

APPENDIX R
NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

FOR THE DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Prepared for:

Desert Quartzite, LLC

135 Main Street, 6th Floor
San Francisco, California 94105

Prepared by:



URS is an AECOM company.

4225 Executive Square, Suite 1600
La Jolla, California 92037
Phone (858) 812-9292

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Appendices

- Appendix A Fundamentals of Noise
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- Appendix C Long-term Sound Level Measurement Data Detail
- Appendix D Noise Impact Calculations

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Construction activities will include site preparation and grading, solar array foundation installation (which may include post driving), equipment installation, on-site substation and operations and maintenance building construction, gen-tie tower and conductor installation along the gen-tie route, equipment testing, and site cleanup and restoration. Typical construction equipment considered in this analysis includes graders, scrapers, dozers, loaders, tractors, tractor discs, skid steers, roller/vibrator/padders, trenchers, post drivers, forklifts, pumps, generators, and trucks. Construction of the proposed Project will require ground disturbance during site preparation activities within the 3,714-acre fenced portion of the site as well as along the gen-tie corridor. The operational workforce is anticipated to be 5 employees. The solar facilities would not operate or generate noise at night.

It is currently estimated that the maximum water usage for an approximate 25-month construction timeframe is 1,400 acre feet (AF) or approximately 700 AF per year on average. During construction, water will be needed primarily for dust control and soil compaction, with small amounts used for sanitary and other purposes. During operations, the Project will use no water directly for electricity generation. The operational phase of the Project is expected to require up to 38 AF per year (AFY) of water. The Project plans to utilize groundwater from either existing local well(s) or via installation of on-site groundwater wells. The applicant is also considering trucking water to the Project Site for at least the initial months of construction if an on-site water supply well(s) is not yet installed and functional. It is possible that trucking water to the Project Site could be required for the entire length of construction which would potentially require up to approximately 57,000 water deliveries (assuming 8,000-gallon capacity water trucks). All water deliveries to the Project site would be required by the applicant to occur during non-peak traffic hours. It is assumed that water deliveries would originate from a water supply source within 10 miles of the Project site.

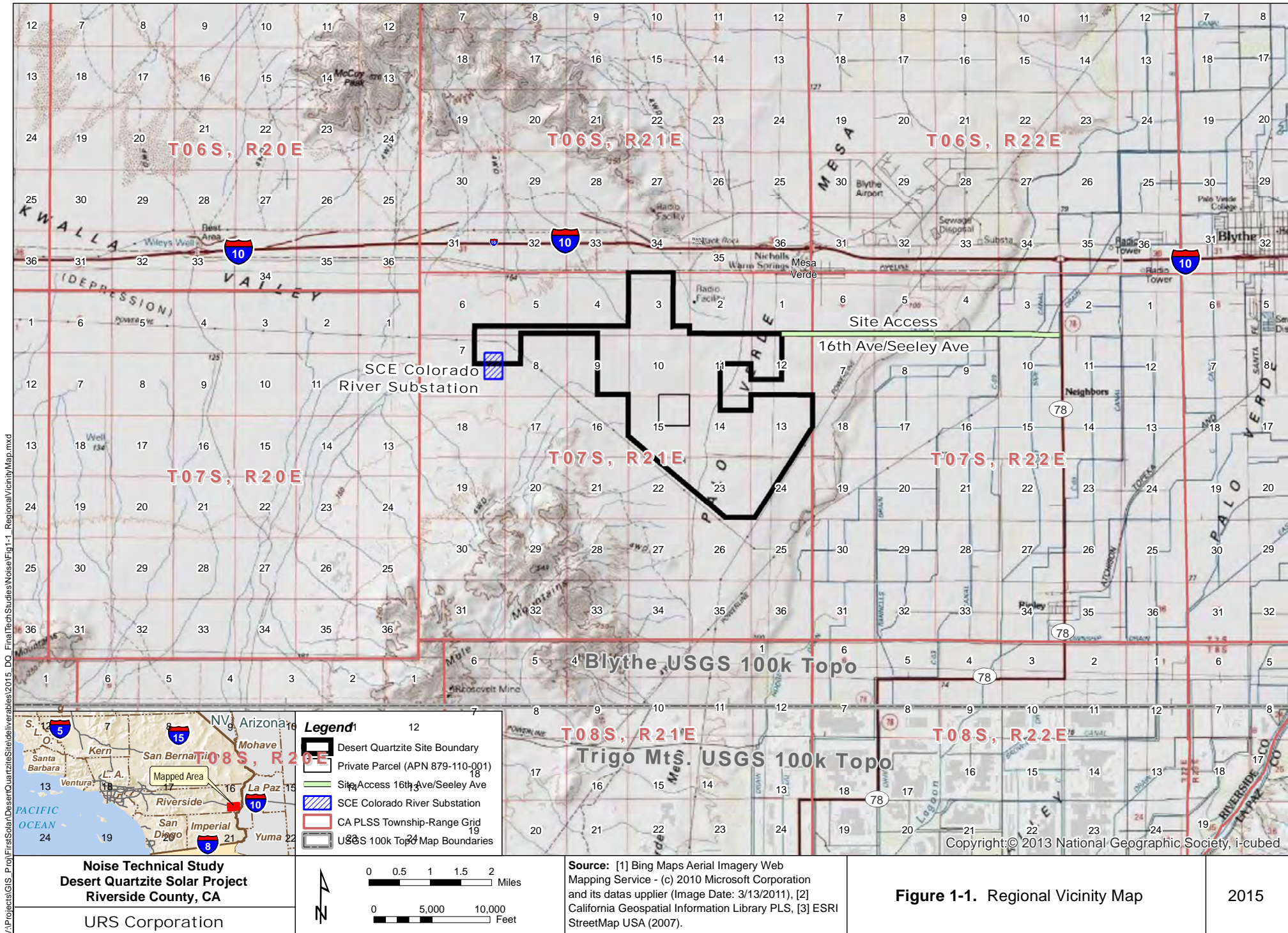
The purpose of this study is to provide scientific and technical data regarding the existing noise environment within the study area and the proposed Project's potential to change the area's noise environment. The Project information supporting this analysis is based primarily on the Applicant's revised Desert Quartzite Solar Project Plan of Development (POD) submitted to the BLM in May 2014, as amended. The POD will continue to be updated by the Applicant to provide current and accurate Project information. If warranted, Applicant measures are proposed or recommended in this study to address adverse changes to the existing ambient noise environment as a result of the Project. This study is submitted to the BLM and Riverside County to support their independent review and evaluation of the environmental impacts of the Project pursuant to applicable Federal, State, and local laws. The POD is part of the BLM Right-of-Way (ROW) grant application process which for this Project includes preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The proposed Project is also expected to require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) from Riverside County which will require compliance with

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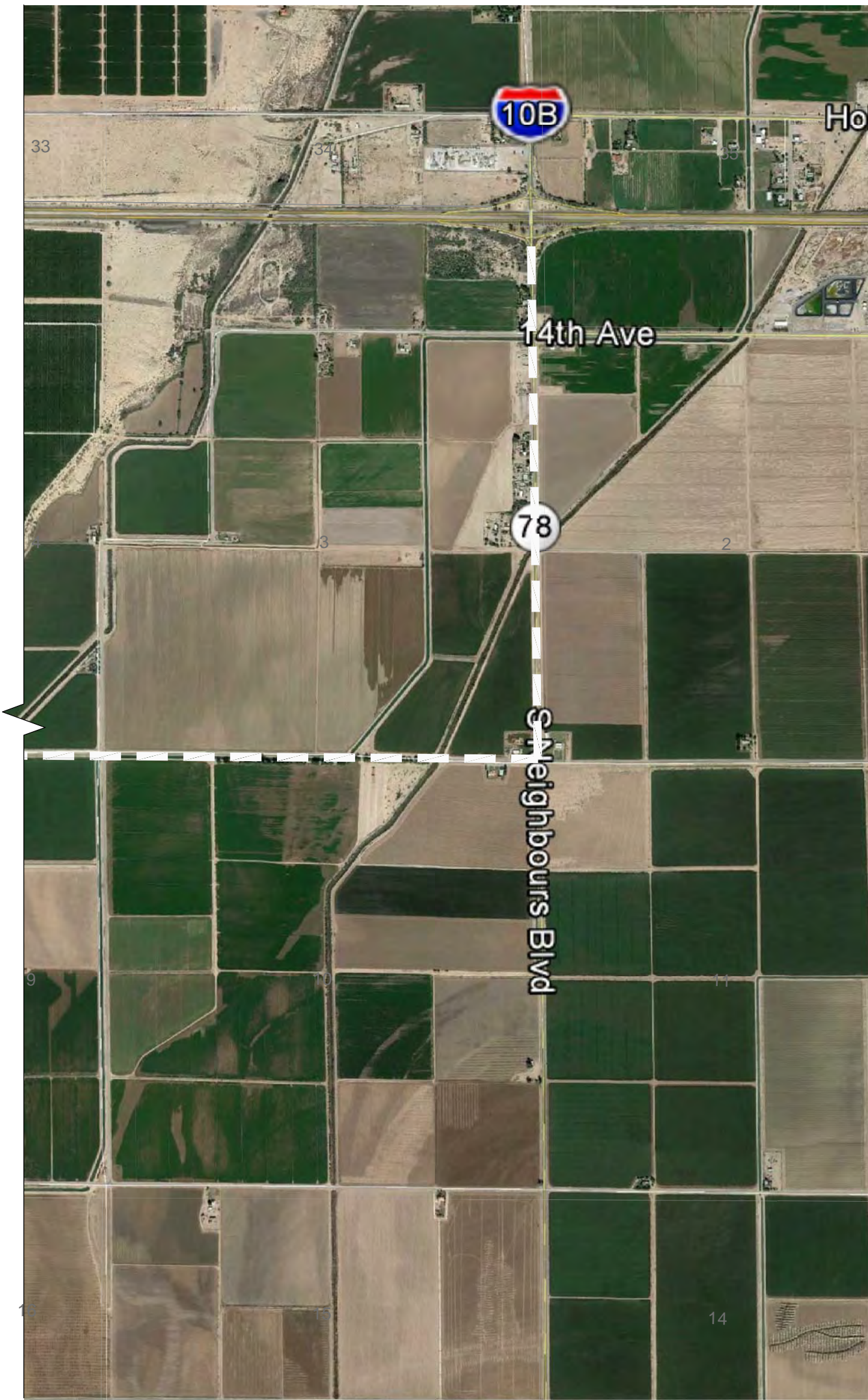
**TABLE 1-1
CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW FOR ASSUMED 25-MONTH SCHEDULE**

Activity #	Timeframe	Duration (Months)	Working Days	Max No. Workers ¹	Activity Description
1	Dec. 2016 – Jan. 2017	2	42	60	Move On (grading of laydown, construction trailers, and parking areas)
2	Jan. 2017 – June 2018	18	378	80	Grading – site preparation/ clearing/grading and balance of retention basins
3	Mar. 2017 – Aug. 2018	18	378	160	Construction – solar array structural components (posts, tilts, rails, trackers)
4	Apr. 2017 – Sept. 2018	18	378	80	Trenching – PCS excavation, PCS placement, underground cable trenching
5	May 2017 – Oct. 2018	18	378	310	Construction – solar module installation
6	Apr. 2018 – Sept. 2018	6	126	60	Construction – substation
7	Apr. 2018 – Sept. 2018	6	126	60	Construction – Gen-Tie
8	Apr. 2018 – Sept. 2018	6	126	60	Construction – Operations and Maintenance Building
9	July 2018 – Dec. 2018	6	126	60	Construction – testing, cleanup, and restoration

¹ Peak workforce estimated at 810 workers due to overlapping of construction activities. Workforce numbers may vary.



