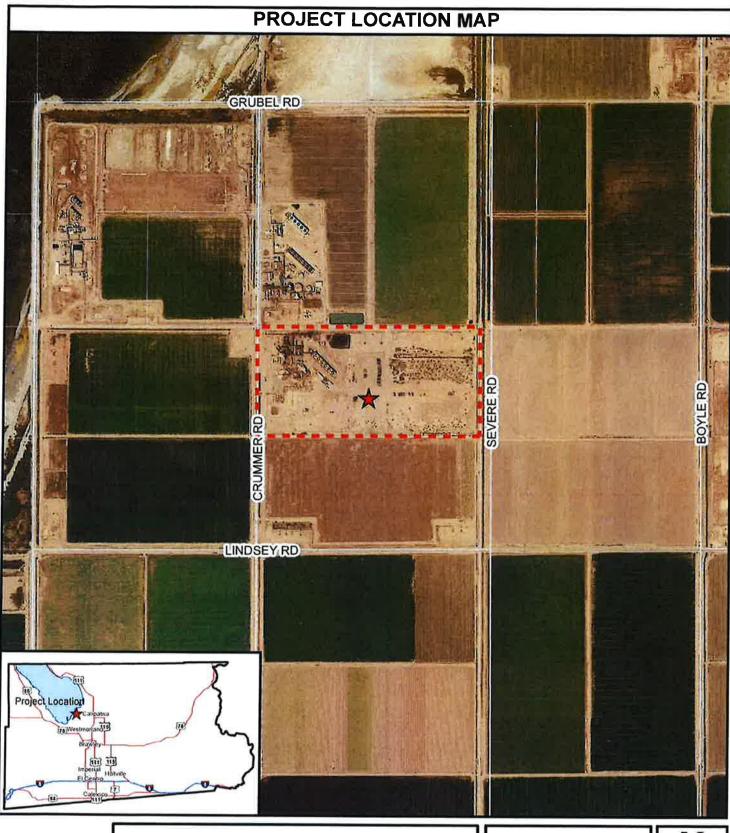
#### ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Vicinity Map B. Site Plan

- C. Application
  D. ALUCP Section

S:\AllUsers\APN\020\110\049\CUP22-0008\ALUC\CUP22-0008 ALUC Staff Report.doc

Attachment A Vicinity Map



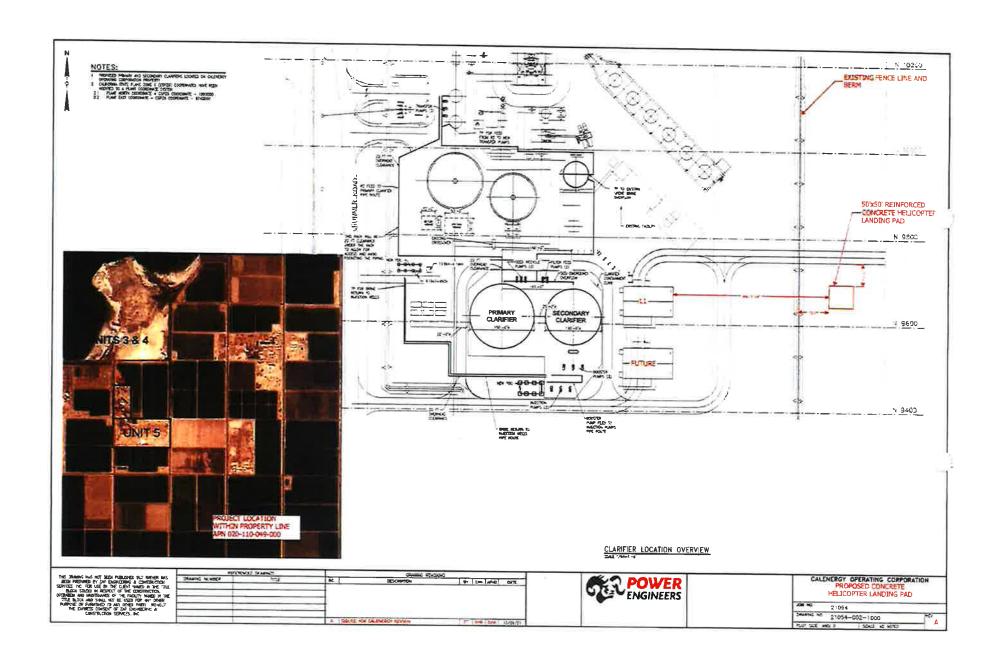


CAL ENERGY CUP #22-0008 APN 020-110-049-000





## Attachment B Site Plan



Attachment C Application

EEC ORIGINAL PKG

# CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT I.C. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPT. 801 Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 482-4236

