

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Governor's Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Memorandum

Date: May 30, 2019

To: All Reviewing Agencies

From: Scott Morgan, Director

Re: SCH # 2019059123

Glover Solar (PSP 19-003)

The Lead Agency has <u>corrected</u> some information regarding the above-mentioned project. Please see the attached materials for more specific information. All other project information remains the same.

cc: Hector Guerra

Tulare County Resource Management Agency

5961 S. Mooney Blvd. Visalia, CA 93277-9394

Cynthia Saetern

From: Christine Asiata

Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 4:15 PM

To: Cynthia Saetern

Subject: FW: clarification for Glover Solar Project (PSP 19-003)

Attachments: Glover_NOC_MND_5-29-19.pdf; Glover_Solar_NOI_FINAL_5-29-19.pdf; Page 2_

5-29-19.pdf; Page 36_5-29-19.pdf; Attachment B_Page 1_5-29-19.pdf

Thank you. let me know when this is done tomorrow, please.

From: Jessica Willis < JWillis@co.tulare.ca.us> Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 3:37 PM

To: Christine Asiata < Christine. Asiata @ OPR.CA.GOV > **Cc:** Hector Guerra < HGuerra @ co.tulare.ca.us >

Subject: Fwd: clarification for Glover Solar Project (PSP 19-003)

Hi Christine.

Attached please find the Notice of Completion, Notice of Intent, and the three pages of the MND identified below that are consistent with the description in the Comprehensive Project Description in Attachment "D". When the Final MND is ready, a comprehensive list of Errata, which will include a copy of this email, will be included.

Jessica

>>> Jessica Willis 5/29/2019 2:59 PM >>> Dear Ms. Asiata.

Please note that the transmission line description contained in the IS/MND (review beginning Wednesday, May 29, and ending Friday, June 28, 2019) for the Glover Solar Project (PSP 19-003) inadvertently reads "6-kV" rather than the "66-kV" as provided in the Comprehensive Project Description in Attachment "D" (see page 3 of 8 at section 2.4.3 Substation/Switchyard/Interconnect). The inadvertency also occurred in the Notice of Completion and Notice of Intent.

An Errata will be provided showing this clarification at the following occurrences in the IS/MND and Attachment "B" Biological Resources:

- Page 2, Initial Study Checklist, Number 9.
- Page 36, Checklist Item 5 a) and b).
- Page 1, Attachment "B" (Biological Resources Evaluation), Project Description

Also, the following agencies and Tribes have been notified of this inadvertency:

- Caltrans, District 6
- California Fish and Wildlife, Region 4
- Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 5F
- San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District
- Kern Valley Indian Council
- Santa Rosa Rancheria
- Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

- Tubatulabals of Kern Valley
- Tule River Indian Tribe
- Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band

If you have any questions, please call or email me.

Jessica Willis
Planner IV
County of Tulare
Resource Management Agency

Phone: (559) 624-7122

E-mail: JWillis@co.tulare.ca.us

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613 SCH# For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 Project Title: Glover Solar (PSP 19-003) Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency Contact: Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner Phone: <u>559-624-7121</u> Mailing Address: 5961 S. Mooney Blvd. Zip: 93277-9394 City: Visalia County: Tulare County Project Location: County: Tulare City/Nearest Community: Plainview (east)/Tulare (west) Cross Streets: Road 164 and Avenue 200 Zip Code: 93267 Latitude/Longitude: 36 ° 09 **'** <u>10.24</u>" N / <u>119</u> ° <u>12</u> ' <u>21.27</u>" W Total Acres: ±150 Section: 30 Township: 20S Range: 26 E Base: MDB&M Assessor's Parcel No: 198-060-011 Railways: ___ Within 2 Miles: State Hwy:___ _ Schools:_ Waterways: Hutchinson Ditch (west), irrigation ditches (all directions), Airports: Intermittent waterways (southwest & northwest) **Document Type:** Governor's Office of Planning & Research □ Draft EIR CEQA: □ NOP NEPA: ☐ Early Cons ☐ Supplement/Subsequent EIR Final Document Draft MAY 29 2019 ☐ Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) Mit Neg Dec ☐ Other: STATE CLEARINGHOUSE **Local Action Type:** Rezone ☐ Specific Plan ☐ General Plan Update ☐ Annexation General Plan Amendment ☐ Pre-zone ☐ Redevelopment General Plan Element ☐ Planned Unit Dev. □ Use Permit ☐ Coastal Permit ☐ Community Plan ☐ Site Plan ☐ Land Division (Sub.) ☐ Other **Development Type:** Residential: Units Acres ☐ Transportation: Office: Sq. ft. Acres Employees Type_ Sq. ft. Mineral ☐ Commercial: Acres Employees ☐ Mining: MW ±20 ☐ Industrial: Sq. ft. Acres **Employees** □ Power: Type Solar Facility ☐ Waste Treatment: ☐ Educational: MGD Type _ ☐ Recreational: ☐ Hazardous Waste: Type_ ☐ Water Facilities: Type _ **Project Issues Discussed in Document:** ☐ Fiscal □ Recreation/Parks Schools/Universities Agricultural Land Air Quality ☐ Forest Land/Fire Hazard Archaeological/Historical □ Geologic/Seismic Sewer Capacity ⊠ Biological Resources Minerals Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading ☐ Growth Inducing Solid/Waste ☐ Coastal Zone Noise
 ■ □ Land Use

 □ Drainage/Absorption □ Economic/Jobs

 □ Population/Housing Balance □ Public Services/Facilities

 □ Cumulative Effects

Other: Energy and Tribal Cultural Resources

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Agricultural Row Crops / AE-40 (Exclusive Agriculture – 40 Acre Minimum / A (Agriculture)

Project Description: ±20 MW solar facility on a ±150-acre site consisting of: ±76,250 photo-voltaic solar modules mounted on single access trackers and associated motors, torque tubes, and drivelines; eight (8) inverter stations; various wiring, underground cables, combiner boxes, inverters, and transformers; a new, on-site substation/switchyard tying into a new milelong 66-kV transmission interconnection line with the nearby Southern California Edison substation; access and internal roads; security fencing; and motion activated lighting. Project to be constructed in three phases: Phase 1, Site Preparation; Phase 2, Photovoltaic Panel System; and Phase 3, Inverters, Transformers, Substation, Electrical Collector System, and Interconnection Following its proposed 35-year life, the facility would be decommissioned and the site reclaimed as required by the County.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist	
Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distributional ready been sent to the agency, denote that with an "s."	ution by marking agencies below with an "X." If the document has
X Air Resources Board	Office of Emergency Services
Boating & Waterways, Department of	X Office of Historic Preservation
California Highway Patrol	Office of Public School Construction
X Caltrans District # 6	Parks & Recreation, Department of
Caltrans Division of Aeronautics	Pesticide Regulation, Department of
Caltrans Planning	Public Health, Department of
Central Valley Flood Protection Board	X Public Utilities Commission
Cochella Valley Mtns. Conservancy	X Regional WQCB # 5F (attn: Doug Patteson)
Coastal Commission	X Resources Agency
Colorado River Board	S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission
X Conservation, Department of	San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers and Mtns Conservancy
Corrections, Department of	San Joaquin River Conservancy
Delta Protection Commission	Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Education, Department of	State Lands Commission
X Energy Commission	SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
X_ Fish & Wildlife Region # 4	_X_ SWRCB: Water Quality
X Food & Agriculture, Department of	SWRCB: Water Rights
X Forestry & Fire Protection, Department of	Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
X General Services, Department of	X Toxic Substances Control, Department of
Health Care Services, Department of	Water Resources, Department of
Housing & Community Development	S Other: U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service
Integrated Waste Management Board	S Other: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
X Native American Heritage Commission	S_ Other: U.S. Naval Facilities Engineering Command
S Other: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District	S Other: Tulare County HHSA – Environmental Health
S Other: Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner	S_ Other: Tulare County Office of Emergency Services
S Other: Tulare County Association of Governments	S Other: Tulare County Resources Conservation District
S_ Other: Tulare County Farm Bureau	S_ Other: Tulare County Resource Management (Fire, Flood, PW)
S Other: Tulare County Fire Warden	S_ Other: Tulare County Sheriff's Office
S_ Other: Tulare County U.C. Cooperative Extension	S Other:
Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency	y)
Starting Date: May 10, 2019	Ending Date: June 10, 2019
Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):	
Consulting Firm:	Applicant: Glover Solar, LLC
Address:	Address: 5601 E. Slauson Ave., Suite 101
City/State/Zip:	City/State/Zip: <u>Commerce, CA 90040</u> Phone: (323) 767-3628
Contact:Phone:	1 110115 <u>. (323) 101-3020</u>

