

October 9, 2013

Tom Buttgenbach
8minutenergy renewables LLC
10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90067

Dear Mr. Buttgenbach:

Subject: Literature Review for the 8minutenergy Iris Solar Farm Project (85JP)

This letter report documents the literature review conducted for the proposed 8minutenergy Iris Solar Farm project site, located west of Calexico in southern Imperial County, California and along the U.S. - Mexico border. The proposed project is split into four Conditional Use Permit applications (CUP), but will be analyzed via a single Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The four CUPs are Lyons Solar Farm, which comprises 138 acres; Rockwood Solar Farm, which comprises 396 acres; Ferrell Solar Farm, which comprises 367 acres; and Iris Solar Farm, which comprises 521 acres. The project is approximately 1,422 acres in total area and is located in active agricultural lands.

An archival records search was conducted at the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) located at San Diego State University. The search included a 1-mile radius surrounding the four proposed CUPs. The archival search consisted of an archaeological, historical records, and literature review. The data reviewed included archaeological and historic site forms, historic maps, the California Register of Historical Resources, and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for the project area. The Research provides a background on the types of sites that may be expected in the vicinity of the project area. The research was also used to determine whether previous surveys had been conducted in the proposed projects areas and what cultural resources have been previously recorded within the proposed project limits.

Lyons Solar Farm

Previous Investigations

The records search indicated that 17 previous cultural investigations have been conducted within a 1-mile radius of the proposed Lyons Solar Farm project area (Table 1). These consist of 12 survey investigations, four EIRs, and one master plan. Of these, two previous investigations are located within the proposed Lyons Solar Farm project area (Imperial Irrigation District [IID] 1993 and Wallace Roberts & Todd 1999). Both of these are large overview investigations.

Table 1. Previous Investigations within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Area

| Author | Title | Date | Within 1-mile radius | Within Proposed Project Area |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bureau of Land Management | APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project – Supplement to the Draft Environmental Document. | 1981 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Burkenroad | Phase One Regional Studies APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project Transmission System Environmental Study Cultural Resources. | 1979 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Cultural Systems Research, Inc. | Draft Archaeological Research Design and Data Recovery Program for Cultural Resources within the Mountain Springs (Jade) to Sand Hills Portion of the APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project 500KV Transmission Line. | 1982 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| CSRI | Mountain Springs (Jade) to Sand Hills Data Recovery Preliminary Report. | 1982 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Imperial Irrigation District (IID) | Draft Environmental Impact Report for East Lowline and Trifolium Interceptors and Completion Projects. | 1993 | -- | Lyons Solar Farm |
| Imperial County | Proposed Workslope Phase II Cultural Resources Studies APS-SDG&E Transmission Interconnect Project, Miguel to Sand Hills, Sand Hills to PVNGS. | 1979 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Pignuolo, Aguilar | Cultural Resource Survey for a Portion of the Centinela Solar Project Area, Imperial County, California. | 2011 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Shackley | Phase III Archaeological Survey of the Mountain Springs (Jade) to Sand Hills Portion of the APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project 500KV Transmission Line. | 1982 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Shackley | Volume II – Phase III Archaeological Survey of the Mountain Springs (Jade) to Sand Hills Portion of the APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project 500 KV Transmission Line Confidential Technical Appendices. | 1982 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Shackely | Archaeological Investigations in the Western Colorado Desert: A Socioecological Approach – Volume 1. | 1984 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Walker, Carol, Bull, and Werlhof | Cultural Resource Study of a Proposed Electric Transmission Line from Jade to the Sand Hills, Imperial County, California. | 1979 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Walker, Carol, Bull, and Werlhof | Cultural Resource Study of a Proposed Electric Transmission Line from Jade to the Sand Hills, Imperial County, California. | 1981 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Wallace Roberts & Todd | County of Imperial Bicycle Master Plan. | 1999 | -- | Lyons Solar Farm |
| Welch | Cultural Resource Inventory for Thirty Proposed Asset Management Parcels in Imperial County, California. | 1983 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Wirth Associates, Inc. | Phase One Regional Studies APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project Transmission System Environmental Study Cultural Resources. | 1979 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Wirth Associates, Inc. | APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project Environmental Study Phase II Corridor Studies – Native American Cultural Resources Appendices. | 1980 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| Wirth Associates, Inc. | APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project (Phase II Corridor Studies) – Cultural Resources: Archaeology. | 1980 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |

Previously Recorded Resources

The records search indicated that nine cultural resources have been recorded within a 1-mile radius of the proposed project area (Table 2), consisting of two wagon roads (CA-IMP-3321, and -3322), segments of the Woodbine Canal (P-13-013073, -013074, -013075, -013076, and -013077), the Brockman Drain (P-13-013078), and the Wells Drain (P-13-013082). No cultural resources have been previously identified within the Lyons Solar Farm portion of this project.