- APPLICANT MUST COMPLETE ALL NUMBERED (black) SPACES - Please type or print -					
1. PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS				
Sudheep Pavithran	Sudheep.Pavithran@calenergy.com				
2. MAILING ADDRESS (Street / P O Box, City, State)	ZIP CODE PHONE NUMBER				
7030 Gentry Road, Calipatria, CA	92233 760-348-4006				
3. APPLICANT'S NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS				
Sudheep Pavithran	Sudheep.Pavithran@calenergy.com				
4. MAILING ADDRESS (Street / P O Box, City, State)	ZIP CODE PHONE NUMBER				
7030 Gentry Road, Calipatria, CA 4. ENGINEER'S NAME CA. LICENSE NO.	92233 760-348-4006				
Bill Romines Jr. P.E.#C73473/A-Contractor#808913	EMAIL ADDRESS bill.romines@powereng.com				
5. MAILING ADDRESS (Street / P O Box, City, State)	ZIP CODE PHONE NUMBER				
POWER Engineers Inc. 16041 Foster, Overland Park, Kansas	66207 816-402-4240				
6. ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. S	ZE OF BRODERRY				
020-110-040-000	ZE OF PROPERTY (In acres or square foot) ZONING (existing)				
7. PROPERTY (site) ADDRESS	78 acres A-3-G				
C3 F					
6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria, CA 92233     GENERAL LOCATION (i.e. city, town, cross street) The project si	le's approximately 13 ml. northwest of the City of Calipatria, CA, 15				
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mi. north of the City of Westmorland, CA, 1 mile east of the southeastern sho  9. LEGAL DESCRIPTION The project area is expected to total loss.					
The project area is expected to total less	than one (1) acre within legally described APN 020-110-049-001				
corresponding to the Salton Sea Unit 5 power plant at Southeast 1/	4, North 1/2 of Section 5, Township 11 South, Range 13 East,				
San Bernadino Base & Mendian.					
PLEASE PROVIDE CLEAR & CONCISE INFORMATION	N (ATTACH SEDARATE SHEET IS MEEDED)				
10. DESCRIBE PROPOSED USE OF PROPERTY (list and describe in detail	Current use of property is Coothormal Plant. Use will not				
change. CUP involves adding a Helicopter Landing Pad to property for					
and the property of the control of t	general transportation (personner, digitationes, etc.)				
and to provide emergency evacuation of injured persons.					
11. DESCRIBE CURRENT USE OF PROPERTY Geothermal Plant					
12. DESCRIBE PROPOSED SEWER SYSTEM N/A, existing					
13. DESCRIBE PROPOSED WATER SYSTEM N/A, existing					
14. DESCRIBE PROPOSED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM N/A, exis	ting				
	ES. HOW MANY EMPLOYEES WILL BE AT THIS SITE?				
I / WE THE LEGAL OWNER (S) OF THE ABOVE PROPERTY					
CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION SHOWN OR STATED HEREIN	REQUIRED SUPPORT DOCUMENTS				
IS TRUE AND CORRECT.  Sudheen Pavithran 03/21/2022	A. SITE PLAN - Enclosed				
Sudheep Pavithran 03/21/2022	I				
Print Name Date	B. FEE <u>Enclosed- Check No. 20664 for \$ 5500.00</u>				
Print Name Sudheep Pavithran Der Balletin De	Enclosed - Offeck No. 20004 for # 0000,00				
Print Name Sudheep Pavithran Cour 2010 1911 1979 Signature  Date	C. OTHER Unit 5 CUP 05- 0054 - Review of				
Sudheep Pavithran Ber 2010 (1919) one	Enclosed - Offeck No. 20004 for # 0000,00				
Sudheep Pavithran or Sugarante Sugar	C. OTHER Unit 5 CUP 05- 0054 - Review of				
Signature  Print Name  Date	C. OTHER Unit 5 CUP 05- 0054 - Review of applicable conditions.				
Signature  Print Name  Date  Signature	C. OTHER Unit 5 CUP 05- 0054 - Review of applicable conditions.  DATE 3 25 27  REVIEW / APPROVAL BY OTHER DEPT'S required				
Signature  Print Name  Date  Signature  APPLICATION RECEIVED BY:	C. OTHER Unit 5 CUP 05- 0054 - Review of applicable conditions.  DATE 3 25 27 REVIEW/APPROVAL BY OTHER DEPT'S required DATE P. W DATE P. W E. H. S.  CUP #				
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Signature  Print Name  Date  Signature  APPLICATION RECEIVED BY:  APPLICATION DEEMED COMPLETE BY:	C. OTHER Unit 5 CUP 05- 0054 - Review of applicable conditions.  DATE 3 25 27 REVIEW / APPROVAL BY OTHER DEPT'S required DATE P. W DATE A P. C D  CUP #				



