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County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR KEY ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2022070414; FRESNO COUNTY EIR 8189

FILED
SEP 20 2023
TIME 1:21 pm

LEAD AGENCY: Fresno County

PROJECT TITLE: Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Key Energy Storage Project

FRESNO COUNTY CLERK
By: [Signature] DEPUTY

PROJECT LOCATION: The Project site is in western Fresno County, approximately 0.4 mile east of Interstate 5 (I-5), immediately south of West Jayne Avenue, and between I-5 and South Lassen Avenue (State Route 269) and adjacent to PG&E's existing Gates Substation. Nearby communities include Huron (4 miles to the northeast), Avenal (7.5 miles to the south), and Coalinga (11.5 miles to the west). The 260-acres site is within the approximately 318 acres consisting of Fresno County Assessor Parcel Numbers: 085-040-58, 085-040-36, and 085-040-37.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Key Energy Storage, LLC has applied to the Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning for a Conditional Use Permit No. 3734 to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission an energy storage facility. Project build-out would be phased. At full build-out, the Project would have capacity to store up to 3 gigawatts of energy during times of excess generation and dispatch it into the existing electrical grid later when needed. The Project would receive energy (charge) from the point of interconnection (POI) with the regional electric transmission system at PG&E's existing Gates Substation, store energy, and then deliver energy (discharge) back to the POI. The Project would consist of batteries using lithium-ion or lithium-ion and iron-flow storage technology. To interconnect the Project, Key Energy Storage, LLC and PG&E would construct, operate, and maintain a new 2,500-foot-long (up to 0.5-mile) 500-kilovolt transmission line, mostly on substation property, between the Gates Substation and the Project site. This line would be installed on new lattice steel towers, each up to 200 feet tall, which would be spaced at approximately 500-foot intervals. To accommodate the Project, PG&E also would modify existing infrastructure on the Gates Substation site and at the Midway Substation located approximately 63 miles southeast of the Project site in Buttonwillow, an unincorporated community in Kern County, California.

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: The County of Fresno has prepared a Draft EIR analyzing the Project's potential environmental effects. The Project would have a less-than-significant impact (with or without mitigation measures) regarding: Aesthetics; Agriculture and Forestry Resources; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources; Energy; Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources; Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Hydrology and Water Quality; Noise and Acoustics; Transportation; Utilities and Service Systems; and Wildfire. No impact would result to Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Public Services, or Recreation.

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PUBLIC REVIEW: A 45-day comment period for the Draft EIR begins Thursday, September 21, 2023 and ends at 5:00 p.m. Monday, November 6, 2023. Written comments should reference EIR 8189, Key Energy Storage Project. Include your name, address, and phone number or email address so we may contact you for clarification, if necessary. Send written comments to:

Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning
Development Services and Capital Projects Division
ATTN: Jeremy Shaw, Planner
2220 Tulare Street, Suite B Annex (below street level)
SW Corner of Tulare and 'M' Street
Fresno, CA 93721
Email: jshaw@FresnoCountyCA.gov

AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT EIR: Copies of the Draft EIR are available for review at the following locations:

- Fresno County Public Works and Planning Department, 2220 Tulare Street, Fresno.
- Fresno County Main Library, Reference Department, 2420 Mariposa Street, Fresno.
- Huron Public Library, 36050 O St, Huron, CA 93234.