Table 2. Previously Identified Cultural Resources within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Area.

| Primary Number (P-13-) | Permanent Trinomial (CA-IMP-) | Site Description | Date Recorded | Within 1-mile of the Proposed Project Area | Within the Proposed Project Area |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 013073 | -- | Segments of the Woodbine Canal | 2010 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| 013074 | -- | Segments of the Woodbine Canal | 2010 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| 013075 | -- | Segment of the Woodbine Canal | 2010 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| 013076 | -- | Segment of the Woodbine Canal | 2010 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| 013077 | -- | Segment of the Woodbine Canal | 2010 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| 013078 | -- | Segments of the Brockman Drain | 2010 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| 013082 | -- | Segments of the Wells Drain | 2010 | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003321 | 3321 | Wagon Road | -- | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003322 | 3322 | Wagon Road | -- | Lyons Solar Farm | -- |

Rockwood Solar Farm

Previous Investigations

The records search indicated that six previous cultural investigations have been conducted within a 1-mile radius of the proposed Rockwood Solar Farm project area (Table 3). These consist of two survey investigations, one EIR, two historic properties survey reports, and one master plan. Of these, three previous investigations are located within the proposed Rockwood Solar Farm project area (Caltrans 1999, IID 1993, and County of Imperial Bicycle Master Plan 1999). Two of these are large overview investigations (IID 1993 and Wallace Roberts & Todd 1999) and one is a long, linear survey (Caltrans 1999).

Table 3. Previous Investigations within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Area

| Author | Title | Date | Within 1-mile radius | Within Proposed Project Area |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Caltrans | Supplemental Historic Properties Survey Report | 1999 | -- | Rockwood Solar Farm |
| Haney | First Addendum Archaeological Survey Report for a Proposed Pavement Rehabilitation and Shoulder/Bridge Widening Project Along State Route 98 in Imperial County. | 1999 | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |
| Hupp | Historic Architectural Survey Report Pavement Rehabilitation and Shoulder, Bridge, Culvert Widening Project, Imperial County, California. | 1999 | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |
| Imperial Irrigation District (IID) | Draft Environmental Impact Report for East Loweline and Trifolium Interceptors and Completion Projects. | 1993 | -- | Rockwood Solar Farm |
| Pignolo, Aguilar | Cultural Resource Survey for a Portion of the Centinela Solar Project Area, Imperial County, California. | 2011 | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |
| Wallace Roberts & Todd | County of Imperial Bicycle Master Plan. | 1999 | -- | Rockwood Solar Farm |

Previously Recorded Resources

The records search indicated that seven cultural resources has been recorded within a 1-mile radius of the proposed project area (Table 4), consisting of a segment of the Woodbine Canal (P-13-013076), historic wagon and cross roads (CA-IMP-3321, -3322, -3323, -3324, and -3326), and a mesquite thicket (CA-IMP-3325). No cultural resources have been previously identified within the Rockwood Solar Farm portion of this project.

Table 4. Previously Identified Cultural Resources within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Area.

| Primary Number (P-13-) | Permanent Trinomial (CA-IMP-) | Site Description | Date Recorded | Within 1-mile of the Proposed Project Area | Within the Proposed Project Area |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| 013076 | -- | Segment of the Woodbine Canal | 2010 | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003321 | 3321 | Wagon Road | -- | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003322 | 3322 | Wagon Road | -- | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003323 | 3323 | Cross Road | -- | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003324 | 3324 | Destroyed Cross Road | 1978 | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003325 | 3325 | Mesquite Thicket | -- | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003326 | 3326 | Destroyed Cross Road | 1978 | Rockwood Solar Farm | -- |

Ferrell Solar Farm

Previous Investigations

The records search indicated that 15 previous cultural investigations have been conducted within a 1-mile radius of the proposed Ferrell Solar Farm project area (Table 5). These consist of eight survey investigations, five environmental impact reports, one historic properties survey report, and one master plan. Of these, two previous investigations are located within the proposed project area and both are large overview investigations (IID 1993 and Wallace Roberts & Todd 1999).