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DESERT QUARTZITE, LLC
135 MAIN STREET, 6TH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94105
PHONE: (415) 935-2500

DESERT QUARTZITE
SOLAR PROJECT
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

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FIGURE 1-2
PRELIMINARY
SITE PLAN

SECTION 2.0 EXISTING BASELINE CONDITIONS

2.1 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

To quantify the acoustical baseline conditions of the Project site and its vicinity, existing outdoor ambient sound levels were measured at a set of representative receiver locations in August of 2014. Selection of the representative receiver locations considered the location of the Project site, the proposed access route to the Project site along 16th Avenue/Seeley Avenue from SR-78 and I-10, as well as the location of potentially sensitive receptors that could be impacted by noise generated associated with Project construction and operation activities. Observed meteorological settings and other environmental conditions were also documented as part of this field measurement survey. The selected measurement locations are shown on Figure 2-1 and include short-term (ST) and long-term (LT) measurement locations. The nearest noise sensitive receptor (NNSR) is located approximately 3,700 feet north of the northeastern Project boundary (where it coincides with 16th Avenue/Seeley Avenue) in between the Project site and the community of Nicholls Warm Springs/Mesa Verde. The NNSR appeared to be an occupied mobile home/trailer at the time of the field reconnaissance in August 2014. The next two closest potentially affected sensitive receptors are designated as ST03 and ST05 which located approximately 5,200 and 5,350 feet from the Project site's northeast boundary, respectively. These two locations are representative of the homes in the community of Nicholls Warm Springs/Mesa Verde closest to the northeastern site boundary. Location ST11 is representative of the northeast corner of the existing NRG Blythe 21 solar facility located adjacent to the proposed Project.

2.1.1 Acoustical Terminology

For purposes of document brevity, a summary of relevant fundamental concepts and an explanation of terms related to noise and vibration is presented in Appendix A. For an expanded introduction to noise fundamentals beyond what is presented in Appendix A refer to an industry-accepted reference text such as Noise & Vibration Control Engineering (Beranek & Ver 1992).

Key acoustical terminology used in this report is as follows:

- dB: decibels; measurement of sound level magnitude
- dBA: decibels, A weighted
- L_{dn}: day-night average noise level
- L_{eq}: energy average sound level during a measured time interval

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- L_{\max}/L_{\min} : root-mean-square of maximum and minimum sound levels, respectively, measured during a monitoring interval
- $L_{10,50,90}$: Measured noise levels exceeded 10, 50, and 90 percent of the time, respectively
- PWL: sound power level
- SPL: sound pressure level

2.1.2 Instrumentation

In August 2014, the following equipment was used in the Project area to measure existing noise levels and document environmental conditions:

- Larson Davis (LD) Model 820 Sound Level Meter (SLM), Serial Number (SN) 1655 with windscreen
- LD Model 720 Sound Level Meter, SN 0436 with windscreen
- LD Field Calibrator Model 150B, SN 2233
- Speedtech Skymaster Anemometer Model SM-28, SN 02393

In addition to the equipment listed above, other equipment utilized to conduct measurements included (but is not limited to) a digital camera, tripod, GPS device, and weatherproof cases.

The LD 820 SLM, used for the short-term (ST) measurements, is an ANSI (American National Standards Institute) Type 1 SLM. The LD 720 SLM, used for the long-term (LT) measurement, is an ANSI Type 2 SLM. Both SLMs had their calibration status field-checked with the LD 150B calibrator before and after each measurement. Both SLMs were confirmed to have been re-calibrated at an approved laboratory less than a year prior to use for measuring existing outdoor ambient sound levels in the vicinity of the project area.

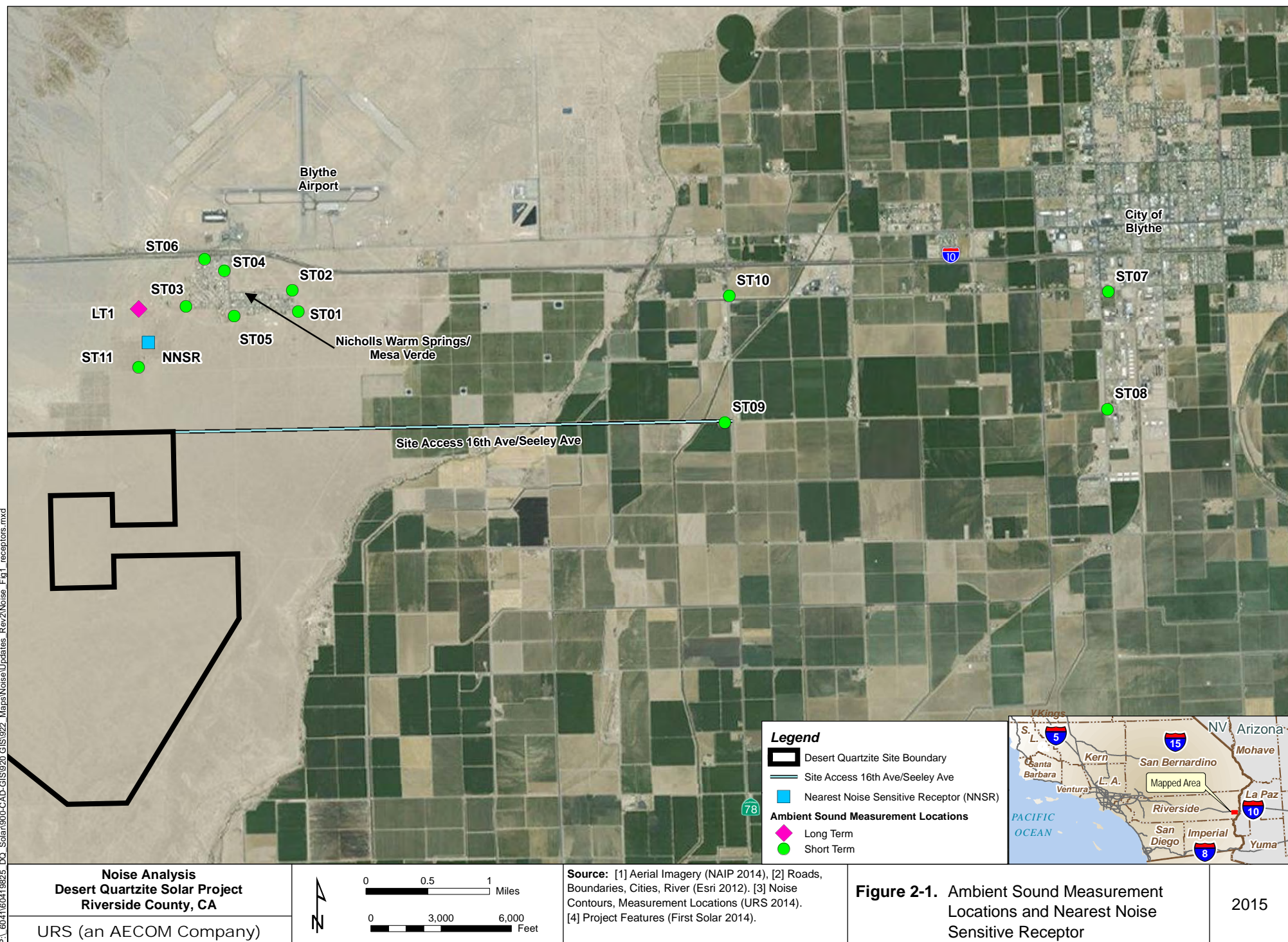
2.1.3 Survey Duration

ST sound level measurements are witnessed by the attending field investigator, so that noteworthy observations regarding perceived sound-producing events, processes or activities (both natural and man-made) may be documented and thus help explain concurrent variances in the measured sound pressure level (SPL).

Aside from initial equipment setup and concluding tear-down, LT sound level monitoring is performed without a field investigator in attendance, so that environmental sound is measured with minimized risk of extraneous noise due to the investigator's presence and proximity. For purposes of this assessment, LT is at least 24 continuous hours, so that the time-varying sound level of an entire representative diurnal cycle can be measured.

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conduct of ST measurements ranged from 89 to 104 degrees Fahrenheit with a relative humidity ranging from 26 percent to 60 percent. Observed cloud cover ranged from clear skies to approximately 70 percent overcast. Depending on measurement location, background sounds perceived during the field survey included the following sources: nearby and distant roadway traffic, insects, birds, rustling leaves, speech, music, dog barks, aircraft overflights, HVAC units, and distant thunder. Operation noise from the existing NRG Blythe 21 solar facility was not distinctly audible or noted during the field noise survey.



SECTION 3.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The following subsections summarize the federal, state, and local noise regulations, ordinances, standards and guidance that are relevant to the assessment of noise impacts from the Project to the existing ambient outdoor sound environment.

3.1.1 Federal

3.1.1.1 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

NEPA establishes a public, interdisciplinary framework for Federal agencies reviewing projects under their jurisdiction to consider environmental impacts. NEPA's basic policy is to assure that all branches of government give proper consideration to the environment prior to undertaking any major federal action that significantly affects the environment.

