

County of Fresno
Notice of Preparation (NOP)
of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR No. 7257) on the
Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex (Unclassified
Conditional Use Permit Nos. CUP 3562, 3563, and 3564)

Date: September 15, 2017

To: State Clearinghouse and Interested Parties

From: Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning
Development Services Division
2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor
Fresno, CA 93721

Subject: Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex (UCUP Nos. 3562, 3563 and 3564; EIR No. 7257)

The County of Fresno will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project identified below.

Project Summary: EC&R Solar Development, LLC (the Applicant) has submitted to The County of Fresno (County) three Unclassified Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Applications (CUP 3562, 3563, and 3564) to allow the construction and operation of a 150 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) generation facility, a 20 MW solar PV generation facility, and a 20 MW energy storage facility. The Project site is located on twelve (12) parcels totaling 1,593.52 acres, generally located west of South Lassen Avenue (SR-269), north of West Jayne Avenue, east of South Lake Avenue, and west of West Gale Avenue, approximately three miles south of the nearest city limits of the community of Huron. The County has determined that a project-level Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared. The County is soliciting comments from reviewing agencies and the public regarding the scope and content of the environmental information. For reviewing agencies, Fresno County requests comments that are germane to your agency's statutory responsibility as related to the Project. Your agency may need to use the EIR when considering relevant permits or other approvals for the Project. The County is also seeking the views of residents, property owners, and concerned citizens regarding issues that should be addressed in the EIR.

The Applicant's Project Description and site plan, as well as a location map, are available for review at the following locations:

Fresno County Public Works and Planning Department, 2220 Tulare Street,
Fresno, CA 93721

Fresno County website:

<http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/DepartmentPage.aspx?id=74079>

COMMENT PERIOD: Comments may be sent anytime during the 30-day NOP review period. The NOP review and comment period begins **September 15, 2017**, and ends **October 16, 2017**, at **5:00 p.m.** All comments must be received within the comment period. Please include the name of a contact person for your agency, if applicable. All comments should be directed to:

Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning
Attention: Christina Monfette
2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor
Fresno, CA 93721

Comments may also be emailed to cmonfette@co.fresno.ca.us

LEAD AGENCY: The County of Fresno Department of Public Works and Planning, Development Services Division

SCOPING MEETING: Oral comments may be provided at the Scoping Meeting to be held on:

Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2017

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Place: Keenan Community Center, located at 17094 Myrtle St,
Huron, CA 93234.

The Project Description can be viewed on the Fresno County website:

<http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/viewdocument.aspx?id=74079>

Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex

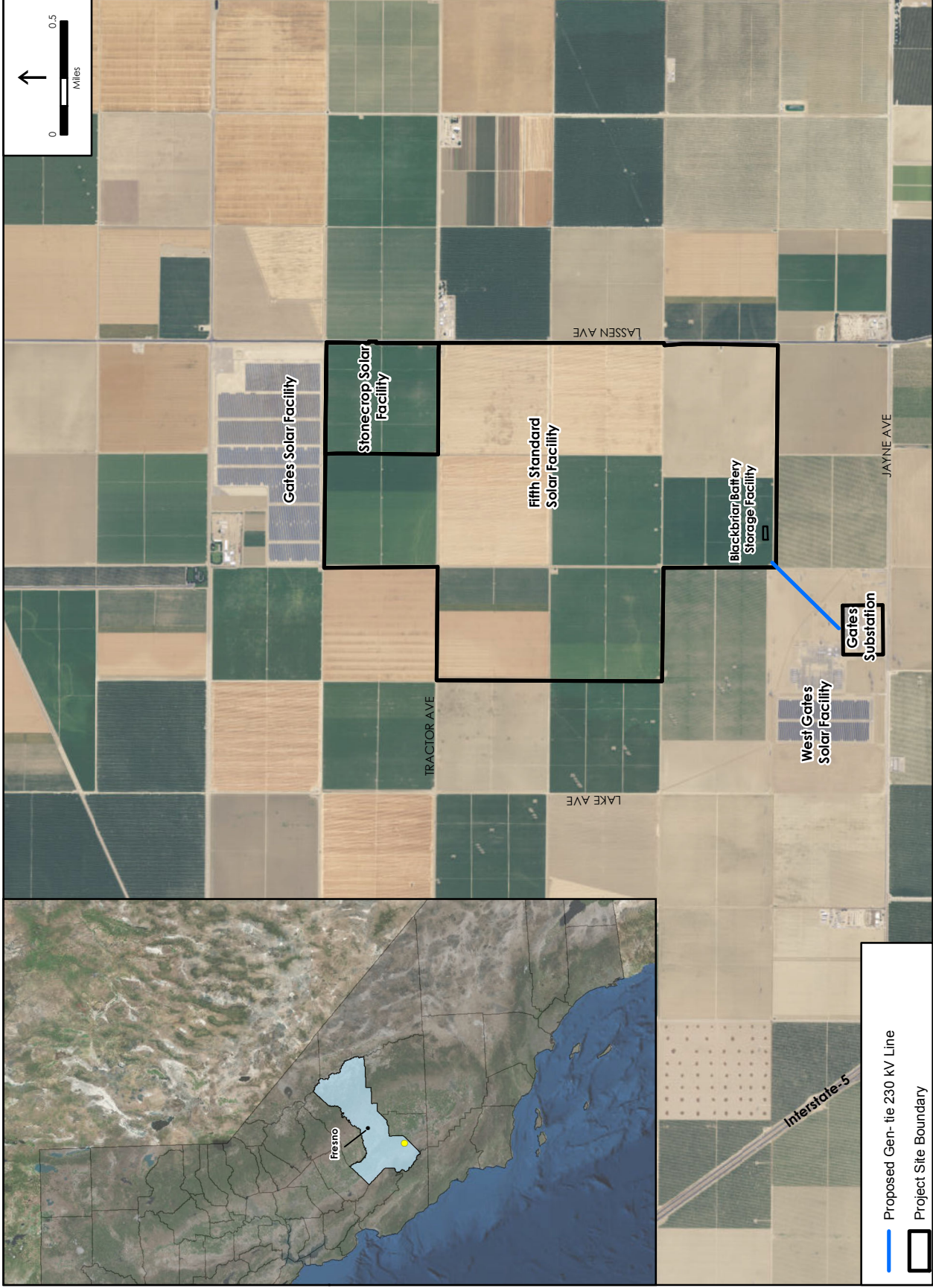
1.1 - PROJECT LOCATION

The Project site is located in unincorporated Fresno County, approximately 2 miles east of Interstate 5 (I-5), and approximately 13 miles east of Coalinga. The Project site location is shown in Figure 1. Lassen Avenue (California State Route 269) borders the eastern side of the property and is the only paved road in the immediate vicinity of the Project site. The Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex (Project), as defined for the purposes of CEQA analysis, would consist of an approximately 1,594-acre solar power and stored energy facility comprised of three individual facilities co-located on the Project site. The Project site would be located on a portion of twelve parcels identified as Fresno County Assessor's Parcel Numbers [APNs] 075-060-15S, 075-060-52S, 075-070-01S, 075-070-32S, 075-070-34S, 075-130-10S, 075-130-12S, 075-130-54S, 075-130-59S, 075-130-60S, 075-070-35S, 075-070-33S). The Project site includes the southern half of Section 22, the eastern half of Section 28, all of Section 27, and the northern half of Section 34, all located in Township 20 South, Range 17 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDBM) in the unincorporated area of the County of Fresno.

1.2 - EXISTING CONDITIONS

Land use within the Project site currently consists of actively farmed row crops, including tomatoes and wheat (see Figure 2, Project Site Land Use). Since 2009, an average of approximately 420 acres per year of the available 1,594 acres at the Project site has been fallow or planted with wheat (a non-irrigated, low-value crop) due to constraints, including inadequate surface and groundwater supply, poor groundwater quality and limited irrigation infrastructure (Environmental Science Associates (ESA), 2016a). Figure 3 provides representative photographs of the Project site. Irrigation lines and access roads also occur on the Project site. Several power lines border and cross the Project site, including high-voltage transmission lines. The existing land use of the Project site is predominantly dry-farmed agriculture. With the exception of a 1.25-acre parcel located in the interior of the Project site, the entire Project site is under Williamson Act Contracts, all of which are currently being petitioned for cancellation by the Applicant and landowner.

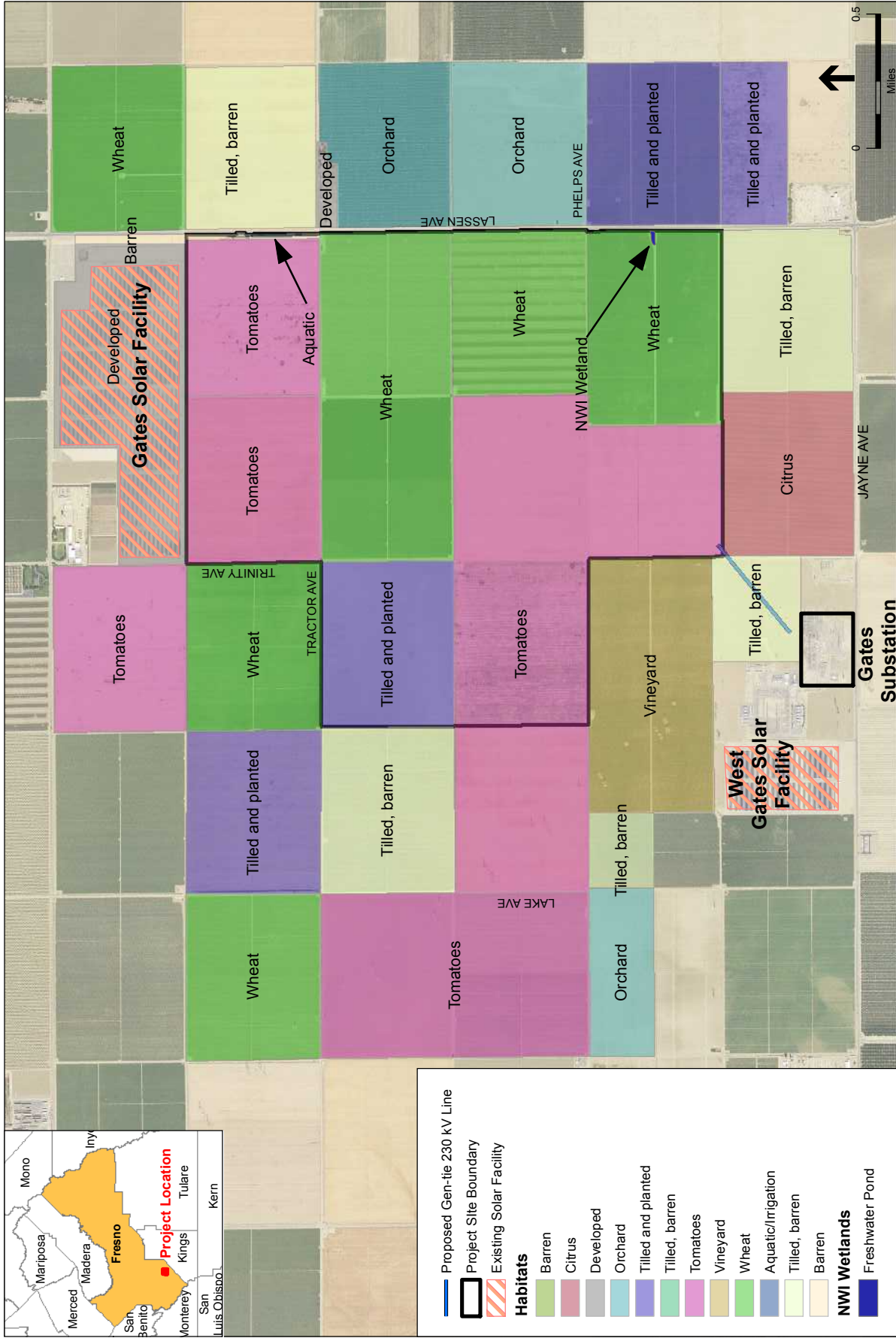
The Project site is included in the area covered by the Fresno County General Plan (County of Fresno, 2000a). The entire Project site is zoned AE-20, or "Exclusive Agricultural," as designated by the Fresno County Zoning Ordinance (County of



Proposed Gen-tie 230 kV Line
 Project Site Boundary

Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex 120251
Figure 1
 Project Location

SOURCE: ESRI

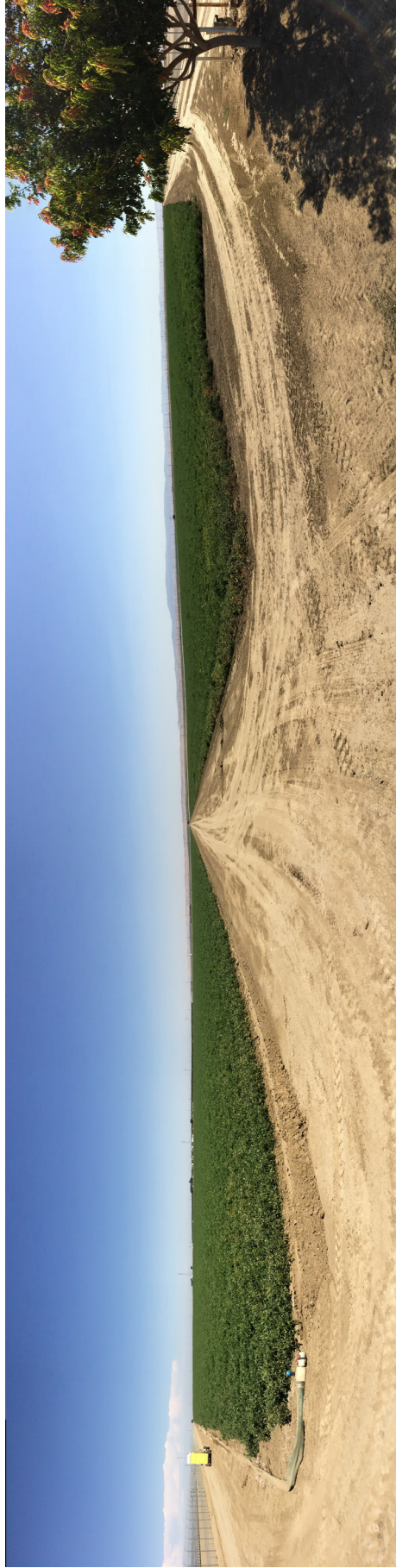


Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex. 120251
Figure 2
 Project Site Land Use

SOURCE: EC&R Solar Development, LLC, 2016 ; NWI, 2016; ESA



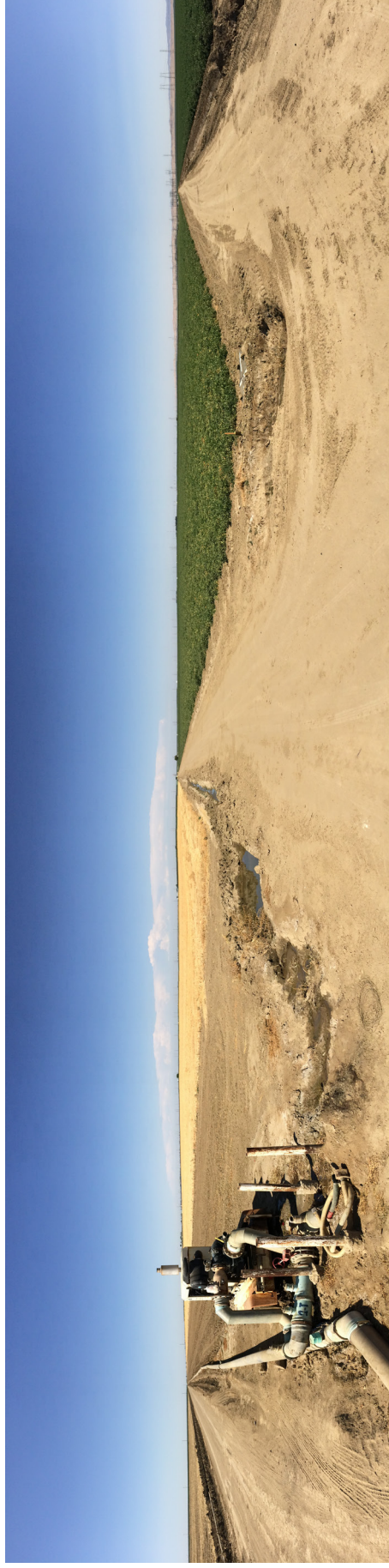
3a - View of Project Site from the East



3b - View of Project Site from the North



3c - View of Project Site from the South



3d - View of Project Site from the West

Fresno, 2000b). All parcels upon which construction is proposed fall under Williamson Act contracts, and the entire Project site has a designation of "P," or "Prime Farmland," as provided by the California Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP, 2014) (see Figure 4: Williamson Act Contracted Land in the Project Area). Surrounding land uses include farmland, the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E's) Gates Substation and two nearby solar generating facilities (Gates Solar and West Gates Solar).

The Gates Substation is located 0.4 mile southwest of the Project site. The existing West Gates Solar facility is adjacent to the Gates Substation, 0.5 mile southeast of the Project site. The Gates Solar facility is located to the north and immediately adjacent to the Project site. Interstate 5 is located approximately 2 miles west of the Project site. The Pleasant Valley Ecological Reserve is located across I-5, 6 miles west of the Project site (CDFW, 2016). New Coalinga Municipal Airport is located approximately 9 miles to the west of the Project site.