Table 5. Previous Investigations within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Area

| Author | Title | Date | Within 1-mile radius | Within Proposed Project Area |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bureau of Land Management | APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project – Supplement to the Draft Environmental Document. | 1981 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Burkenroad | Phase One Regional Studies APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project Transmission System Environmental Study Cultural Resources. | 1979 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Caltrans | Supplemental Historic Properties Survey Report | 1999 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Cultural Systems Research, Inc. | Draft Archaeological Research Design and Data Recovery Program for Cultural Resources within the Mountain Springs (Jade) to Sand Hills Portion of the APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project 500KV Transmission Line. | 1982 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| CSRI | Mountain Springs (Jade) to Sand Hills Data Recovery Preliminary Report. | 1982 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Haney | First Addendum Archaeological Survey Report for a Proposed Pavement Rehabilitation and Shoulder/Bridge Widening Project Along State Route 98 in Imperial County. | 1999 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Imperial Irrigation District (IID) | Draft Environmental Impact Report for East Loweline and Trifolium Interceptors and Completion Projects. | 1993 | -- | Ferrell Solar Farm |
| Imperial County | Proposed Workscope Phase II Cultural Resources Studies APS-SDG&E Transmission Interconnect Project, Miguel to Sand Hills, Sand Hills to PVNGS. | 1979 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Walker, Carol, Bull, and Werlhof | Cultural Resource Study of a Proposed Electric Transmission Line from Jade to the Sand Hills, Imperial County, California. | 1979 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Walker, Carol, Bull, and Werlhof | Cultural Resource Study of a Proposed Electric Transmission Line from Jade to the Sand Hills, Imperial County, California. | 1981 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Wallace Roberts & Todd | County of Imperial Bicycle Master Plan. | 1999 | -- | Ferrell Solar Farm |

| Author | Title | Date | Within 1-mile radius | Within Proposed Project Area |
|------------------------|--|------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Welch | Cultural Resource Inventory for Thirty Proposed Asset Management Parcels in Imperial County, California. | 1983 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Wirth Associates, Inc. | Phase One Regional Studies APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project Transmission System Environmental Study Cultural Resources. | 1979 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Wirth Associates, Inc. | APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project Environmental Study Phase II Corridor Studies – Native American Cultural Resources Appendices. | 1980 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| Wirth Associates, Inc. | APS/SDG&E Interconnection Project (Phase II Corridor Studies) – Cultural Resources: Archaeology. | 1980 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |

Previously Recorded Resources

The records search indicated that 10 cultural resources have been recorded within a 1-mile radius of the proposed project area (Table 6), consisting of an Indian trail (CA-IMP-1670), a collected pottery scatter (CA-IMP-3149), a U.S. military telegraph line (CA-IMP-3314), various cross roads (CA-IMP-3310, -3315, -3323, -3324, and -3326), and a mesquite grove (CA-IMP-3309). One cultural resource has been previously identified within the Ferrell Solar Farm portion of this project and is identified as a mesquite thicket (CA-IMP-3325).

Table 6. Previously Identified Cultural Resources within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Area.

| Primary Number (P-13-) | Permanent Trinomial (CA-IMP-) | Site Description | Date Recorded | Within 1-mile of the Proposed Project Area | Within the Proposed Project Area |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 0001670 | 1670 | Indian Trail | -- | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003149 | 3149 | Collected Pottery Scatter | 1979 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003309 | 3309 | Mesquite Grove | -- | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003310 | 3310 | Cross Road | 1978 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003314 | 3314 | Cross U.S. Military Telegraph Line | 1978 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003315 | 3315 | Cross Road | 1978 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003323 | 3323 | Cross Road | -- | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003324 | 3324 | Destroyed Cross Road | 1978 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003325 | 3325 | Mesquite Thicket | -- | -- | Ferrell Solar Farm |
| 0003326 | 3326 | Destroyed Cross Road | 1978 | Ferrell Solar Farm | -- |

Iris Solar Farm

Previous Investigations

The records search indicated that five previous cultural investigations have been conducted within a 1-mile radius of the proposed Iris Solar Farm project area (Table 7). These consist of two survey investigations, one EIR, one historic properties survey report, and one master plan. Of these, four previous investigations are located within the proposed project area (Caltrans 1999, Haney 1999, IID 1993, and Wallace Roberts and Todd 1999). Three of these are large overview investigations (IID 1993, Wallace Roberts and Todd, and Welch 1983), one is a linear survey (Caltrans 1999), and one covers approximately 20 percent of the Iris Solar Farm project area (Haney 1999).