The BLM, as lead Federal agency for the Project, is responsible for preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in compliance with NEPA to evaluate the environmental impacts of the portions of this Project on federal lands. The Desert Quartzite Solar plant and the Project gen-tie line are located on lands administered and managed by the BLM. NEPA compliance is required for these portions of the Project through preparation of a Draft and Final EIS, for which information from this Noise Technical Report would support. BLM is also responsible for Native American consultation, including government to government consultation.

The President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) developed guidelines and procedures to assist Federal agencies with NEPA procedures so that environmental justice concerns are effectively identified and addressed. This includes guidelines for public participation, alternatives, and mitigation.

3.1.1.2 Occupational Safety and Health Act

On-site occupational noise exposure levels set by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA) are regulated via California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal-OSHA). The maximum time-weighted average noise exposure level of workers is 90 decibels (dB), A weighted (dBA), over an eight-hour work shift (29 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] § 1910.95).

3.1.2 State of California

3.1.2.1 California Environmental Quality Act Impact Determination

Per California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidance, Appendix G (as listed for Noise), the Project would be considered as having a significant impact when there would be:

- a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies
- b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels
- c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project
- d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project
- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, exposure of people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels
- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, exposure of people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels

3.1.2.2 California Vehicle Code

Noise limits for highway vehicles are regulated under the California Vehicle Code, §§ 23130 and 23130.5. The limits are enforceable on the highways by the California Highway Patrol and the County Sheriff's Office.

3.1.3 Riverside County

The Project is located within unincorporated Riverside County; hence, relevant portions of the Riverside County General Plan Noise Element and the Noise Ordinance apply with respect to defining appropriate noise impact assessment criteria for the Project.

3.1.3.1 Riverside County General Plan

The Noise Element of the Riverside County General Plan (Riverside County 2014a) includes noise compatibility guidance, which is based on the California State Planning Law. According to Table N-2 within the Noise Element, Stationary Source Land Use Noise Standards, preferred noise level standards for (exterior) residential land uses are as follows:

- From 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., 65 L_{eq} (10 minute)

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representative receptor location. The key assumptions for this analysis included in this method are as follows:

- Free-field conditions, including the following attenuation factors:
 - Ground absorption effects (but no greater than 4.8 dBA reduction, regardless of distance traversed by the sound path, consistent with International Organization for Standardization [ISO] 9613-2 [ISO 1996]); and
 - Atmospheric absorption of -1 dBA per 1,000 feet of distance traveled.
- For a given construction activity, all pieces of concerned equipment and vehicles are assumed to operate—on average—from the same source point location or from two points as follows:
 - Activities 1 (move on) and 2 (grading) – geographic centroid of the Project site (see Figure D-1 in Appendix D);
 - Activities 3 (structures), 4 (trenching) and 5 (structures) – half of equipment at the geographic centroid of the Project site, other half at the power conversion station (PCS) nearest to the noise-sensitive receptor under study; and
 - Activities 6 (substation), 7 (gen-tie), 8 (O&M building) and 9 (testing/clean-up/restoration) – substation location.
 - Each piece of equipment or vehicle is assigned a reference L_{max} value at a reference distance (e.g., 50 feet), and an “acoustical usage factor” (AUF) that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM) User’s Guide (FHWA 2006) describes as an estimated portion of a construction operation time period when the L_{max} value can be expected. These reference sound level and AUF values are presented for each construction activity (9) in Appendix D.
- Apart from the aforementioned approximated effect of atmospheric absorption (i.e., -1 dBA per 1,000 feet), this construction noise analysis considers three cases of meteorological conditions for each of the phases. From an available set of six single-digit numerical codes (1 through 6), these cases are Conservation of Clean Air and Water in Europe (CONCAWE) meteorological categories as follows:
 - Category 2 (“CAT-2”) – Pasquill stability category D, with wind speed greater than 3 meters per second (mps) and traveling away from the receptor position. In other words, this describes the scenario where a receptor position is “upwind” of a noise source (i.e., noise propagates “against the current” of wind flow towards the receptor location) and would thus be considered the quietest or most favorable case.

- Category 4 (“CAT-4”) – Pasquill stability category D, with winds varying as +/- 0.5 mps. This scenario represents “calm” conditions at a receptor position, with essentially no meteorological influence.
- Category 6 (“CAT-6”) – Pasquill stability category D, with wind speed greater than 3 meters per second (mps) and traveling towards the receptor position. In other words, this describes the scenario where a receptor position is “downwind” of a noise source (i.e., noise propagates “with the current” of wind flow towards the receptor location) and hence the loudest or least favorable of the three cases. This CAT-6 category can also describe conditions of stability category G, with wind speed between 0.5 and 3 mps traveling towards the receptor position.

The estimated aggregate SPL from concurrent construction activities was predicted at each of three representative noise-sensitive receptors as follows: ST03 and ST05 from the baseline ambient noise measurement survey as described in Section 2.2; and NNSR, an apparent residential land use located between baseline noise survey locations LT1 and ST11 as shown on Figure 2-1.

This predicted aggregate Project construction noise SPL at each representative noise-sensitive receptor was then logarithmically added to the baseline ambient sound level, then compared arithmetically with the baseline ambient sound level in order to determine if the difference (i.e., between construction noise and the baseline) is greater than 10 dBA.

3.3.1.2 Construction Traffic

Changes in roadway traffic noise level emanating from a given roadway segment or intersection of interest that experiences variances in traffic volumes can be estimated with the following mathematical expression:

Change in $L_{eq} = 10 \cdot \text{LOG}(\text{traffic increase factor})$

The traffic increase factor is the ratio of the traffic volumes being compared. In this analysis, average daily traffic (ADT) and peak hourly traffic volumes are studied. For example, an intersection expected to experience an increase in traffic volume of 93 percent, with vehicle speeds and other parameters unchanged, the above expression would predict a change of $10 \cdot \text{LOG}(1.93) = 2.85$ dBA. This change in decibels would then be compared with the impact assessment criterion of 10 dBA to determine significance.

3.3.2 Project Operation

The Cadna/A[®] Noise Prediction Model (Version 4.5.147) was used to estimate the propagation of sound from aggregate project operations and thereby predict SPL at various distances from the project, including specific locations such as the representative noise-sensitive receptors selected for the ambient sound survey. Cadna/A is a Windows-based

software program that predicts and assesses noise levels near industrial noise sources based on ISO 9613-2 algorithms for noise propagation calculations (ISO 1996). The software can accept sound power levels (in dB re: 1 picroWatt) in octave-band center frequency resolution to describe the multiple sound propagation sources of the site processes or activity to be modeled. The calculations account for classical sound wave divergence plus attenuation factors resulting from air absorption, basic ground effects, and barrier/shielding. The advantage of using Cadna/A is that it can handle the three-dimensional (3-D) sound propagation complexity of considering realistic intervening natural and man-made topographical barrier effects, including those resulting from terrain features and from structures such as major buildings, storage tanks, and large equipment.

The Project configuration was imported into a Cadna/A model space from available project CAD files provided by the Applicant. The equipment or project feature point-type sound sources considered active or operational are shown in detail in Table 3-1. Apart from the single electrical substation, three hundred fourteen (314) PCS inverters and transformers were included in the model.

Individual Noise Source Type	Sound Power Level (dBA)
PCS Inverter(s), up to 1 MW inside acoustically louvered enclosure	87
PCS Transformer	81
Substation	99

California Energy Commission (CEC 2011); GL Garrad Hassan Canada Inc. (2013).

- **Scenario 1 – Neutral.** No wind, CONCAWE Pasquill stability category “D.”
- **Scenario 2 – Neutral.** No wind, CONCAWE stability category “G”. The difference from #1 is the stability class “G”, which during calm conditions near the ground simulates the potential for a “temperature inversion” whereby air masses stratify and provide a means for sound to travel farther (and hence, attenuate less) than it would under category “D” conditions.
- **Scenario 3.** Wind from a 0 degrees (north) heading at 9 mps (29.5 feet per second [fps]), with CONCAWE stability category “D.”

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- **Scenario 4.** Wind from a 180 degrees (south) heading at 9 mps (29.5 fps), with CONCAWE stability category “D.”

The latter two scenarios have directions based on what appears in the Air Quality and Global Climate Change Technical Report for the Blythe Mesa Solar Project (Bureau of Land Management 2014). Additional model configuration settings and assumptions are as follows:

- **Outdoor temperature.** 10 degrees Celsius (°C).
- **Relative humidity.** 70 percent.
- **Average ground absorption.** 0.25 (representing a conservative blend of hard, reflective surfaces that tend towards zero, and highly absorptive ground cover that approaches unity).
- **No terrain.** The Project site and vicinity can generally be characterized as relatively flat with little or no natural terrain features that would be expected to cause significant occlusion to direct sound paths between the Project and the nearest noise-sensitive receptors. Hence, terrain was conservatively ignored for this acoustical analysis.
- **Horizontal tracker actuators.** While the Project may involve module arrays featuring single-axis trackers, the drive motors are expected to operate intermittently throughout the day and are therefore not considered a significant aggregate noise source to model.

3.4 RESULTS AND FINDINGS

3.4.1.1 On-site Construction

Tables 3-2, 3-3, and 3-4 present predicted sound pressure levels (SPL) from daytime Project on-site construction activities at the three indicated nearest representative noise-sensitive receptors under down-wind meteorological conditions (CONCAWE CAT-6), which can be considered the worst (i.e., higher resultant noise levels) of the three studied (CAT-2, CAT-4 and CAT-6) because it represents either of two situations:

- High-velocity winds (>3 mps, under stability class D) are traveling in the same direction as Project noise propagation with respect to the receptor location, so the latter is essentially carried “downstream” towards the receptor.
- Modest-velocity winds (0.5 to 3 mps) in a stability class G environment are traveling in the same direction as Project noise propagation with respect to the receptor location.