1.3 - PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project Applicant is requesting three Unclassified Conditional Use Permits (CUP) to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facilities and associated infrastructure. This facility would generate a total of up-to 190-megawatts (MW) alternating current (AC) at the Point of Interconnection on approximately 1,594 acres in unincorporated Fresno County. The Project would provide solar power and stored energy to utility customers via an interconnection at PG&E's adjacent Gates Substation.

The Project would operate year-round to generate electricity from the PV facilities during daylight hours and dispatch additional electricity during either daylight or non-daylight hours, depending on the application of the energy storage portion of the Project. Construction of a new gen-tie line would be necessary to interconnect the Project to the electrical grid.

The Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex, under CEQA, would comprise three separate components, which are summarized here and described below (see Figure 5: Plot Plan):

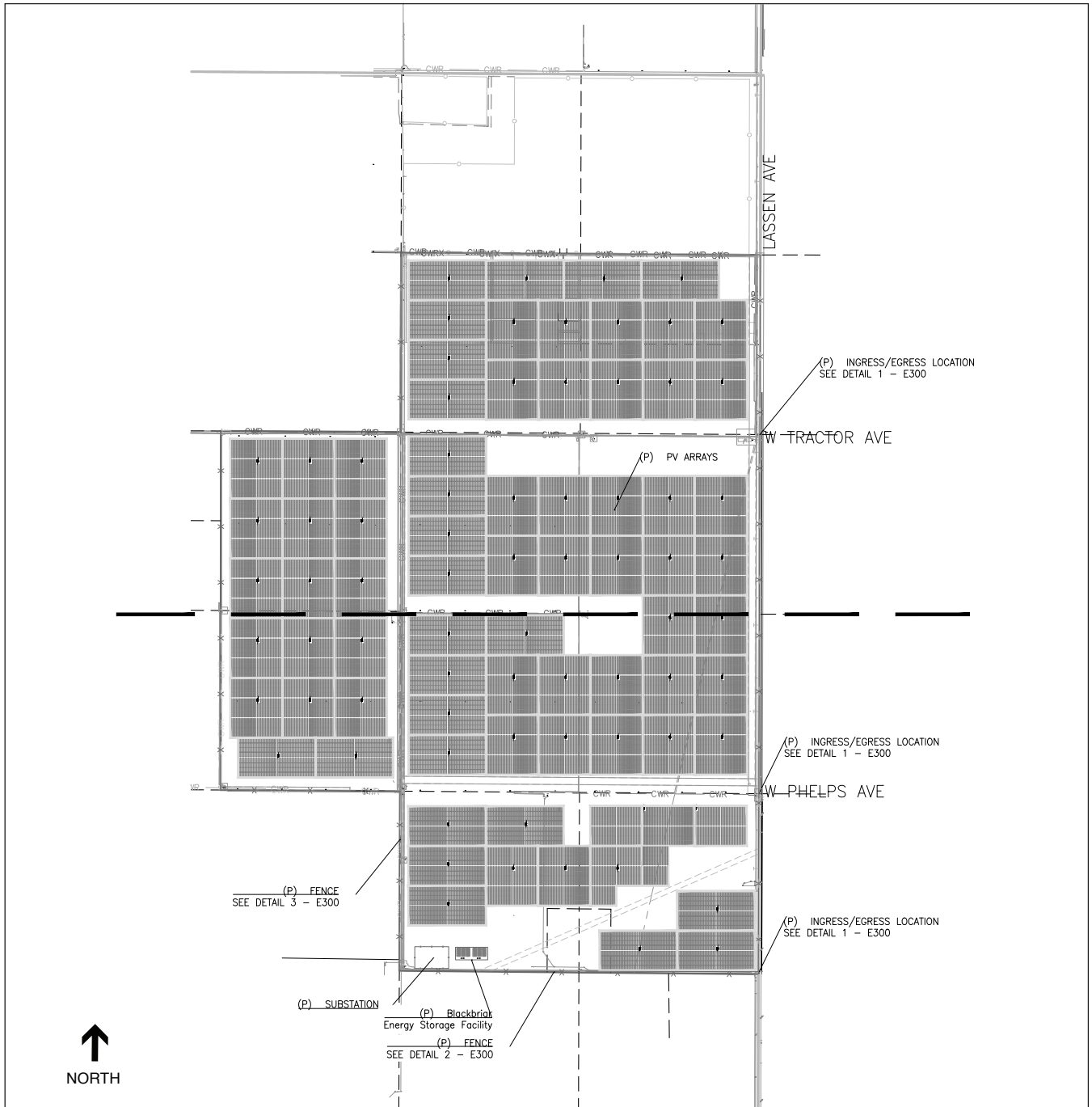
- Fifth Standard Solar Facility (Fifth Standard): a 150 MW PV solar energy generation facility that is anticipated to require up to 1,400 acres of the Project site.
- Stonecrop Solar Facility (Stonecrop): a 20 MW PV solar energy generation facility that would be located adjacent to Fifth Standard and would require less than 200 acres of the Project site.

