

Imperial County  
Planning & Development Services Department

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF DRAFT EIR FOR ENERGY SOURCE MINERAL ATLiS PROJECT  
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC EIR SCOPING MEETING**

The Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Energy Source Mineral ATLiS Project as described below. A public scoping meeting for the proposed EIR will be held by the Imperial County Planning & Development Services Department on January 14, 2021 at 6:00 PM. The scoping meeting will be held virtually via the Zoom platform. Comments regarding the scope of the EIR will be accepted at this meeting.

**SUBJECT:** Energy Source Mineral ATLiS Project EIR

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONSIDERATION:** To Be Determined.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The Project's plant and facilities will be located at 477 West McDonald Road, Calipatria, California which is approximately 3.8 miles southwest of the community of Niland on three parcels privately owned by Hudson Ranch Power I (HR1) LLC in the County: APNs 020-100-025, 020-100-044, 020-100-046 (Figure 1). Currently, the HR1 power plant exists within the northeast corner of the 65.12-acre parcel, APN 020-100-044. The Project's plant facilities would be built on an approximately 37-acre area that would be subdivided out of the existing 65.12 acres, an additional 15 acres of the Project site located on the northwestern parcel APN 020-100-025, and approximately 40 acres of the Project site located on the southeast parcel APN 020-100-046 will be added to the 37-acres through a subdivision map application to form the new parcel for the Project. The layout of the Project is shown in the Project Site Plan (Figure 2).

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Energy-Source Minerals LLC (Applicant) is proposing to construct and operate a commercial lithium hydroxide production plant within the Salton Sea geothermal field in Imperial County (County), California (Project). The facility (ALTiS Plant) will process geothermal brine from the neighboring Hudson Ranch Power I Geothermal Plant (HR1) to produce lithium hydroxide, as well as zinc and manganese products which would be sold commercially.

The Project would consist of the following activities:

- Construction and operation of a plant to extract lithium, manganese, zinc, and other commercially viable substances from geothermal brine and process the extracted substances to produce commercial quantities of lithium, and to the extent possible, manganese and zinc products and other products;
- Construction and operation of brine supply and return pipelines and other associated interconnection facilities with the HR1 power plant;
- Construction of a primary access road from McDonald Road (approximately 500 feet west of the HR1 entrance) and an emergency access entrance only from Davis Road;
- Paving of McDonald Road from Highway 111 to English Road (approximately 3 miles);
- Construction of a power interconnection line from the IID and HR1 switchyard located at the northeast corner of the HR1 site;
- Construction of associated facilities between HR1 and the Project site to facilitate the movement of brine and other services;
- Construction of a laydown yard that will also support temporary offices during construction as well as serving as a truck management yard during operations; and
- Construction of offices, repair facilities, shipping and receiving facilities and other infrastructure components.

**Project Applicant:** Energy Source Mineral, LLC

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

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT:** District 4, Supervisor Ryan E. Kelley

**ANTICIPATED SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS:** The EIR will analyze potential impacts associated with the following: Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Energy; Geology and Soils; Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Water Quality; Noise; Transportation; Tribal Cultural Resources; and Utilities and Service Systems.

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

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION REVIEW PERIOD:** December 11, 2020 through January 14, 2021.