Table 3-4 indicates that from Month 6 through Month 21 of the anticipated Project construction schedule, concurrent activities that include both Activity 3 and Activity 5 would cause aggregate construction noise levels at NNSR to be over 10 dBA higher than the

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**TABLE 3-2
PREDICTED DAYTIME ON-SITE PROJECT
CONSTRUCTION NOISE PER ACTIVITY AT ST03**

Month	Construction Activity Noise (Estimated dBA per Indicated Activity) under CONCAWE CAT-6 Conditions									Aggr. (dBA)	Base (dBA)	Future (dBA)	Diff. (dBA)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
1	33									33	39	40	1
2	33	32								36	39	41	2
3		32								32	39	40	1
4		32	45							45	39	46	7
5		32	45	36		26				46	39	47	8
6		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
7		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
8		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
9		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
10		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
11		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
12		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
13		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
14		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
15		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
16		32	45	36	45	26				48	39	49	10
17		32	45	36	45	26	27	24		48	39	49	10
18		32	45	36	45	26	27	24		48	39	49	10
19		32	45	36	45	26	27	24		48	39	49	10
20			45	36	45	26	27	24	27	48	39	49	10
21			45	36	45	26	27	24	27	48	39	49	10
22				36	45	26	27	24	27	46	39	47	8
23					45				27	45	39	46	7
24									27	27	39	39	0
25									27	27	39	39	0

Sources: First Solar (2015); FHWA (2006); AECOM (2015).

Notes:

Aggr. = aggregate predicted noise level from all activities.

Base = measured baseline (i.e., existing outdoor ambient sound level).

Future = logarithmic sum of Aggr. and Base.

Diff. = arithmetic difference (in dBA) between Future and Base. A difference of > 10 dBA indicates a noise impact (value in **bold**).

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**TABLE 3-3
PREDICTED DAYTIME ON-SITE PROJECT
CONSTRUCTION NOISE PER ACTIVITY AT ST05**

Month	Construction Activity Noise (Estimated dBA per Indicated Activity) under CONCAWE CAT-6 Conditions									Aggr. (dBA)	Base (dBA)	Future (dBA)	Diff. (dBA)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
1	32									32	40	41	1
2	32	31								34	40	41	1
3		31								31	40	41	1
4		31	43							43	40	45	5
5		31	43	34		24				44	40	45	5
6		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
7		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
8		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
9		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
10		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
11		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
12		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
13		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
14		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
15		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
16		31	43	34	43	24				47	40	48	8
17		31	43	34	43	24	24	21		47	40	48	8
18		31	43	34	43	24	24	21		47	40	48	8
19		31	43	34	43	24	24	21		47	40	48	8
20			43	34	43	24	24	21	25	46	40	47	7
21			43	34	43	24	24	21	25	46	40	47	7
22				34	43	24	24	21	25	44	40	45	5
23					43				25	43	40	45	5
24									25	25	40	40	0
25									25	25	40	40	0

Sources: First Solar (2015); FHWA (2006); AECOM (2015).

Notes:

Aggr. = aggregate predicted noise level from all activities.

Base = measured baseline (i.e., existing outdoor ambient sound level).

Future = logarithmic sum of Aggr. and Base.

Diff. = arithmetic difference (in dBA) between Future and Base. A difference of > 10 dBA indicates a noise impact (value in **bold**).

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

**TABLE 3-4
PREDICTED DAYTIME ON-SITE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION NOISE
PER ACTIVITY AT NEAREST NOISE-SENSITIVE RECEPTOR**

Month	Construction Activity Noise (Estimated dBA per Indicated Activity) under CONCAWE CAT-6 Conditions									Aggr. (dBA)	Base (dBA)	Future (dBA)	Diff. (dBA)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
1	36									36	41	42	1
2	36	36								39	41	43	2
3		36								36	41	42	1
4		36	49							50	41	51	10
5		36	49	41		29				50	41	51	10
6		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
7		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
8		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
9		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
10		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
11		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
12		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
13		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
14		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
15		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
16		36	49	41	49	29				53	41	53	12
17		36	49	41	49	29	30	27		53	41	53	12
18		36	49	41	49	29	30	27		53	41	53	12
19		36	49	41	49	29	30	27		53	41	53	12
20			49	41	49	29	30	27	31	53	41	53	12
21			49	41	49	29	30	27	31	53	41	53	12
22				41	49	29	30	27	31	50	41	51	10
23					49				31	49	41	50	9
24									31	31	41	41	0
25									31	31	41	41	0

Sources: First Solar (2015); FHWA (2006); AECOM (2015).

Notes:

Aggr. = aggregate predicted noise level from all activities.

Base = measured baseline (i.e., existing outdoor ambient sound level).

Future = logarithmic sum of Aggr. and Base.

Diff. = arithmetic difference (in dBA) between Future and Base. A difference of > 10 dBA indicates a noise impact (value in **bold**).

Noise levels presented for Months 6 -21 include post driving machines and do not consider noise mitigation.

TABLE 3-5
PREDICTED NIGHTTIME ON-SITE PROJECT
CONSTRUCTION NOISE PER ACTIVITY AT ST03

Sources: First Solar (2015); FHWA (2006); AECOM (2015).

Aggr. = aggregate predicted noise level from all activities.

Base = measured baseline (i.e., existing outdoor ambient sound level).

Future = logarithmic sum of Aggr. and Base.

Diff. = arithmetic difference (in dBA) between Future and Base. A difference of > 10 dBA indicates a noise impact (value in **bold**).

TABLE 3-6
PREDICTED NIGHTTIME ON-SITE PROJECT
CONSTRUCTION NOISE PER ACTIVITY AT ST05

Sources: First Solar (2015); FHWA (2006); AECOM (2015).

Aggr. = aggregate predicted noise level from all activities.

Base = measured baseline (i.e., existing outdoor ambient sound level).

Future = logarithmic sum of Aggr. and Base.

Diff. = arithmetic difference (in dBA) between Future and Base. A difference of > 10 dBA indicates a noise impact (value in **bold**).

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

**TABLE 3-7
PREDICTED NIGHTTIME ON-SITE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION NOISE
PER ACTIVITY AT NEAREST NOISE-SENSITIVE RECEPTOR**

Month	Construction Activity Noise (Estimated dBA per Indicated Activity) under CONCAWE CAT-6 Conditions									Aggr. (dBA)	Base (dBA)	Future (dBA)	Diff. (dBA)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
1	27									27	41	41	0
2	27	27								30	41	41	0
3		27								27	41	41	0
4		27	36							37	41	42	1
5		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
6		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
7		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
8		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
9		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
10		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
11		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
12		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
13		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
14		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
15		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
16		27	36			23				37	41	42	1
17		27	36			23	23			37	41	42	1
18		27	36			23	23			37	41	42	1
19		27	36			23	23			37	41	42	1
20			36			23	23		26	37	41	42	1
21			36			23	23		26	37	41	42	1
22						23	23		26	29	41	41	0
23									26	26	41	41	0
24									26	26	41	41	0
25									26	26	41	41	0

Sources: First Solar (2015); FHWA (2006); AECOM (2015).

Notes:

Aggr. = aggregate predicted noise level from all activities.

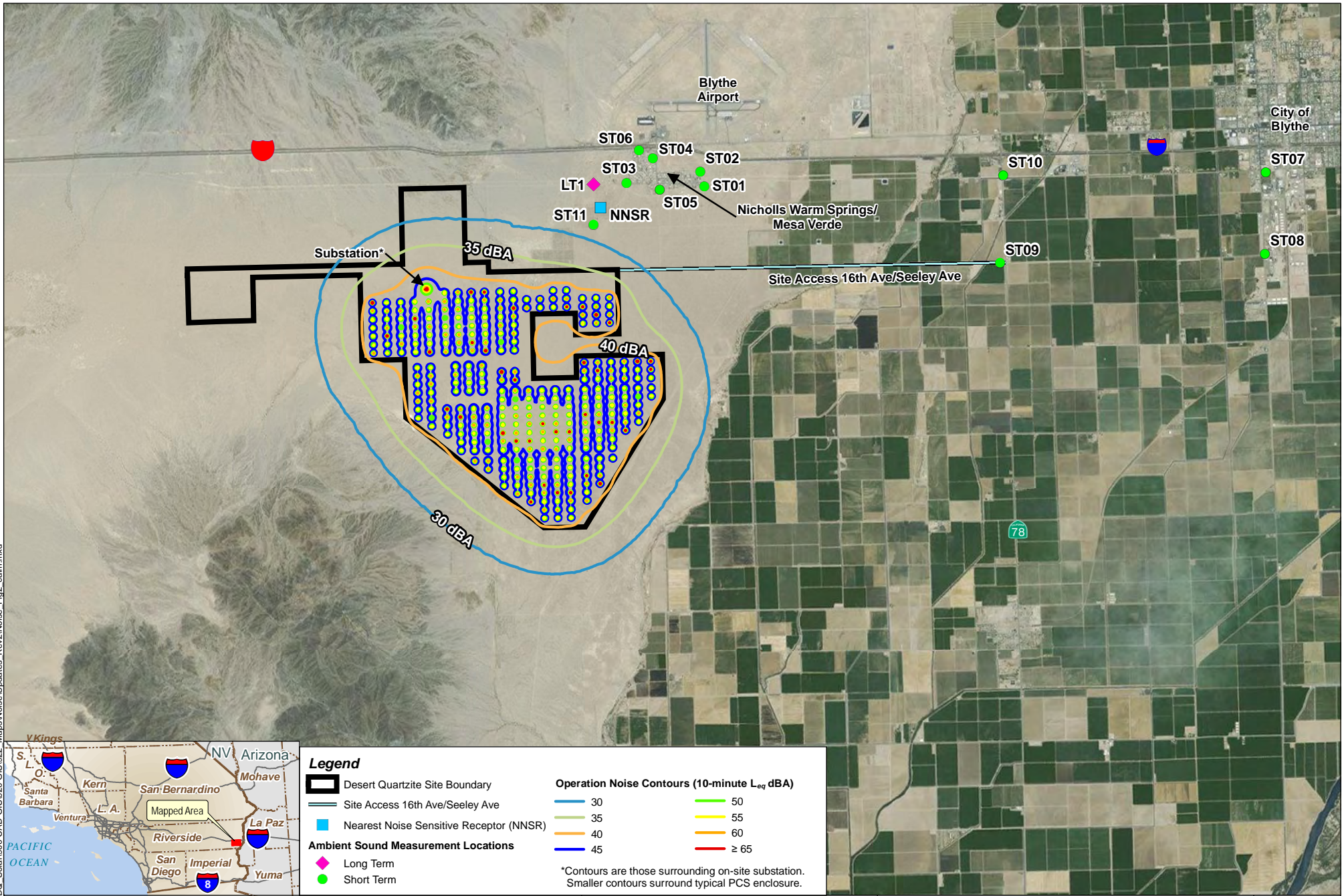
Base = measured baseline (i.e., existing outdoor ambient sound level).

Future = logarithmic sum of Aggr. and Base.

Diff. = arithmetic difference (in dBA) between Future and Base. A difference of > 10 dBA indicates a noise impact (value in **bold**).