March 21, 2022

Mr. Jim Minnick Imperial County Planning and Development Services 801 Main Street El Centro, CA 92243

Subject: Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Classification - CalEnergy Helipad Project

Dear Mr. Minnick:

CalEnergy Operating Corporation (CalEnergy) is proposing to construct and operate a helicopter pad (Helipad) for the purpose of corporate use and to aide facility emergency response situations. The proposed Helipad will be located within the project area of the existing Unit 5, Region 1 facility operating under CUP No. 05-0054.

Attachment A contains illustrations showing the general area of the proposed site location and preliminary dimensions for the Helipad. Per Attachment A, proposed project will likely be sited to the south-east of the facility's main process train on a disturbed land within the CUP's project area, APN 020-110-049-000. The proposed Helipad project area will be less than 1 acre.

The construction and development of Helipad is subject to the requirements of Title 9, Division 2, Chapter 3 Subpart 90203.01 CUP, therefore a review of the conditions that pertain to the construction of the Helipad has been provided with this letter. The primary aim of this letter is to respectfully request an appropriate CUP classification, for the development of a Helipad in accordance with Land Use Permit.

#### **Project Location:**

The proposed Helipad site of less than 1 acre will be located at Unit 5 Region 1 Facility, 6922 Crummer Road, Calipatria, California, further identified as Assessor's Parcel Number 020-110-049-000. The Unit 5 project area totals approximately 78 acres and is located Southeast ¼, North ½, Section 5, Township 12 South, Range 13 East, San Bernardino Base and Meridian, Imperial County.



#### Site Preparation:

Site preparation will be performed prior to construction of the Helipad. Site preparation consists of construction of the reinforced concrete Helipad of less than 1 acre. The new surface will be graded and compacted prior to installing the new concrete helicopter pad.

#### Site Preparation Schedule

 Construction of the Helipad is expected to take 4-6 weeks and will involve use of standard construction heavy equipment such as excavator, forklift, and concrete mixer truck among others.

#### Land Use Analysis:

The proposed Helipad site will be located within a small portion of the project site for the Unit 5 Region 1 operating under CUP No. 05-0054. The power plant facility is operating in accordance with the County's General Plan, Renewable Energy Overlay Zone (RE) and Conditional Use Permit No. 05-0054. In addition, the surrounding land use is Zoned A-3 (Heavy Agriculture). In accordance with the Title 9, Division 5, Chapter 9 Section 90509.02(ii) this Helipad site is consistent with the General Plan and with the Imperial County Land Use Ordinances.

#### **CUP Analysis:**

CalEnergy interpretation of the Section 90203.09 action on a proposed Helipad CUP is provided as follows:

A. The proposed use is consistent with the goals and policies of the adopted County General Plan.

The proposed Helipad will be used for corporate use and to aide facility emergency response situation. The project site will be located within the existing boundaries of the Unit 5 Region 1 geothermal facility operating under CUP No. 05-0054.

B. The proposed use is consistent with the purpose of the zone or sub-zone within which the use will be used.

The proposed use will be ancillary and consistent with the existing geothermal facility operations operating under CUP # 05-0054 and will include activities, equipment or materials typically employed in the identified use ("Heliport") along with temporary equipment used during the construction of the helipad.

C<sub>3</sub> The proposed use is listed as use within the zone or subzone or is found to be similar to a listed or similar conditional use according to the procedures of Section 90203.00.

The proposed Helipad to be located within the existing geothermal facility that is subjected to a Conditional Use Permit in Land Use Ordinance, Division 5. The helicopter pad resembles or is of the same basic nature as a heliport use in renewable energy overlay

zone (RE), Division 17 or a conditional use in surrounding land use Zoned A-3 (Section 90509.02(ii) of the Imperial County code) that is already disturbed and has already been environmentally assessed.

