

CHAPTER 4.0

ERRATA

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4.1 INTRODUCTION

This Errata has been prepared in response to additional information that became available subsequent to publication of the Draft EIR for the Seville Solar Farm Complex (proposed Project) which was circulated for a 50-day public review period in compliance with Public Resources Code 21091 from April 17, 2014 through June 6 2014.

The minor modifications to the text of the Draft EIR detailed below reflect clarifications that do not constitute significant new information and do not change any of the impact conclusions of the Draft EIR. These minor modifications do not constitute changes to the Project or environmental setting nor would they result in any new significant environmental impacts. In addition, these minor revisions to the text, as described below, would not cause a substantial increase in the severity of any environmental impacts. Rather, these changes merely clarify portions of the text. Amended text is identified by page number. Clarifications to the draft EIR text are shown with underline and text removed from the draft EIR is shown with ~~striketrough~~.

4.2 CHANGES AND EDITS TO THE DRAFT EIR

The following changes and edits represent revisions to information included in the Draft EIR based upon: (1) additional or revised information required to prepare a response to a specific comment; (2) updated information required due to the passage of time; and/or (3) typographical errors. Given the minor changes associated with the document, the information added to the EIR does not meet the requirements for recirculation pursuant to Section 150885.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

A brief description of what the change or edit is provided as well as a reference to where the change or edit occurs in the document (page number, paragraph, sentence, table, etc). Changes to the portion of text are included in quotes ("").

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SECTION 4.2, LAND USE

Page 4.2-18 of the Draft EIR has been revised as follows:

The proposed solar farm complex site is currently designated as “Agriculture” on the Imperial County Land Use Plan Map. Per section [90508.02] of the Imperial County Land Use Code Ordinance, an electrical power generating plant (excluding nuclear or coal fired) and electrical substations in an electrical transmission system (500-kV/230-kV/161-kV) are allowed uses within the existing zones agricultural zones (A-2) with a CUP. . . No land use amendment would be required for the portion of the Project located within the County’s jurisdiction because a solar facility is an allowed use subject to a CUP. Therefore, the proposed Project is consistent with the existing land use and zoning designations.

SECTION 4.4, AIR QUALITY

Page 4.4-22, the last sentence of the paragraph below Table 4.4-11 has been removed:

~~“The ICAPCD has adopted the Operation Development Fee under Rule 310. This Rule provides the ICAPCD with a sound method for mitigating emissions produced from the operation of new commercial and residential development projects. Projects unmitigable through standard procedures are assessed a one-time fee for either Ozone Precursors or PM₁₀ impacts which is based upon either the square footage of the commercial development or the number of residential units. Operational impacts are not anticipated given that the proposed Project creates renewable energy and is expected to add a peak of 50 average daily traffic trips (ADTs) or less.”~~

SECTION 4.11, HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Page 4.11-23 [Impact 4.11-2 (Construction)] of the Draft EIR has been revised as follows:

“Result in Depleted Groundwater Supplies or Interfere Substantially with Groundwater Recharge

Impact 4.11.2 Implementation of the proposed Project would require use of groundwater during construction and operation. However, proposed pumping levels are anticipated to be sustainable, and excess would be retained on-site and allowed to percolate back into the shallow groundwater table. Therefore, impacts to groundwater supplies and recharge are considered **less than significant**.

Construction

The proposed Project intends to use groundwater as its source of water during construction. Seven ground water wells are located on the solar farm complex site, although only the domestic water well (#7) and two commercial water wells (#4 and #6) are currently operational. An estimated 650 AF of water would be needed during construction of the proposed Project (Todd 2013). Project water would be obtained from either the existing water wells or the two new wells (#8 and #9) to be constructed.

The WSA determined that the 215 AF/Y of pumping proposed for this Project and Property area operations would be sustainable during normal and drought conditions (see discussion under “Operation,” below). The estimated 650 AF of groundwater to be used for construction

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of the solar projects, equal to three years of operations water demand, would be consumed over the first years during which time the solar projects and residences would not yet be consuming the full 215 AFY for operations. The estimated 650 AF of groundwater consumed during construction of the five solar energy projects also equals an average of 26 AFY over the 25-year life of the five solar energy projects. Adding this 26 AFY to the 215 AFY Project and Property demand, and the additional 10 AFY of water authorized from the Blu-In RV Park groundwater well, total new groundwater production would average 251 AFY over the 25-year life of the five solar energy projects. Because the WSA estimated that pumping for the Allegretti Farms ranged from 200 AFY to 225 AFY during 2010-2011, during which time the measured groundwater level rose nearly 8 feet, pumping an average of 251 AFY over the life of the five solar energy projects would also be within sustainable levels during normal and drought conditions.

~~The geotechnical investigation prepared for the proposed Project states that adverse effects to shallow groundwater are not anticipated to result from Project construction (PETRA 2012a). Any excess pumped water would percolate back into the groundwater basin in place or in proposed on-site detention facilities designed to meet the requirements of the County of Imperial. In addition, construction phase water use would be temporary in nature. As recharge to the deep groundwater aquifer is from mountain runoff in the north and east part of the groundwater basin, construction activities for the solar projects would not affect recharge to the deep groundwater basin. Construction activities should also not result in substantial reduction in recharge to the shallow aquifer, as few impervious surfaces would be constructed, and each solar project would be designed to contain precipitation until it percolates into the shallow groundwater aquifer or evaporates. Therefore, construction of the proposed Project is anticipated to have a **less than significant impact** on deep groundwater supply and shallow groundwater recharge during Project construction."~~

SECTION 4.12, BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Page 4.12-49, the second sentence of the first full paragraph have been eliminated; the fourth sentence has been corrected as follows:

The Project proposes to use non-reflective PV or CPV panels which are not anticipated to create glare. ~~One exception of possible winter time glare may be visible to residences west of the solar farm complex site if fixed tilt PV arrays are used.~~ As a result, impacts from bird strikes are not anticipated to be substantial. Bird mortalities would be documented as part of long-term operational ~~mitigation~~ monitoring by a qualified biologist. Therefore, impacts to migratory birds during Project operation are considered **less than significant**.