TABLE 3-8
PREDICTED PROJECT OPERATION NOISE LEVELS

Diff. = arithmetic difference (in dBA) between Future and BL. A difference of > 10 dBA indicates a noise impact (value in **bold**).



Legend

- Desert Quartzite Site Boundary
- Site Access 16th Ave/Seeley Ave
- Nearest Noise Sensitive Receptor (NNSR)
- Ambient Sound Measurement Locations
 - Long Term
 - Short Term

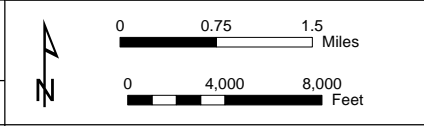
Operation Noise Contours (10-minute L_{eq} dBA)

- 30
- 35
- 40
- 45
- 50
- 55
- 60
- ≥ 65

*Contours are those surrounding on-site substation. Smaller contours surround typical PCS enclosure.

Noise Analysis
Desert Quartzite Solar Project
Riverside County, CA

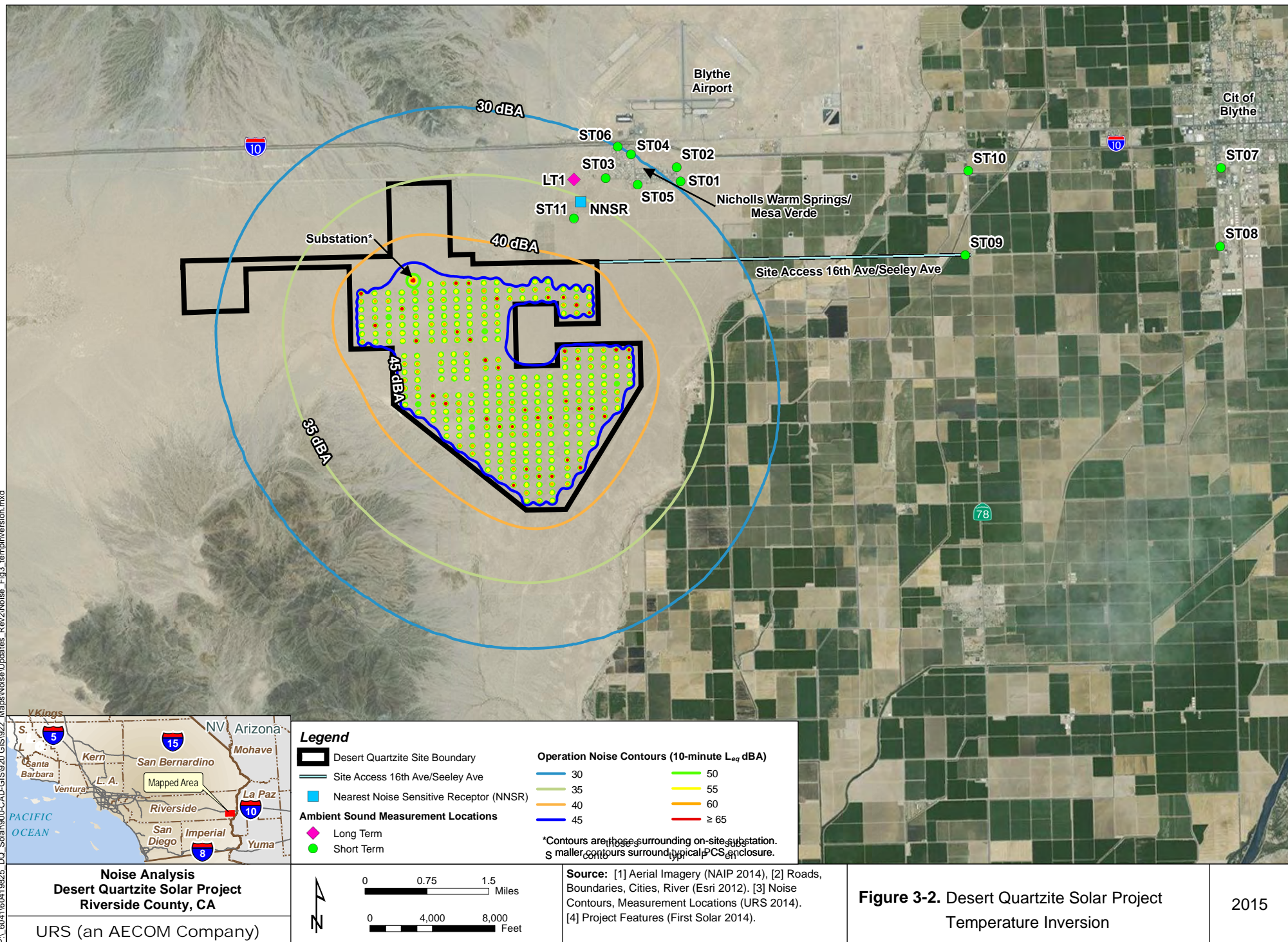
URS (an AECOM Company)

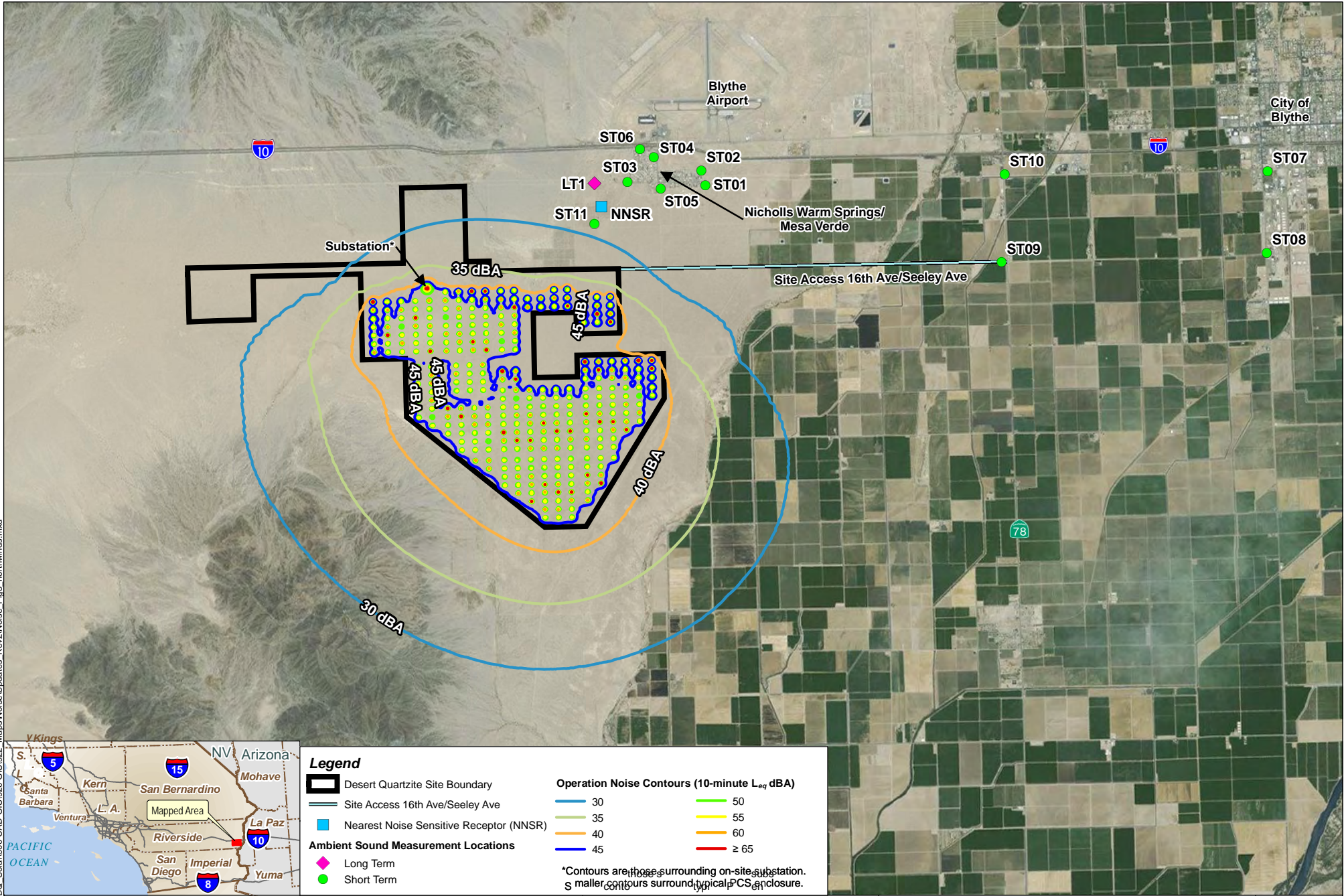


Source: [1] Aerial Imagery (NAIP 2014). [2] Roads, Boundaries, Cities, River (Esri 2012). [3] Noise Contours, Measurement Locations (URS 2014). [4] Project Features (First Solar 2014).

Figure 3-1. Desert Quartzite Solar Project
 Wind Neutral (Calm)

2015





Legend

- Desert Quartzite Site Boundary
- Site Access 16th Ave/Seeley Ave
- Nearest Noise Sensitive Receptor (NNSR)

Ambient Sound Measurement Locations

- Long Term
- Short Term

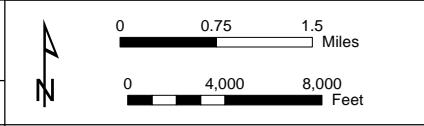
Operation Noise Contours (10-minute L_{eq} dBA)

- 30
- 35
- 40
- 45
- 50
- 55
- 60
- ≥ 65

*Contours are those surrounding on-site substation. Smaller contours surround typical PCS enclosure.