D. The proposed use meets the minimum requirements of this Title applicable to the use and complies with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulation of the County of Imperial and the State of California

The proposed Helipad project will be subjected appropriate CUP classification and conditions incorporated by reference that will ensure the project complies with all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations the proposed use will be subjected.

E. The proposed use will not be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the public or impact the property and residents in the vicinity.

The project site will be located within the existing Unit 5 Region 1 geothermal facility operations and the employees use personal protective equipment to protect them from noise generated at the site. Therefore, the helipad will not be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the public or to the property and there are no nearby residents in the vicinity.

F. The proposed use does not violate any other law or ordinances

The proposed Helipad of less than 1 acre to be located at the existing geothermal facility will be subjected to appropriate CUP classification and conditions in accordance to applicable law or ordinances.

G. The proposed use is not granting a special privilege

The proposed Helipad will be located within the existing Unit 5 Region1 facility operating under CUP # 05-0054. Any impacts identified would be mitigated through project specific new condition use permit or amendment to CUP # 05-0054.

#### **Environmental Analysis:**

The proposed project is to be located on less than 1 acre within the boundaries of the Unit 5 Region 1 facility operating under CUP # 05-0054. The proposed project will have "No Impact" and will not create, add to, or alter potential environmental impacts from the existing geothermal power plant that were assessed in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Magma Power Plant #3 and the Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR) for a Geothermal Overlay Zone to be located at the Salton Sea, which was issued in December 1981. These CEQA studies were conducted by the Imperial County Planning and Development Services and recorded with the California Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse (SCH) as document #80102406. The conclusions and mitigation measures for Unit #3 EIR and the MEIR are reflected in the Conditional Use Permits (CUPs) for Unit 5 and for the other power generating units at Region 1 – i.e. Units 1, 2, 3 and 4).

#### California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Analysis:

Pursuant to CEQA Article 19 Categorical Exemption, Section 15301(e), or Section 15311(b) the proposed addition of helicopter pad of less than 1 acre will be located within the project area of the existing Unit 5, Region 1 facility operating under Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 05-0054. As ICPDS serves as the Lead Agency CalEnergy requests concurrence from ICPDS that the proposed project located within the existing boundary of Unit 5 Region 1 geothermal facility operation is consistent in use to the conditionally permitted use of geothermal operation or heliport and qualifies for Notice of Exemption (NOE).

#### CUP No 05-0054 and Helipad Cross Reference Matrix Analysis:

The following is a review of the applicable conditions of the CUP 05-0054 for the Unit 5 Region 1 facility that is consistent to proposed helipad activities.

CUP 05-0054 Condition #	Permit Condition Related to Helipad	Helipad Compliance
S-1	Authorized Scope of Activities (b) A Control room, office maintenance shop and other facilities are located the power plant site	Proposed Helipad activity will qualify as other facilities located at the Unit 5 facility
S-11	Noise: The power plant shall be equipped with noise control measures	Proposed Helipad activity will not be located within 1000 feet of any residence and the Helicopter operation will be intermittent in contrast to power plant continuous operation.
S-12	Project Design (b) Marking, and lighting of the drill rigs and permanent facilities shall be maintained in accordance to the Federal Aviation Administration Regulation	Proposed permanent Helipad facilities marking and lighting will be maintained in accordance with the Federal Aviation Administration Regulation
S-12	Project Design (f) All lights shall be directed or shield to confine any direct rays to the site and shall be muted to maximum extent consistent with safety and operation necessity	Proposed Helipad will be designed to be consistent with safety and operation necessity.

Based on the analysis contained herein CalEnergy respectfully seeks a determination from the lead agency ICPDS on the proposed Helipad project. Should you have any questions regarding

CalEnergy Helipad March 21, 2022 Page 5

this information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (442)-226-1035 or Anoop.Sukumaran@calenergy.com.