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:

Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:

Reed Schenke, Director/Environmental Assessment Officer



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

5961 SOUTH MOONEY BLVD VISALIA, CA 93277

PHONE (559) 624-7000 FAX (559) 730-2653 Aaron R. Bock Reed Schenke Sherman Dix Economic Development and Planning

Public Works Fiscal Services

INTRAOFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 6, 2019

TO: Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner

FROM: Jessica Willis, Planner IV

SUBJECT: Biological Resources Evaluation for Glover Solar (PSP 19-003)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project is located on a ±150-acre site and consists of a solar facility that would provide approximately 19.95 megawatt (MW) of electricity (renewable energy). Project components include: approximately 76,250 solar (photo-voltaic, PV) modules mounted on single access trackers; associated motors, torque tubes, and drivelines for the single-axis tracking system; eight (8) inverter stations; various wiring, underground cables, combiner boxes, inverters, and transformers; a new, on-site substation/switchyard tying into a new mile-long 66-kV transmission interconnection line with the nearby Southern California Edison substation; access and internal roads; security fencing; and motion activated lighting. The Project would be constructed in three (3) stages: Phase 1, Site Preparation; Phase 2, Photovoltaic Panel System; and Phase 3, Inverters, Transformers, Substation, Electrical Collector System, and Interconnection. Following its proposed 35-year life, the facility would be decommissioned and the site reclaimed as required by the County. The Project is estimated to take approximately eight (8) months to complete, excluding 2-3 weeks of initial site grading.

PROJECT LOCATION

The Project site is located approximately six (6) miles southeast of the City of Tulare and approximately three and a half (3.5) miles south of State Route (Highway) 137, abutting Road 164 to the west and Avenue 200 to the south (see Figures 1 and 2).

United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute Quadrangle: Cairns Corner

Surrounding Quadrangles: Visalia, Exeter, Rocky Hill, Lindsay, Porterville, Woodville,

Tipton, Tulare

Public Land Survey System: Section 30, Township 20 South, Range 26 East, Mount Diablo

Base and Meridian

Assessor Parcel Number: 198-060-011

Latitude/Longitude: 36° 09' 10.24" N / 119° 12' 21.27" W

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAY 29 2019



TULARE COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION GLOVER SOLAR PROJECT (PSP 19-003)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Tulare County intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Glover Solar Project, Special Use Permit PSP 19-003. The MND has been approved for public review by the Tulare County Environmental Assessment Officer. Copies are available for review and comment at the Resource Management Agency, Permit Center, 5961 South Mooney Blvd, Visalia, California 93277-9394. Comments and recommendations on the adequacy of the environmental document may be filed at the aforementioned address during the public review period established for the project.

1. **PROJECT:** Glover Solar, Special Use Permit PSP 19-003

2. APPLICANT/AGENT: Glover Solar, LLC

5601 E. Slauson Ave., Suite 101

Commerce, CA 90040

- 3. **LOCATION:** The Project site is located approximately six (6) miles southeast of the City of Tulare and approximately three and a half (3.5) miles south of State Route (Highway) 137, abutting Road 164 to the west and Avenue 200 to the south. It lines within Section 30, Township 20 South, Range 26 East, MDB&M entirely within APN 198-060-011. The Project is located in the USGS 7.5 Minute Cairns Corner Quadrangle.
- 4. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Project is located on a ±150-acre site and consists of a solar facility that would provide approximately 19.95 megawatt (MW) of electricity (renewable energy). Project components include: approximately 76,250 solar (photo-voltaic, PV) modules mounted on single access trackers; associated motors, torque tubes, and drivelines for the single-axis tracking system; eight (8) inverter stations; various wiring, underground cables, combiner boxes, inverters, and transformers; a new, on-site substation/switchyard tying into a new milelong 66-kV transmission interconnection line with the nearby Southern California Edison substation; access and internal roads; security fencing; and motion activated lighting. The Project would be constructed in three (3) stages: Phase 1, Site Preparation; Phase 2, Photovoltaic Panel System; and Phase 3, Inverters, Transformers, Substation, Electrical Collector System, and Interconnection. Following its proposed 35-year life, the facility would be decommissioned and the site reclaimed as required by the County. The Project is estimated to take approximately eight (8) months to complete, excluding 2-3 weeks of initial site grading.
- 5. ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT: The MND can be viewed at the Resource Management Agency office located at the address above; at the Visalia (Main Branch) Library located at 200 W. Oak Ave., Visalia, CA 93291; at the Tulare Public Library located at 475 N. M St., Tulare, CA 93274; or on the County web site at: https://tularecounty.ca.gov/rma/index.cfm/projects/planning-projects/applicant-projects/glover-solar-project-psp-19-003/
- 6. **REVIEW PERIOD:** Wednesday, May 29, 2019 Friday, June 28, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.