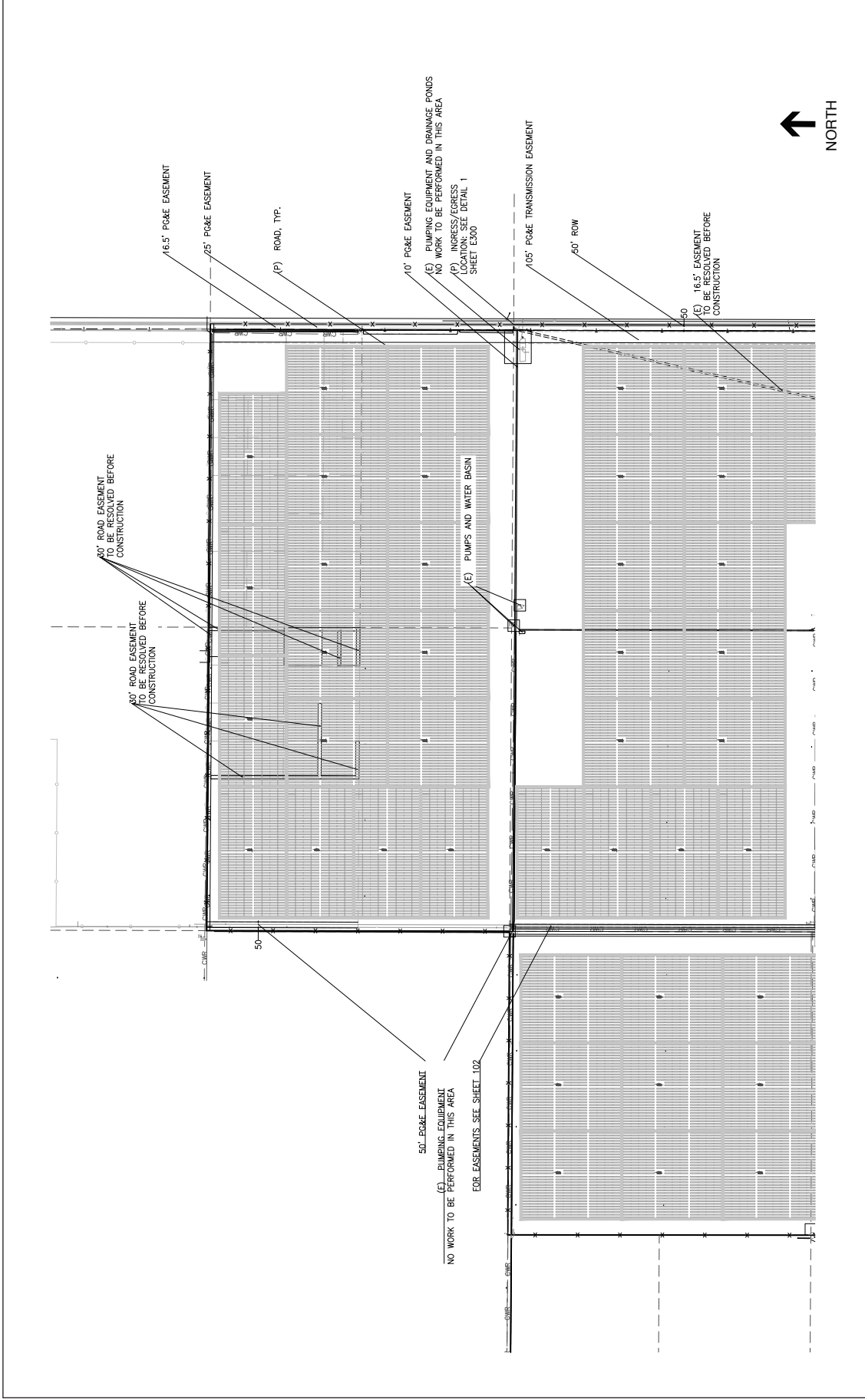


SOURCE: EC&R Solar Development, LLC, 2016; CDC, 2016

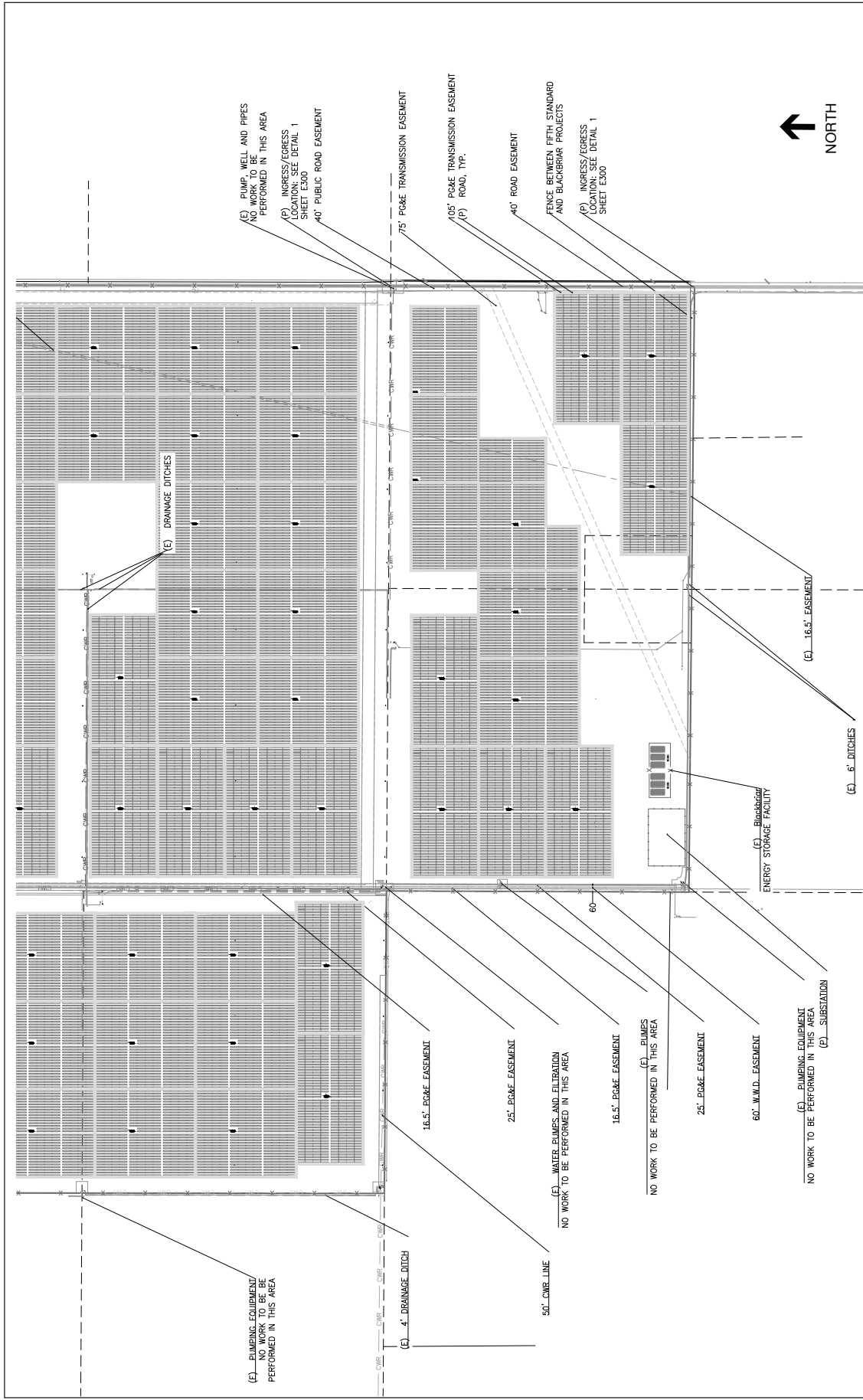
Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex. 120251