Noise Analysis
Desert Quartzite Solar Project
Riverside County, CA

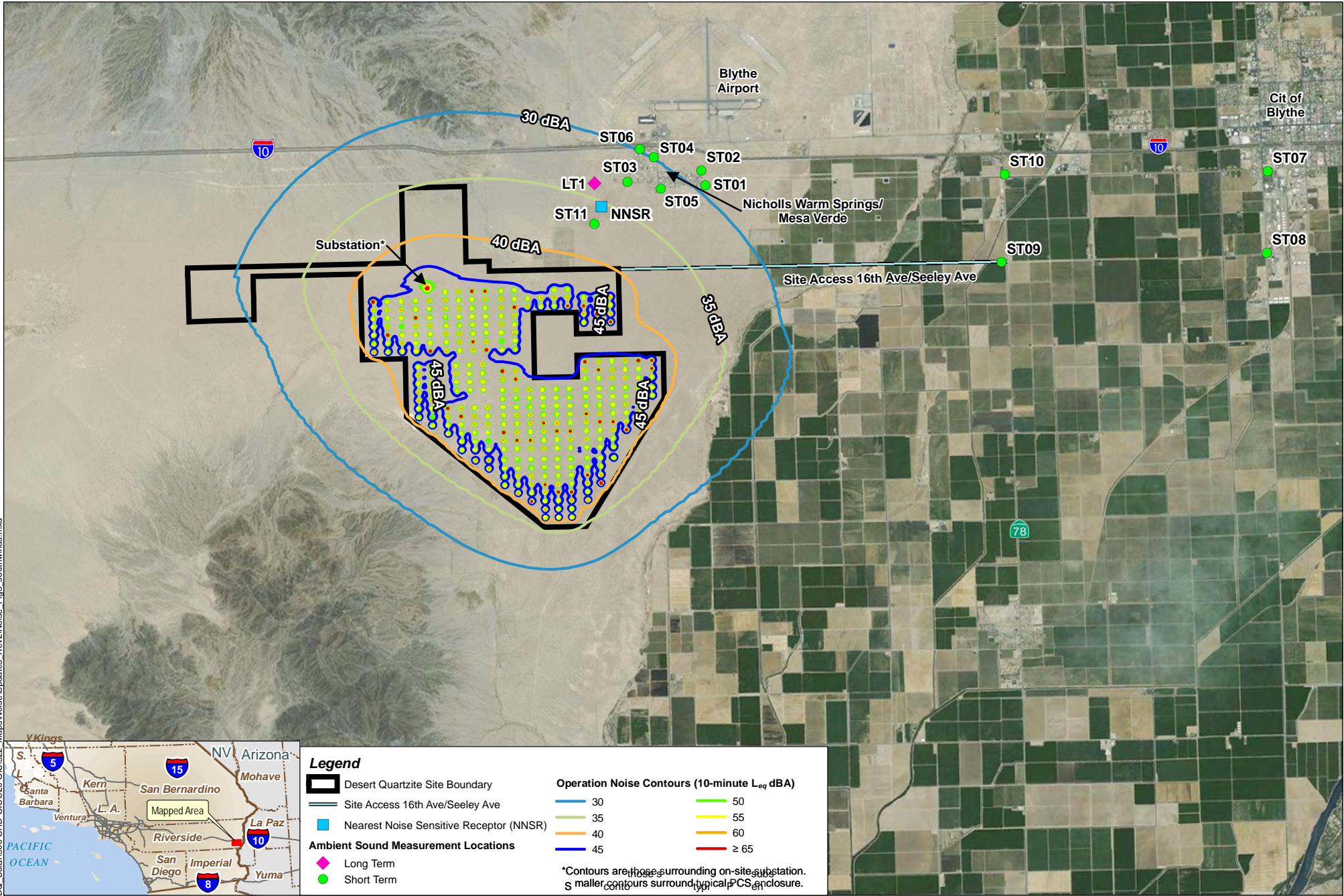
URS (an AECOM Company)



Source: [1] Aerial Imagery (NAIP 2014). [2] Roads, Boundaries, Cities, River (Esri 2012). [3] Noise Contours, Measurement Locations (URS 2014). [4] Project Features (First Solar 2014).

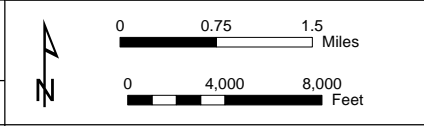
Figure 3-3. Desert Quartzite Solar Project
 29.5 Feet Per Second
 Winds From North

2015



Noise Analysis
Desert Quartzite Solar Project
Riverside County, CA

URS (an AECOM Company)



Source: [1] Aerial Imagery (NAIP 2014). [2] Roads, Boundaries, Cities, River (Esri 2012). [3] Noise Contours, Measurement Locations (URS 2014). [4] Project Features (First Solar 2014).

Figure 3-4. Desert Quartzite Solar Project
29.5 Feet Per Second
Winds From South

2015

SECTION 4.0

APPLICANT-RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MEASURES

The following are mitigation measures recommended by the Project Applicant that, when properly designed and implemented, should enable Project noise levels to be rendered less than significant impacts to the affected environment.

4.1 ON-SITE CONSTRUCTION

During months 6 through 21 of Project construction, solar array post-installation machines would be active during concurrent construction Activities 3 and 5. Noise from operation of these post-installation machines, as shown in the construction noise prediction model detail for these two Activities in Appendix D, is clearly dominant (i.e., compared to the noise contribution from other concurrent construction vehicles and processes) and would cause the expected impactful ambient noise increase as shown in Table 3-4.

Sound level measurements of pile-driving machines considered similar to the post-installation machines anticipated for usage on this Project are discussed in Appendix I of the AV Solar Ranch One (AVSR1) Project EIR (County of Los Angeles 2010) as follows:

“Noise measurements specific to vertical hydraulic pile drivers were conducted to verify the noise emission data. Based on noise measurement data conducted during pile driving operations at a similar facility, noise levels for this class of equipment under operating conditions similar to the operating conditions expected during the construction of the proposed Project, are 88 dBA Leq at a distance of 50 feet from the front of the equipment and 81 dBA Leq at a distance of 50 feet from the rear of the equipment.”

Since the predictive construction noise analysis for this Project assumed a FHWA RCNM reference L_{max} and AUF that results in an L_{eq} similar to the above-referenced 88 dBA value from AVSR1, careful orientation of these post-installation machines on the Project site during construction can potentially exploit what appears to be a 7 dBA noise reduction opportunity. In other words, where post installation occurs within 6,560 feet (2 kilometer [km]) of NNSR, the post installation machine(s) should be oriented or turned so that the quieter (i.e., 81 dBA Leq at 50 feet) “rear” side of the equipment faces the direction of NNSR. Applying this equipment installation technique would result in aggregate construction noise levels to be lower during Months 6 through 21 and yield outdoor ambient noise increments at NNSR that would be less than 10 dBA and thus a less than significant noise impact. Beyond this 6,560-foot (2-km) radial distance from NNSR, specific post machine installation orientation that faces the equipment rear towards NNSR would not be required to keep predicted construction noise at less than impactful levels.

4.2 CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC

No mitigation measures are needed as noise impacts are anticipated to be less than significant without mitigation. Nevertheless, this assessment assumes that construction vehicles will be maintained according to manufacturers' instructions and recommendations and feature factory-approved exhaust mufflers. In addition, trucks hauling materials and equipment will comply with local ordinances and regulations with respect to travel speed and (as applicable) limitations on usage of compression-type braking.

4.3 ON-SITE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

No mitigation measures are needed as noise impacts are anticipated to be less than significant without mitigation.

4.4 OPERATIONS TRAFFIC

No mitigation measures are needed as noise impacts are anticipated to be less than significant without mitigation.

SECTION 5.0 REFERENCES

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**SECTION 6.0
LIST OF PREPARERS**

Mark Storm, INCE Bd. Cert., AECOM, Senior Project Engineer, Acoustics & Noise Control Practice.

Cole Martin, INCE, AECOM, Noise Analyst, Acoustics & Noise Control Practice.

APPENDIX A

FUNDAMENTALS OF NOISE

FUNDAMENTALS OF NOISE

Noise is generally defined as loud, unpleasant, unexpected, or undesired sound that is typically associated with human activity and that interferes with or disrupts normal activities. Although prolonged exposure to high noise levels has been demonstrated to cause hearing loss, the principal human response to environmental noise is annoyance. The response of individuals to similar noise events is diverse and influenced by the type of noise, the perceived importance of the noise, and its appropriateness in the setting; the time of day and the type of activity during which the noise occurs; and the sensitivity of the individual.

Sound is a physical phenomenon consisting of minute vibrations that travel through a medium, such as air, and are sensed by the human ear. Sound is generally characterized by several variables, including frequency and intensity. Frequency describes the pitch of the sound and is measured in Hertz (Hz), while intensity describes the sound's loudness and is measured in decibels (dB). Decibels are measured using a logarithmic scale. A sound level of 0 dB is approximately the threshold of human hearing and is barely audible under extremely quiet listening conditions. Normal speech has a sound level of approximately 60 dB. Sound levels above approximately 110 dB begin to be felt inside the human ear as discomfort and eventually pain at 120 dB and higher levels. The minimum change in the sound level of individual events that an average human ear can detect is about 1 to 2 dB. A 3 to 5 dB change is readily perceived. An increase in sound level of about 10 dB is usually perceived by the average person as a doubling (or if decrease of 10 dB, halving) of the sound's loudness.

Due to the logarithmic nature of the decibel unit, sound levels cannot be added or subtracted directly and are somewhat cumbersome to handle mathematically; however, some simple rules are useful in dealing with sound levels. For instance, if a sound's energy is doubled, the sound level increases by 3 dB, regardless of the initial sound level. By way of example: 60 dB + 60 dB = 63 dB, and 80 dB + 80 dB = 83 dB.

Sound level is usually expressed by reference to a known standard. This report refers to SPL and sound power level (PWL). In expressing sound pressure on a logarithmic scale, the sound pressure is compared to a reference value of 20 micropascals. SPL depends not only on the power of the source, but also on the distance from the source and on the acoustical characteristics of the space surrounding the source. PWL, on the other hand, is independent of these environmental factors. To help distinguish the two descriptors, one may use a lighting analogy: the wattage of a light bulb when turned on inside a large room may be a constant 100 watts, but the brightness or intensity of the light changes with receptor distance and other parameters. For example, if the room walls were painted white, which is reflective, they would make the room appear brighter. On the other hand, walls painted black (a light-absorptive color) would decrease apparent brightness.

Hz is a measure of how many times each second the crest of a sound pressure wave passes a fixed point. For example, when a drummer beats a drum, the skin of the drum vibrates a number of times per second. When the drum skin vibrates 100 times per second it generates a sound pressure wave that is oscillating at 100 Hz, and this pressure oscillation is perceived by the ear/brain as a tonal pitch of 100 Hz. Sound frequencies between 20 and 20,000 Hz are within the range of sensitivity of the best human ear.

Although sound level value may adequately indicate the level of environmental noise at any instant in time, community noise levels vary continuously. Most environmental noise includes a mixture of noise from distant sources that creates a relatively steady background noise in which no particular source is identifiable. A single descriptor called the equivalent sound level (L_{eq}) may be used to describe sound that is changing in level. L_{eq} is the energy-averaged sound level during a measured time interval. It is the equivalent constant sound level that would have to be produced by a given source to equal the acoustic energy contained in the fluctuating sound level measured. In addition to the energy-average level, it is often desirable to know the acoustic range of the noise source being measured. This is accomplished through the maximum sound level (L_{max}) and minimum sound level (L_{min}) indicators that represent the root-mean-square maximum and minimum noise levels measured during the monitoring interval. The L_{min} value obtained for a particular monitoring location is often called the acoustic floor for that location.


One common way to assess average noise level over a complete diurnal cycle is a sound descriptor known as the day-night average noise level (L_{dn}), defined as the A-weighted average sound level for a 24-hour day with a 10-dB penalty added to nighttime sound levels

APPENDIX B

FIELD MEASUREMENT PHOTOGRAPHS

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

	<p>Photograph 1</p> <p>Date: 08/19/14</p> <p>Comments: <u>ST01</u>: Short-term measurement, reference position on the northeast corner of the Citrus Dr. and Nichols Rd. intersection.</p> <p>Camera facing north.</p>
	<p>Photograph 2</p> <p>Date: 08/19/14</p> <p>Comments: <u>ST01</u>: Short-term measurement, reference position on the northeast corner of the Citrus Dr. and Nichols Rd. intersection.</p> <p>Camera facing south.</p>

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

	<p>Photograph 3</p> <p>Date: 08/19/14</p> <p>Comments: <u>ST02</u>: Short-term measurement, reference position on the northwest corner of the Citrus Dr. and Green St. intersection.</p> <p>Camera facing north.</p>
	<p>Photograph 4</p> <p>Date: 08/19/14</p> <p>Comments: <u>ST02</u>: Short-term measurement, reference position on the northwest corner of the Citrus Dr. and Green St. intersection.</p> <p>Camera facing southwest.</p>

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT



Photograph 5

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST03: Short-term measurement, reference position in a vacant lot north of Blythe Way and west of Cottonwood Dr.

Camera facing north.



Photograph 6

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST03: Short-term measurement, reference position in a vacant lot north of Blythe Way and west of Cottonwood Dr.

Camera facing east.

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT



Photograph 7

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST04: Short-term measurement, reference position adjacent to the daycare on the northwest corner of the Mesa Dr. and Pepper Dr. intersection. Camera facing north.



Photograph 8



Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST04: Short-term measurement, reference position adjacent to the daycare on the northwest corner of the Mesa Dr. and Pepper Dr. intersection. Camera facing south.

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

 A photograph showing a desert landscape with sandy ground, sparse green shrubs, and a clear blue sky with some clouds. In the foreground, a noise meter with a black microphone is visible. In the background, there are some buildings and utility poles.	<p>Photograph 9</p> <p>Date: 08/20/14</p> <p>Comments: <u>ST05</u>: Short-term measurement, reference position on the southeast corner of the Mesa Dr. and Nichols Rd. intersection. Camera facing north.</p>
 A photograph showing a desert landscape with sandy ground, sparse green shrubs, and a clear blue sky with some clouds. In the foreground, a noise meter with a black microphone is visible. In the background, there are some buildings and utility poles.	<p>Photograph 10</p> <p>Date: 08/20/14</p> <p>Comments: <u>ST05</u>: Short-term measurement, reference position on the southeast corner of the Mesa Dr. and Nichols Rd intersection. Camera facing west.</p>

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT



Photograph 11

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST06: Short-term measurement, reference position north of the intersection at Evergreen Dr. and Bellwood Dr. Camera facing north.



Photograph 12

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST06: Short-term measurement, reference position northeast of the intersection at Evergreen Dr. and Bellwood Dr. Camera facing south.

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT



Photograph 13

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST07: Short-term measurement, reference position near the southeast corner of the playground at Miller Park. Camera facing west.



Photograph 14

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST07: Short-term measurement, reference position near the southeast corner of the playground at Miller Park. Camera facing north.

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT



Photograph 15

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST08: Short-term measurement, reference position on the northeast corner of the Lovekins Blvd. and 16th Ave. intersection. Camera facing south.



Photograph 16

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST08: Short-term measurement, reference position on the northeast corner of the Lovekins Blvd. and 16th Ave. intersection. Camera facing southwest.

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT



Photograph 17

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST09: Short-term measurement, reference position on the southwest corner of the Neighbours Blvd./SR-78 and 16th Ave. intersection. Camera facing north.



Photograph 18

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST09: Short-term measurement, reference position on the southwest corner of the Neighbours Blvd./SR-78 and 16th Ave. intersection. Camera facing east.

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT

DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT



Photograph 19

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST10: Short-term measurement, reference position on the northeast corner of the Neighbours Blvd./SR-78 and 14th Ave. intersection.

Camera facing south.



Photograph 20

Date: 08/20/14

Comments:

ST10: Short-term measurement, reference position on the northeast corner of the Neighbours Blvd./SR-78 and 14th Ave. intersection.

Camera facing west.

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT



Photograph 21

Date: 08/20/14**Comments:**

ST11: Short-term measurement, reference position to the north of the existing PV facility and southwest of the nearest residence. Camera facing north.

**Photograph 22****Date:** 08/20/14**Comments:**

ST11: Short-term measurement, reference position to the north of the existing PV facility and southwest of the nearest residence. Camera facing south.

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT



Photograph 23

Date: 08/19/14 -
08/20/14

Comments:

LT01: Long-term measurement, reference position at the end of Blythe Way, attached to the fence of a tree farm. Camera facing east.



Photograph 24

Date: 08/19/14-
08/20/14

Comments:

LT01: Long-term measurement, reference position at the end of Blythe Way, attached to the fence of a tree farm. Camera facing south.

**NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT
DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT**

**APPENDIX C
LONG-TERM SOUND LEVEL MEASUREMENT DATA DETAIL**

**NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT
DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT**

**APPENDIX D
NOISE IMPACT CALCULATIONS**

D.1 CONSTRUCTION NOISE PREDICTION DETAIL

**NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT
DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT**

**FIGURE D-1
LOCATION OF PROJECT GEOGRAPHIC CENTROID OR “CENTRAL PCS”**

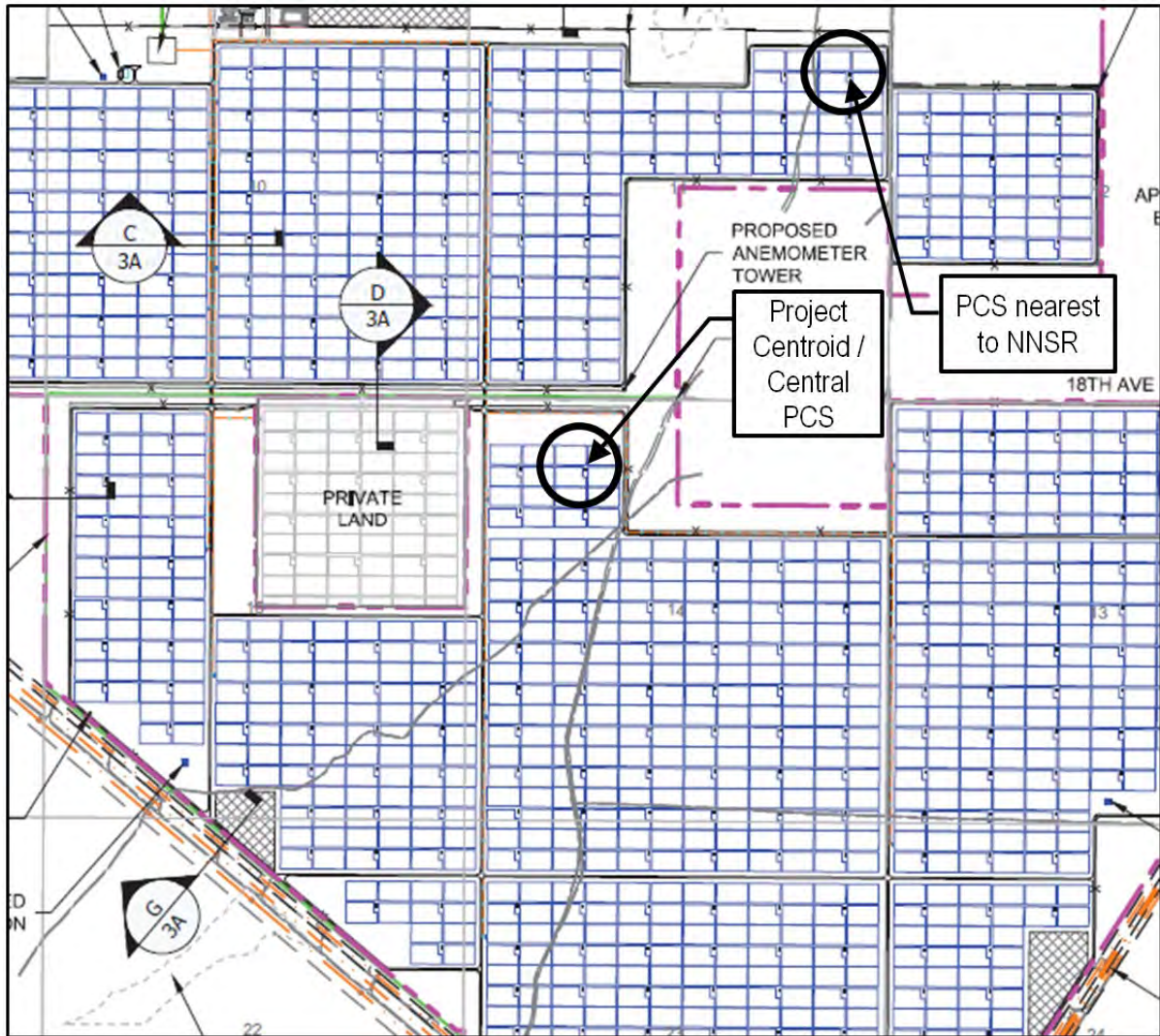


FIGURE D-2
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 1 – DAYTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies_TRC_ILM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDQ Noise 120315.docx

FIGURE D-3
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 1 – NIGHTTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies_TRC_ILM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDO Noise 120315.docx

FIGURE D-4
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 2 – DAYTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