7. **CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner at (559) 624-7121 or HGuerra@co.tulare.ca.us. **Para Español llame Jose Saenz** (559) 624-7102.

The MND has a review period of **30 days**, starting on Wednesday, **May 29, 2019**, and ending on Friday, **June 28, 2019**, which has been approved by the State of California, Office of Planning and Research. Any written comments on the MND should be sent to the Tulare County Resource Management Agency at the address noted above, to the attention of: Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner.

After the close of the public comment review period on the MND established by this notice, this matter will be set for public hearing before the Tulare County Planning Commission. Notice of the date, time and place for such public hearing will be published and/or mailed as provided by law.

Please take notice that - pursuant to Public Resource Code Section 21177, Government Code Section 65009, and other applicable law - if you challenge the proposed action described above in court, then you may be limited to raising only those issues or objections you or someone else raised during the public comment period or the public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the Tulare County Resource Management Agency within the review period, or to the Planning Commission during the public hearing.

REED SCHENKE, P.E., ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICER

MAY 29 2019
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1. **Project Title:** Glover Solar Project (PSP 19-003)

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAY 29 2019

2. Lead Agency: County of Tulare

Resource Management Agency

5961 S. Mooney Blvd. Visalia, CA 93277 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

3. Contact Persons: Dana Mettlen, Planner IV (Project Planner) – 559-624-7106

Hector Guerra, Chief, Environmental Planning Division – 559-624-7121

4. Project Location: The Project site is located in the USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle: Cairns Corner approximately six (6) miles southeast of the City of Tulare and approximately three and a half (3.5) miles south of Highway 137, abutting Road 164 to the west and Avenue 200 to the south. It lines within Section 30, Township 20 South, Range 26 East, MDB&M entirely within APN 198-060-011.

5. Applicant: Glover Solar, LLC

5601 E. Slauson Ave. Suite 101

Commerce, CA 90040

6. Owner Kenneth Glover, Shirley A. Glover, Carla Glover

20701 Road 168 Strathmore CA 93267

7. General Plan Designation: A (Agriculture)

8. Zoning: AE-40 (Exclusive Agriculture – 40 Acre Minimum)

9. Description of Project (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation. Attach additional sheets if necessary.) The comprehensive project description, including project components is included in Attachment "D", the following is a summary of the project description. The Project would provide approximately 19.95 MWac of electricity (renewable energy). Project components include solar (photo-voltaic, PV) modules (approximately 76,250) mounted on single access trackers. The steel piles supporting the PB modules would be driven into the soils using pneumatic techniques. Following pile installation for the single-axis tracking system, the associated motors, torque tubes, and drivelines would be placed and secured. Eight (8) inverter stations containing electrical equipment to serve each block of solar panel arrays. Various wiring, underground cables, combiner boxes, inverters, transformers, would also be installed. A new, on-site substation/switchyard (located in the northwest corner of the Project site) would tie into a new 0.5 mile-long 66-kV transmission interconnection line (along a utility easement on the east side of Road 164) with the nearby Southern California Edison Bliss substation north of the Project site. Access and internal roads would be included along the perimeter and main access roads would be approximately 20 feet wide, likely using gravel, compacted dirt, or other commercially viable surface, and would meet Tulare County Fire Department standards. A six (6)-foot tall chain-link security fence (including three-strand barbed wire) would be installed around the perimeter of the Project site and motion activated lighting which would be hooded and directed downward to minimize off-site light and glare would also be installed. Project construction would require the use of graders, trenchers, small tractors,