Figure 4
Williamson Act Contracted Land In the Project Area





Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex . 120251
Figure 5 (continued)
 Plot Plan - Northern Half of Site at Larger Scale



Fifth Standard Solar Project Complex . 120251
Figure 5 (continued)
 Plot Plan - Southern Half of Site at Larger Scale

SOURCE: EC&R Solar Development, LLC

- Blackbriar Battery Storage Facility (Blackbriar): a 20 MW battery storage facility that would be located adjacent to Fifth Standard and Stonecrop, and would utilize less than 5 acres of the Project site.

The Project would also include a single onsite substation, located in the southwest corner of the Project site to provide the Project's interconnection with the local transmission grid.

The solar modules at the Project site would operate during daylight hours seven days per week, 365 days per year. The storage facility could operate at any hour, but would typically operate no more than 4 hours at a time. The anticipated life of the Project would be 35 years.

Construction of the Project facilities would occur over 11 to 12 consecutive months, with an expected start in early 2019 and an anticipated completion by the end of December 2019. Within this timeframe, construction of the three individual facilities would occur according to the following schedule:

- February 2019 – June 2019: Blackbriar
- April 2019 – December 2019: Fifth Standard
- August 2019 – December 2019: Stonecrop

1.3.1 Solar Facility – Photovoltaic Panels

The Solar Facility would primarily consist of PV module arrays that would generate electricity directly from sunlight. Each module, or solar panel, could measure from 44 inches to 75 inches tall and from 22 inches to 44 inches wide, depending upon final module selection. Modules would be placed on racking systems and arranged in rows. The ultimate configuration of modules and rows would depend on the final technology selected, as explained below. Electricity generated at the arrays would be collected and delivered to the Project substation.

The total number of modules or panels would depend on the technology selected, an optimized layout, and a detailed design that takes landscape features, drainage considerations, and maintenance access into account. Thin-film PV module technology or crystalline silicon PV module technology, or both, may be incorporated into the Project. Solar thermal technology is not being considered.

Although selection of the module has not been finalized, the general characteristics of the PV modules are that they would be covered with dark, high-light-absorbing, low-reflective glass, and would be mounted on a corrosion-resistant metal racking system. Panel mounting systems that may be installed include either fixed-tilt or tracking technology, depending on the PV panels ultimately selected. Multiple types of panels and racking systems may be installed

across the Project site.

Panels would be arranged on the Project site in solar arrays. For single-axis tracking systems, the length of each row of panels could be up to 350 feet along the north/south axis. For fixed-tilt systems, a row consists of multiple tables (4 panels high by 10 panels wide, depending on design), each table approximately 65 feet along the east/west axis, with 1-foot spacing between each table. Spacing between each row would be a minimum of 4 feet. The solar panel array would generate electricity directly from sunlight, collect it to a single point at the Project substation, and interconnect it to PG&E's transmission system.

Per Fresno County policy and in adherence to the County's Solar Guidelines, the solar panels would be setback a minimum of 50 feet from the property line and neighboring agricultural operations.

1.3.2 Solar Facility – Modular Power Block, Cabling and Connections

The solar panel array would contain individual modular power blocks. Individual PV panels and rows would be electrically connected together in series to carry direct current (DC) electricity. Either central inverters or string inverters would be used to change the DC output to AC electricity.

If central inverters are used, multiple DC strings would be wired into an aboveground combiner box to merge the strings into a single high-current cable. From the combiner boxes, the cabling would be installed above ground in cable trays and underground approximately 3 feet deep to inverters mounted on small concrete pads distributed across the Project site. The inverters would change the DC output from the combiner boxes to AC electricity. Next, the AC electricity for the modular power block would be increased to medium voltage with a standard "step-up" transformer. The medium voltage cabling would create multiple collection circuits that would carry the electricity from the modular power blocks to the Project substation. The medium voltage collection circuits would be installed underground or on overhead poles to the substation.

The DC cable system would be laid in above-ground metal trays measuring approximately 6 inches by 6 inches running the length of the tracker rows. DC cables would exit the arrays and run in underground trenches from the arrays to inverter skids and a step-up transformer. The inverter skids would be sized and spaced according to final design and engineering requirements, with a typical skid including two to four inverters to serve up to 4 MW. The Project would use 100 to 200 inverters. The skids would be placed on concrete pad foundations. The top of the equipment would be approximately 10 feet above the ground. There would be one such skid and foundation for each modular power block.

Alternatively, smaller strings inverters may be used in lieu of the larger, central inverters. With string inverters, four to eight DC strings would be wired into an inverter, with each inverter converting the DC power to AC power. The DC circuits would be routed to the inverters via above ground cable trays or buried in trenches. String inverters would be located on above-grade metallic racks between rows. Four to 12 string inverters would be clustered together with an AC combiner panel that would combine the AC currents into one set of conductors and then feed into a transformer, where the circuit would be "stepped-up" to medium voltage. These medium voltage circuits would each travel to the Project substation through underground trenches at depths greater than 40 inches. All the medium voltage circuits would be combined and monitored at the Project substation.