Table 7. Previous Investigations within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Area

| Author | Title | Date | Within 1-mile radius | Within Proposed Project Area |
|------------------------------------|--|------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Caltrans | Supplemental Historic Properties Survey Report | 1999 | -- | Iris Solar Farm |
| Haney | First Addendum Archaeological Survey Report for a Proposed Pavement Rehabilitation and Shoulder/Bridge Widening Project Along State Route 98 in Imperial County. | 1999 | -- | Iris Solar Farm |
| Imperial Irrigation District (IID) | Draft Environmental Impact Report for East Loweline and Trifolium Interceptors and Completion Projects. | 1993 | -- | Iris Solar Farm |
| Wallace Roberts & Todd | County of Imperial Bicycle Master Plan. | 1999 | -- | Iris Solar Farm |
| Welch | Cultural Resource Inventory for Thirty Proposed Asset Management Parcels in Imperial County, California. | 1983 | Iris Solar Farm | -- |

Previously Recorded Resources

The records search indicated that 11 cultural resource have been recorded within a 1-mile radius of the proposed project area (Table 8), consisting of an Indian trail (CA-IMP-1670), a collected pottery scatter (CA-IMP-3149), three Colorado Buff pot sherds (CA-IMP-1670), a U.S. military telegraph line (CA-IMP-3314), cross roads (CAIMP-3310, -3315, -3316, -3324, -3325, and -3326), and a mesquite grove (CA-IMP-3309). Two cultural resources have been previously identified within the Iris Solar Farm portion of this project and are identified as a mesquite grove (CA-IMP-3309) and a destroyed cross road (CA-IMP-3326).

Table 8. Previously Identified Cultural Resources within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Area.

| Primary Number (P-13-) | Permanent Trinomial (CA-IMP-) | Site Description | Date Recorded | Within 1-mile of the Proposed Project Area | Within the Proposed Project Area |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 0001670 | 1670 | Indian Trail | -- | Iris Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003149 | 3149 | Collected Pottery Scatter | 1979 | Iris Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003150 | 3150 | 3 Colorado Buff Pot Sherds | 1979 | Iris Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003309 | 3309 | Mesquite Grove | -- | -- | Iris Solar Farm |
| 0003310 | 3310 | Cross Road | 1978 | Iris Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003314 | 3314 | Cross U.S. Military Telegraph Line | 1978 | Iris Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003315 | 3315 | Cross Road | 1978 | Iris Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003316 | 3316 | Cross Road | 1978 | Iris Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003324 | 3324 | Destroyed Cross Road | 1978 | Iris Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003325 | 3325 | Mesquite Thicket | -- | Iris Solar Farm | -- |
| 0003326 | 3326 | Destroyed Cross Road | 1978 | -- | Iris Solar Farm |

Cultural Sensitivity

Cultural sensitivity levels for project areas are rated low, moderate or high based on the results of the record searches and AECOM’s past experience in the area. A low sensitivity level indicates that there are few or no previously recorded resources within the project site and the surrounding area. Resources at this level would not be expected to be complex in nature, with little to no site structure and little artifact diversity. The potential for the identification of newly identified resources at such project sites would be low. A moderate sensitivity level indicates that previously recorded resources were identified with the project site and/or the surrounding area. These are generally more complex resources, with greater site structure, diversity of feature types, and artifact types. The potential for the identification of newly identified resources at such project sites would be moderate. Areas identified as high sensitivity indicate that the record search identified previously recorded sites within the project site and/or the surrounding area. These resources may range from moderately complex to highly complex, with more defined living areas or specialized work space areas, and a large breadth of features and artifact assemblage. The potential for the identification of newly identified resources at such project sites would be high. For the proposed Iris Solar Farm and component CUPs project area, based on the records search review, the potential for cultural resources within the proposed project area is low.

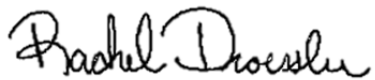
One area in which prehistoric cultural materials appear to be concentrated in this region is the shoreline of ancient Lake Cahuilla, which would have encompassed the present-day Salton Sea. The lake covered much of the Imperial Valley and created an extensive lacustrine environment. Lake Cahuilla experienced several fill-recession episodes before it finally dried up about 300 years ago. In 1905, the Colorado River overflowed into the Salton Basin creating the present-day Salton Sea. While the project site is located within an area of recessional activity related to ancient Lake Cahuilla, based on the records

search information and intensive agricultural use of the area, the potential for cultural resources within the proposed Iris Solar Farm sites are low.

As the majority of the project area has not been previously surveyed, a pedestrian survey investigation of the proposed project area would need to be conducted to identify any undocumented cultural resources within the area. In the event resources are identified during the survey, avoidance would be the preferred mitigation measure. If cultural resources cannot be avoided, these resources would need to be evaluated for significance under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for eligibility to the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). A testing and evaluation program would need to be developed and conducted. If a cultural resource cannot be avoided and is found to be significant under CEQA, a mitigation program would be required. For archaeological resources, this typically involves a research design and data recovery excavations.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter or need additional information, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (619) 233-1454 or by e-mail.

Sincerely,



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Archaeologist
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