archival of records; *ERM-6.7 Cooperation of Property Owners* where the County should encourage the cooperation of property owners to treat cultural resources as assets rather than liabilities, and encourage public support for the preservation of these resources; *ERM-6.8 Solicit Input from Local Native Americans* (which is consistent with AB 52 in regards to Tribal Consultation) wherein the County shall continue to solicit input from the local Native American communities in cases where development may result in disturbance to sites containing evidence of Native American activity and/or to sites of cultural importance; *ERM-6.9 Confidentiality of Archaeological Sites* which is also consistent with AB 52) where the County shall, within its power, maintain confidentiality regarding the locations of archaeological sites in order to preserve and protect these resources from vandalism and the unauthorized removal of artifacts; and *ERM-6.10 Grading Cultural Resources Sites* wherein the County shall ensure all grading activities conform to the County's Grading Ordinance and California Code of Regulations, Title 20, § 2501 et. seq.

a) and b) Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation: The solar array component of the Project will be confined within an existing and active agricultural activity (row crops) on areas previously (and repeatedly) disturbed; while the new transmission line will be located within a utility easement on the east side of Road 164 which has an existing right-of-way of 50'(of which 17.5' is a paved surface while the remaining 32.5' (approximately 16. 25' of other side of the road) is used as an unpaved shoulder). A cultural resources records search was conducted on April 25, 2010 by the Southern San Joaquin Valley Historical Resources Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield (RS #19-134). The records search included an examination of the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, California Points of Historical Interest, California Inventory of Historic Resources, California State Historic Landmarks Registry, and the HRIC files of pertinent historical and archaeological data. One recorded cultural resource (P-54-004832), an historic transmission line, was identified within the Project area. However, this resource would not be adversely impacted by the Project. Rather, a new mile-long 66-kV transmission interconnection line along Road 164 would be added to existing utility transmission poles for connection with the nearby Southern California Edison Bliss Substation north of the Project site. No archaeological or historical sites have been recorded within the current Project area or within one mile of the Project area. Although no other cultural resources were identified in the records search, a potentially significant impact could occur if historical or archaeological resources were uncovered during proposed Project construction. However, implementation of the Mitigation Measures CUL-1 thru CUL-3 will reduce potential impacts in the unlikely event of encountering a historical or archaeological resource to a less than significant impact with mitigation.

Mitigation Measure CUL-1: If, in the course of Project construction or operation, any archaeological or historical resources are uncovered, discovered, or otherwise detected or observed, activities within fifty (50) feet of the find shall be ceased. A qualified archaeologist shall be contacted and advise the County of the site's significance. If the findings are deemed significant by the Tulare County Resources Management Agency, appropriate mitigation measures shall be required prior to any resumption of work in the affected area of the proposed Project. Where feasible, mitigation achieving preservation in place will be implemented. Preservation in place may be accomplished by, but is not limited to: planning construction to avoid archaeological sites or covering archaeological sites with a layer of chemically stable soil prior to building on the site. If significant resources are encountered, the feasibility of various methods of achieving preservation in place shall be considered, and an appropriate method of achieving preservation in place shall be selected and implemented, if feasible. If preservation in place is not feasible, other mitigation shall be implemented to minimize impacts to the site, such as data recovery efforts that will adequately recover scientifically consequential information from and about the site. Mitigation shall be consistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15126.4(b)(3). An archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Archeology, hereafter "qualified archaeologist," should inspect the findings within 24 hours of discovery.

Mitigation Measure CUL-2: If cultural resources are encountered during construction or land modification activities work shall stop and the County shall be notified at once to assess the nature, extent, and potential significance of any cultural resources. If such resources are determined to be significant, appropriate actions shall be determined. Depending upon the nature of the find, mitigation could involve avoidance, documentation, or other appropriate actions to be determined by a qualified archaeologist. For example, activities within 50 feet of the find shall be ceased.

If it is determined that the Project could damage a significant cultural resource, mitigation should be implemented with a preference for preservation in place, consistent with the priorities set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3). If avoidance is not feasible, a qualified archaeologist should prepare and implement a detailed treatment plan in consultation with the County of Tulare and, for prehistoric resources, the ethnographically associated Native American tribe. If the resource is determined to be a tribal cultural resource, as defined by Public Resources Code 21074, the County of Tulare, in consultation with the ethnographically associated Native American tribe, should, if feasible, minimize significant adverse impacts by avoiding the resource or treating the resource with culturally appropriate dignity, which includes protecting the

Governor's Office of Planning & Research