1.3.3 Solar Facility – Tracker Unit

Each modular power block is typically comprised of individual tracker units. The tracker units would contain the rows of solar PV panels running in the north-south direction. The tracker units would rotate the rows of solar PV panels from east to west throughout the day, following the sun to maximize exposure to sunlight and electrical output. The tracker units would include seven major components, described below:

- Drive Unit. Multiple rows may be rotated with a single drive unit, or each row may be provided with its own drive. In the first scenario, multiple rows of solar PV panels would be linked by a steel drive strut, which would be oriented perpendicular to the axis of rotation. Each row would be connected to the drive strut by a torque arm, which acts as a lever, enabling the drive strut to rotate the rows together as the drive unit moves the drive strut forward and backward. The drive unit typically is mounted at the first row in a tracker unit, and consists of a bi-directional AC motor that rotates the drive strut. The drive unit would be connected to an industrial-grade variable-frequency drive that translates commands from the control computer into AC voltage that applies power to the motor, and to the drive strut and the rows.
- In the other tracking system, a motor would be mounted in the middle of each row, and there would be no drive components spanning multiple rows.
- Tracker Controller. The tracker controller is a self-contained industrial-grade control computer that would incorporate all of the software needed to operate the system. The controller would include a liquid crystal display (LCD) monitor that displays a combination of calibration parameters and status values, providing field personnel with a user-friendly configuration and

diagnostic interface. The LCD would enable field adjustment, calibration, and testing.

- PV Panels. The system would incorporate commercially available Underwriters Laboratory (UL)-listed solar PV panels, as described above. Due to the limited rotation angles and generally flat topography in the area surrounding the Project site, the solar PV panels have no potential for reflecting the sun's rays upon any ground-based observer offsite. These panels would be protected from impact by tempered glass and would have factory applied ultraviolet- and weather-resistant "quick connect" wire connectors.
- Steel Tracking Structure. The steel tracking structure would be able to withstand high-wind conditions, site-specific wind gust and aerodynamic pressure effects, and seismic events, as required by applicable codes. More information about the steel tracking system is described above. Tracking arrays would be oriented along a north-south axis with panels tracking east to west to follow the movement of the sun. Fixed-tilt arrays would be oriented along an east-west axis with panels facing generally south. The total height of the panel system measured from ground surface would be up to 12 feet.
- DC-AC Inverter. The inverter would change the electrical current from DC, which is produced in the solar cells, to AC, which is delivered to the transmission system.
- Combiner Boxes. Combiner boxes would merge the DC module wiring into a single high-current cable.
- Data Acquisition System. Integrated with the inverter, this system is made up of multiple components including a data logger and sensors to record AC power output. Other integrated components include equipment to record weather conditions, including ambient temperature measured in degrees Celsius (°C), incoming solar radiation measured in watts per square meter (W/m²), and wind speed measured in meters per second (m/s). The Data Acquisition System enables system data transfer and performance monitoring, either locally or remotely.

1.3.4 Onsite Substation

The Project would include a single onsite substation, located in the southwest corner of the Project site. The substation dimensions would be approximately 500 feet by 320 feet. The substation would collect the medium voltage circuits that carry power from the Fifth Standard, Stonecrop, and Blackbriar facilities and would contain metering equipment, switchgear, a series of fuses and circuit breakers that act as protective relays, as well as a transformer to step-up the voltage to match

the voltage of the local transmission grid).

1.3.5 Electrical Interconnection

The Project would require the construction of a new 230-kV overhead gen-tie line, which would extend from the Project substation at the southwestern corner of the Project site for a distance of approximately 1,800 feet, or 0.3 mile, to the Gates Substation. The Project gen-tie would be designed to pass from the Project site to PG&E property at a shared, common boundary, eliminating the need for easements or rights-of-way from other landowners.

To build the power line, PG&E would install approximately six tubular steel poles (TSPs) approximately 135 feet tall. To accommodate the new power line, PG&E may also need to relocate and replace approximately three distribution poles and underground distribution power lines.

1.3.6 Telecommunications

The Project would be designed to employ a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. The SCADA would allow remote monitoring of the Project's operation, as well as remote operations of its critical control components. Access to the Project's SCADA system would be accomplished with wireless and/or hard-wired connections to locally available commercial service providers, i.e., a Local Exchange Carrier.

1.3.7 Meteorological Data Collection System

The Project would include a meteorological data collection system (weather station). Various sensors at the station would measure three different types of solar radiation, wind speed, wind direction, temperature, humidity, and precipitation. Data from each sensor would be collected by the station's data-logger, as well as transmitted to the Project's SCADA system for monitoring and reporting purposes.

A mobile weather station mounted on a small, flatbed trailer has been installed during the Project development phase. This mobile version of the station would be replaced by a permanent, ground-mounted version during Project construction.

1.3.8 Energy Storage Facility

Storage systems can assist grid operators in more effectively integrating intermittent renewable resources into the statewide grid and can assist utilities in their efforts to meet energy storage goals mandated by the California Public Utilities Commission. A 20 MW energy storage facility with a four-hour discharge duration would be constructed on the Project site. The storage system would consist of battery banks housed in enclosures or a building, bi-directional inverters, step-up transformers,

and balance of plant. The system would be located near the Project substation. Enclosures measuring 40 feet by 8 feet by 8.5 feet high would be installed on concrete pads, utilizing up to 5 acres of the Project site. Sixty to 70 enclosures are expected to be required, although more or less may be used, depending on the final technology selected. HVAC systems are required and would be located within the enclosures. Alternatively, one to two buildings (rather than multiple, smaller containers) could be installed to house all of the energy storage components. To guarantee the highest safety standard, containers would be equipped with fire suppression systems, fire/smoke detectors, and emergency stops. The Project could use any commercially available battery technology, including but not limited to lithium ion, sodium sulfur, sodium hydride or nickel hydride.