Sincerely,

Anoop Sukumaran Date: 2022.03.21
Anoop Sukumaran 15:42:33-07:00
Anoop Sukumaran

Director, IPP Environmental Services

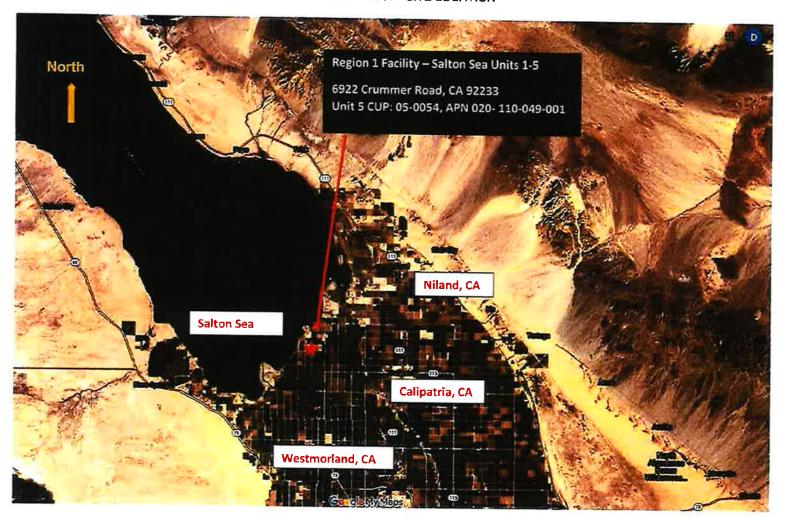
Enclosure

Attachments

cc: Patricia Valenzuela – Imperial County Planning and Development Services Osvaldo Flores

Kamal Abdelkarim Environmental File

#### ATTACHMENT A - SITE LOCATION



## Attachment D ALUCP Section

- Countywide Impacts on Flight Safety Those lands, regardless of their location in the County, on which the uses could adversely affect the safety of flight in the County. The specific uses of concern are identified in Paragraph 2.
- New Airports and Heliports The site and environs of any proposed new airport or heliport anywhere in the County. The Brawley Pioneers Memorial Hospital has a heliport area on-site.

#### 2. Types of Airport Impacts

The Commission is concerned only with the potential impacts related to aircraft noise, land use safety (with respect both to people on the ground and the occupants of aircraft), airspace protection, and aircraft overflights. Other impacts sometimes created by airports (e.g., air pollution, automobile traffic, etc.) are beyond the scope of this plan. These impacts are within the authority of other local, state, and federal agencies and are addressed within the environmental review procedures for airport development.

#### 3. Types of Actions Reviewed

- 1. General Plan Consistency Review Within 180 days of adoption of the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, the Commission shall review the general plans and specific plans of affected local jurisdictions to determine their consistency with the Commission's policies. Until such time as (1) the Commission finds that the local general plan or specific plan is consistent with the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, or (2) the local agency has overruled the Commission's determination of inconsistency, the local jurisdiction shall refer all actions, regulations, and permits (as specified in Paragraph 3) involving the airport area of influence to the Commission for review (Section 21676.5 (a)).
- 2. Statutory Requirements -As required by state law, the following types of actions shall be referred to the Airport Land Use Commission for determination of consistency with the Commission's plan prior to their approval by the local jurisdiction:

- (a) The adoption or approval of any amendment to a general or specific plan affecting the Commission's geographic area of concern as indicated in Paragraph 1 (Section 21676 (b)).
- (b) The adoption or approval of a zoning ordinance or building regulation which (1) affects the Commission's geographic area of concern as indicated in Paragraph 1 and (2) involves the types of airport impact concerns listed in Paragraph 2 (Section 21676 (b)).
- (c) Adoption or modification of the master plan for an existing publicuse airport (Section 21676 (c)).
- (d) Any proposal for a new airport or heliport whether for public use or private use (Section 21661.5).
- 3. Other Project Review State law empowers the Commission to review additional types of land use "actions, regulations, and permits" involving a question of airport/land use compatibility if either: (1) the Commission and the local agency agree that these types of individual projects shall be reviewed by the Commission (Section 21676.5 (b)); or (2) the Commission finds that a local agency has not revised its general plan or specific plan or overruled the Commission and the Commission requires that the individual projects be submitted for review (Section 21676.5 (a)). For the purposes of this plan, the specific types of "actions, regulations, and permits" which the Commission shall review include:
  - a) Any proposed expansion of a city's sphere of influence within an airport's planning area.
  - b) Any proposed residential planned unit development consisting of five or more dwelling units within an airport's planning area.
  - c) Any request for variance from a local agency's height limitation ordinance.
  - d) Any proposal for construction or alteration of a structure (including antennas) taller than 150 feet above the ground anywhere within the County.