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FIGURE D-6
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 3 – DAYTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies_TRC_ILM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDQ Noise 120315.docx

FIGURE D-7
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 3 – NIGHTTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies_TRC_ILM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDQ Noise 120315.docx

FIGURE D-8
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 4 – DAYTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies_TRC_ILM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDQ Noise 120315.docx

FIGURE D-9
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 5 DAYTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies\TRC_BLM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDQ Noise 120315.docx

FIGURE D-10
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 6 DAYTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies_TRC_ILM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDQ Noise 120315.docx

FIGURE D-12
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 7 DAYTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies_TRC_ILM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDQ Noise 120315.docx

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

**FIGURE D-13
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 7 NIGHTTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE**

		hours of daily operation (as of 8/5/15)	RCNM acoustical usage factor (%)	FSDQ quantity (8/5/15)	Lmax (dBA at 50')	Leq (dBA at 50')																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															</
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FIGURE D-14
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 8 DAYTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies_TRC_ILM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDQ Noise 120315.docx

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

**FIGURE D-15
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 9 DAYTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE**

	AQ "load factor"	hours of daily operation (as of 8/5/15)	RCNM acoustical usage factor (%)	FSDQ quantity (8/5/15)	Lmax (dBA at 50')	Leq (dBA at 50')																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																</
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FIGURE D-16
PREDICTION OF ACTIVITY 9 NIGHTTIME CONSTRUCTION NOISE

V:\Projects\60419825_28907534 FSE Desert Quartzite POD Support\600 DLVR601 - URS Prepared\2014 Tech Studies_TRC_ILM Comments_Responses_Nov 2016\Noise\FinalDQ Noise 120315.docx

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

FIGURE D-17
PREDICTION OF CONCURRENT DAYTIME NOISE FROM ALL ACTIVITIES – CONCAWE CAT-6

[illegible]

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

FIGURE D-18
PREDICTION OF CONCURRENT NIGHTTIME NOISE FROM ALL ACTIVITIES – CONCAWE CAT-6

CONCAWE Category (CAT)		6 (enter 2, 4 or 6 in cell to the left)																										
ST3																												
	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
Activity 1		24	24																									
Activity 2			24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24								
Activity 3					31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31						
Activity 4																												
Activity 5																												
Activity 6						20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20					
Activity 7																		20	20	20	20	20	20					
Activity 8																												
Activity 9																												
total from concurrent activities		24	27	24	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	33	33	33	23	23	23	23	23	23	
current existing ambient		39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	
difference		-15	-12	-15	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-13	-16	-16	-16	-16	
impact?																												
ST5																												
	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
Activity 1		22	22																									
Activity 2			22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22								
Activity 3					30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30						
Activity 4																												
Activity 5																												
Activity 6						17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17					
Activity 7																		17	17	17	17	17	17					
Activity 8																												
Activity 9																												
total from concurrent activities		23	25	23	30	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	20	20	20	20	20	20	
current existing ambient		40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	
difference		-17	-15	-17	-10	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-16	-19	-19	-19	-19	
impact?																												
NNSR																												
	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
Activity 1		27	27																									
Activity 2			27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27								
Activity 3					36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36						
Activity 4																												
Activity 5																												
Activity 6						23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23					
Activity 7																		23	23	23	23	23	23					
Activity 8																												
Activity 9																												
total from concurrent activities		27	30	27	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	26	26	26	26	26	26	
current existing ambient		41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	
difference		-14	-11	-14	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-12	-15	-15	-15	-15	
impact?																												

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

FIGURE D-19
PREDICTION OF CONCURRENT DAYTIME NOISE FROM ALL ACTIVITIES – CONCAWE CAT-4

CONCAWE Category (CAT)		4 (enter 2, 4 or 6 in cell to the left)																								
ST3																										
	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Activity 1		28	28																							
Activity 2			27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27						
Activity 3					40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40				
Activity 4						31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31			
Activity 5							40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40		
Activity 6						21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21		
Activity 7																			22	22	22	22	22	22		
Activity 8																			19	19	19	19	19	19		
Activity 9																										
total from concurrent activities		28	31	27	40	41	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	41	40	22	22
current existing ambient		39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
difference impact?		-11	-8	-12	1	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	1	-16	-16
ST5																										
	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Activity 1		27	27																							
Activity 2			26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26						
Activity 3					38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38				
Activity 4						29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29			
Activity 5							38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38		
Activity 6						19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19		
Activity 7																			19	19	19	19	19	19		
Activity 8																			16	16	16	16	16	16		
Activity 9																										
total from concurrent activities		27	29	26	38	39	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42		20	20	20	20	20
current existing ambient		40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
difference impact?		-13	-11	-14	-2	-1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	-1	-2	-20
NNSR																										
	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Activity 1		31	31																							
Activity 2			31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31						
Activity 3					44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44				
Activity 4						36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36			
Activity 5							44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44		
Activity 6						24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24		
Activity 7																			25	25	25	25	25	25		
Activity 8																			22	22	22	22	22	22		
Activity 9																										
total from concurrent activities		31	34	31	45	45	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	26	26	26	26	26
current existing ambient		41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
difference impact?		-10	-7	-10	4	4	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	4	3	-15

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FIGURE D-20
PREDICTION OF CONCURRENT NIGHTTIME NOISE FROM ALL ACTIVITIES – CONCAWE CAT-4

CONCAWE Category (CAT)		4 (enter 2, 4 or 6 in cell to the left)																									
ST3																											
	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Activity 1		19	19																								
Activity 2			19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19							
Activity 3					26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26					
Activity 4																											
Activity 5																											
Activity 6						15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15				
Activity 7																		15	15	15	15	15	15				
Activity 8																											
Activity 9																											
total from concurrent activities		19	22	19	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	28	28		18	18	18	18	18	18	
current existing ambient		39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	
difference impact?		-20	-17	-20	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-12	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	-18	-20	-20	-20	
ST5																											
	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Activity 1		17	17																								
Activity 2			17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17							
Activity 3					25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25					
Activity 4																											
Activity 5																											
Activity 6						12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12				
Activity 7																		12	12	12	12	12	12				
Activity 8																											
Activity 9																											
total from concurrent activities		18	21	18	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	19	16	16	16	
current existing ambient		40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	
difference impact?		-22	-19	-22	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-21	-24	-24	-24	
NNSR																											
	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Activity 1		22	22																								
Activity 2			22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22							
Activity 3					31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31					
Activity 4																											
Activity 5																											
Activity 6						18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18				
Activity 7																		18	18	18	18	18	18				
Activity 8																											
Activity 9																											
total from concurrent activities		22	25	22	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	21	21	21	21	21	
current existing ambient		41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	
difference impact?		-19	-16	-19	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-17	-19	-19	-19	

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

FIGURE D-21
PREDICTION OF CONCURRENT DAYTIME NOISE FROM ALL ACTIVITIES – CONCAWE CAT-2

[illegible]

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

FIGURE D-22
PREDICTION OF CONCURRENT DAYTIME NOISE FROM ALL ACTIVITIES – CONCAWE CAT-2

[illegible]

D.2 OPERATION NOISE PREDICTION DETAIL

The following image presents an assortment of CadnaA (version 4.5.147) Tables, showing receiver locations, point sources, and sound levels—parameters used to calculate the aggregate Project operation noise level predictions (depicted as noise contours across the Project area and immediate vicinity). Please refer to Section 3.3 of the report text for more information on sound propagation model parameters (e.g., meteorological conditions).

NOISE TECHNICAL REPORT DESERT QUARTZITE SOLAR PROJECT

FIGURE D-19
CADNAA SOUND PROPAGATION MODEL PARAMETERS FOR PROJECT OPERATION NOISE PREDICTION

Receiver																								
Name	M.	ID	Level Lr Day (dBA)	Limit. Value Day (dBA)	Land Use Type	Auto	Noise Type	Height (m)		Coordinates X (m)	Y (m)	Z (m)												
LT1			0	26.8	0	x	Total	1.5 r		709676.1	3720426	1.5												
ST01			0	22.6	0	x	Total	1.5 r		711754.7	3720390	1.5												
ST02			0	21.8	0	x	Total	1.5 r		711677.2	3720668	1.5												
ST03			0	25.7	0	x	Total	1.5 r		710294.3	3720456	1.5												
ST04			0	23.1	0	x	Total	1.5 r		710791.6	3720925	1.5												
ST05			0	24.9	0	x	Total	1.5 r		710921.2	3720333	1.5												
ST06			0	23.1	0	x	Total	1.5 r		710533.3	3721073	1.5												
ST07			0	-80.2	0	x	Total	1.5 r		722299.1	3720652	1.5												
ST08			0	-80.2	0	x	Total	1.5 r		722284.9	3719120	1.5												
ST09			0	-80.2	0	x	Total	1.5 r		717308.2	3718947	1.5												
ST10			0	-80.2	0	x	Total	1.5 r		717366.8	3720597	1.5												
ST11	-		0	-88	0	x	Total	1.5 r		709676.9	3719665	1.5												
NSR1			0	27.9	0	x	Total	1.5 r		709800	3720000	1.5												
Point Source																								
Qty	M.	ID	Result. PWL Day (dBA)	Evening (dBA)	Night (dBA)	Lw / Li Type	Value	norm. dB(A)	Correction Day dB(A)	Evening dB(A)	Night dB(A)	Sound Reduction R	Area m²	Attenuation	Operating Time Day (min)	Special (min)	Night (min)	K0 (dB)	Freq. (Hz)	Direct.	Height (m)	Coordinates X (m)	Y (m)	Z (m)
314		POINT	87.7	87.7	87.7	Lw	inv++trans		0	0	0							0		(none)	2.28 r	705523.7	3718200	2.28
1		POINT	99.4	99.4	99.4	Lw	sub		0	0	0							0		(none)	2.51 r	706539.8	3718459	2.51
Sound Levels (local)																								
Name	ID	Type	Oktave Spectrum (dB)										Source											
			Weight.	31.5	63	125	250	500	1000	2000	4000	8000	A	lin										
substation	sub	Lw		96	102	104	99	99	93	88	83	76	99.4	108	Pio Pico									
inverter + louver	inv	Lw	A		81.9	73.3	81.1	79.1	69.7	55.2	50.5	78.1	86.6	108.2	Glenarm Noise Impact Assessment									
transformer	trans	Lw	A		57.4	69.5	72	77.4	74.6	70.8	65.6	56.5	81	89.4	Glenarm Noise Impact Assessment									