1.4 - AREAS OF POTENTIAL IMPACT

The County has determined that an EIR is required for this Project. Therefore, as allowed under Section 15063(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, the County has not prepared an Initial Study and will instead begin working directly on the EIR, as allowed under CEQA Guidelines Section 15081. The EIR will focus on the potentially significant and significant effects of the Project and will document the reasons for concluding that other effects will be less than significant. The topics listed below will be further analyzed in the EIR. However, certain criteria within the topics listed below have been scoped out of further analysis, as detailed in the next section.

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology, Soils, and Seismicity
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Public Services
- Transportation and Traffic
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utility and Service Systems

1.5 - EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

Based on the Project site or Project characteristics, it is not anticipated that impacts will occur within the following environmental topic areas. Therefore, these specific environmental impact criteria will be scoped out and included in the Effects Found Not Be Significant section of the EIR. A brief description of why each topic or impact area was found not to be significant, and therefore scoped out, is provided below.

Agricultural and Forestry Resources

- **II. 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))?** The Project site is not zoned as forest land, timberland, or timberland production and does not meet the requirements of a timberland zone as defined by Public Resource Code section 4526. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with rezoning or causing rezoning of forest land or timberland would occur.
- **II. d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?** The Project site is currently used for agricultural purposes and does not contain forest land or forest land uses. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with the loss or conversion of forest land would occur.

Air Quality

- **III. e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?** Operation of the Project would not create objectionable odors. However, construction and decommissioning of the Project would include fuels and other odor sources, such as diesel equipment, which could result in the creation of objectionable odors. Since these activities would be temporary and spatially dispersed, and generally take place in rural areas, they would not affect a substantial number of people. Therefore, impacts from odors generated by construction and decommissioning of the Project would be less than significant.

Geology and Soils

- **VI. a) i) 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?** The Project site does not contain, nor is it located near, a defined Alquist-Priolo zone. The nearest zone is located more than 14 miles to the west. Therefore, the Project site is not subject to rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning map. No potential impacts associated with fault rupture would occur.

- **VI. 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?** The Project would not generate waste water that would need to be disposed of in a septic or sewer system. During construction and any maintenance operations, portable restroom facilities would be provided for workers. Therefore, no potential impacts with respect to waste water disposal systems would occur.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

- **VIII. c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?** Solar facilities do not emit hazardous emissions; however, construction activities would include the use of hazardous materials such as gasoline, diesel, and solvents. Huron Elementary is the school nearest to the Project site, located approximately 2.8 miles to the north. As such, the Project is not located within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with emission of hazardous materials or substances within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school would occur.
- **VIII. 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 for people residing or working in the project area?** The Project site is not located within two miles of a public airport. The nearest public airport is the Coalinga Municipal Airport, located approximately 9.8 miles west. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with aviation noise at the Project site would occur. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with aviation safety hazards at the Project site would occur.

Hydrology and Water Quality

- **IX. g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?** The Project does not include the construction of any habitable structures, including housing. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with placing housing in a 100-year floodplain would occur.
- **IX. j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?** The Project site would not be exposed to hazards associated with seiche, tsunami, or mudflow, because the Project site is not located near large bodies of water, an ocean, or a hillside. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with seiche, tsunami, or mudflow would occur.

Land Use

- **X. a) Physically divide an established community?** The Project site is located in a rural, unincorporated area of Fresno County that lacks any established community. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with the division of an established community would occur.

Noise

- **XII. 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 expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?** The Project site is not located within two miles of a public or private airport. The nearest public airport is the Coalinga Municipal Airport, located approximately 8.6 miles west of the Project site. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with aviation noise at the Project site would occur.
- **XII. f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?** The Project site is not located within two miles of a public or private airport. The nearest private airport is the Stone Land Company Airport, located approximately 7.3 miles southeast of the Project site. Therefore, no potential impacts associated with aviation noise at the Project site would occur.

Population and Housing

- **XIII a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? and c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?** The Project site does not contain any residential uses and no residential uses are included in the Project. Therefore, the Project would not have the potential to displace people or housing. The Project would generate temporary construction jobs that would be expected to be filled by the local workforce. Therefore, the Project would not have the potential to cause substantial direct or indirect population growth, displace housing or people, or require the construction of housing elsewhere.

Public Services

- **XIV. 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 following public services:**
 - **c) Schools:** Construction and operation of the Project would not result in substantial direct or indirect population growth that would increase the school-aged population in the region and, thus, would not require the construction or expansion of school facilities. Therefore, there are no impacts associated with schools.
 - **d) Parks:** Construction and operation of the Project would not result in substantial direct or indirect population growth that would increase the use

of parks in the region and, thus, would not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, there are no impacts associated with parks.

- **e) Other Public Facilities:** Construction and operation of the Project would not result in substantial direct or indirect population growth that would increase the use of other public facilities, such as libraries, in the region and, thus, would not require the construction or expansion of public facilities. Therefore, there are no impacts associated with other public facilities.

Recreation

- **XV. a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated? and b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?** The Project would not result in a substantial direct or indirect population growth that would increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. Furthermore, the Project does not include the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. These conditions preclude the possibility of the Project resulting in impacts related to recreational facilities.

Transportation

- **XVI. f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?** The Project is located in a rural unincorporated area of Fresno County that is not served by public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities nor does the area contain a population that would require such services. There are no bicycle or pedestrian facilities located in the vicinity of the Project area. The Project would not generate public transit users, bicyclists, or pedestrians requiring such facilities. Therefore, the Project would not have the potential to cause impacts related to public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities.

Utilities and Service Systems

- **XVII. e) 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?** The Project's wastewater would be served by portable restroom facilities. Therefore, the Project would not have the potential to cause impacts related to wastewater treatment capacity.

1.6 SUMMARY

Information and analysis contained in the Fresno County General Plan, Zoning Code, and background technical documents, as well as other documents prepared for the Project, will be used when preparing the EIR. The EIR will also examine potential alternatives for the Project. Mitigation measures will be identified for significant impacts caused by the Project.

Date:

Name and Title: Chris Motta, Principal Planner

Signature: