

Notice of Determination**- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research

For U.S. Mail:

P.O. Box 3044

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife

South Coast Region

3883 Ruffin Road

San Diego, CA 92123

Contact: Steve Gibson

Phone: (562) 252-2362

**Lead Agency**

County of Santa Barbara

105 E. Anapuma St. Room 407

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Contact: Cathy Priefer

Phone: (805) 568-2507

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: SCH # 2018071002

Project Title: Strauss Wind Energy Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2018-010-05 ([ITP]))

Project Location (include county): The project site is located in unincorporated Santa Barbara County approximately 1.8 miles southwest of the City of Lompoc. The site is located within the California U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Tranquillon Mountain, Lompoc Hills, and Lompoc 7.5-minute quadrangles. The Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) associated with this project are: 083-100-004, 083-080-004, 083-090-002, 083-250-011, 083-100-008, 083-090-003, 083-100-007, and 083-090-004.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed ITP number 2080-2018-010-05, pursuant to section 2081 of the Fish and Game Code to the project Applicant, Strauss Energy, LLC.

This Project involves construction of a commercial wind energy farm on 5,618 acres of land. The Project is expected to result in incidental take of Gaviota tarplant (*Deinandra increscens* ssp. villosa), which is designated as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act. The ITP authorizes take of Gaviota Tarplant (Covered Species) in the course of Project activities. These activities as authorized by the ITP include improvements to existing roads, the construction of new access roads, up to 27 wind turbines, wind turbine pads, a laydown yard, substation, out buildings, a water well and associated mitigation and monitoring.

The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [the lead agency / a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on _____ and made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project [will / will not] have a significant effect on the environment (This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a responsible agency).
2. [An environmental impact report / A negative declaration] was prepared by the lead agency for the original project.
3. Additional mitigation measures [were / were not] made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was / was not] adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations [was / was not] adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings [were / were not] made by CDFW pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21081(a).
7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4 (check one):
 - Payment is submitted with this notice.
 - A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.

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Responsible Agency statement: The EIR prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead agency. CDFW's administrative record of proceedings related to the incidental take permit is available to the public for review at CDFW's regional office.

DocuSigned by:

Signature Chuck Bonham
Charlton H. Bonham, Director

Date: 4/13/2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date Received for filing at OPR: APR 13 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE