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| File original and one copy with: Fresno County Clerk 2221 Kern Street Fresno, California 93721 | | Space Below For County Clerk Only. CLK-2046.00 E04-73 R00-00 | |
| Agency File No: IS 7635 | LOCAL AGENCY PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION | | County Clerk File No: E- |
| Responsible Agency (Name): Fresno County | Address (Street and P.O. Box): 2220 Tulare St. Sixth Floor | City: Fresno | Zip Code: 93721 |
| Agency Contact Person (Name and Title): Chrissy Monfette, Planner | Area Code: 559 | Telephone Number: 600-4245 | Extension: N/A |
| Project Applicant/Sponsor (Name): WESTLANDS TRANSMISSION, LLC | Project Title: Initial Study Application No. 7635 and Unclassified Conditional Use Permit Application No. 3650 | | |
| Project Description: <p>Allow a 6.3-mile-long, double-circuit, 230-kV generation tie-line (gen-tie line) running along Jayne Avenue from the Gates Substation (approximately one mile west of the intersection of Lassen Avenue and Jayne Avenue) to the boundary between Kings County and Fresno County. This gen-tie line would allow various Solar Facilities located in the Westlands Solar Park Master Plan and subject to approval of discretionary use permits by Kings County, to connect to the Gates Substation in Fresno County. The portion of the project under review by Fresno County is located in 100- to 350-foot-wide private easements and includes a temporary staging area and 44 transmission towers between 110 and 175 feet in height. Each monopole will require the clearing of approximately one acre of land for construction purposes, and approximately 700 sf around each pole will remain permanently cleared for safety purposes during operation. Including the staging site, it is anticipated that 74.5 acres of land will be impacted by construction on 18 parcels in the AE (Exclusive Agricultural) Zone District. Three additional power poles may be installed within the Gates Substation. A separate application must be approved by Kings County for the portion of the Gen-tie which will connect to the Westland Solar Project.</p> | | | |
| Justification for Negative Declaration: <p>This project represents a small portion of the Westlands Solar Park (WSP) Master Plan. A Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) was prepared for the entirety of the Westlands Solar Park and Gen-Tie Corridors Plan (SCH No. 2013031043). The Westlands Water District (WWD) Board of Directors certified the PEIR under CEQA and approved the WSP Master Plan on January 6, 2018. Pursuant to Section 15168, the County of Fresno identified that the increase in the proposed number of towers caused the contribution from the Gen-Tie construction to nitrogen oxide and particulate matter emissions to create a potentially significant impact which required the adoption of mitigation measures. In addition, new impacts related to compliance with plans and policies addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities were identified and mitigation was required to reduce impacts to less than significant.</p> | | | |
| FINDING: <p>The proposed project will not have a significant impact on the environment.</p> | | | |
| Newspaper and Date of Publication: Fresno Business Journal – October 14, 2019 | | Review Date Deadline: Planning Commission – November 14, 2019 | |
| Date: | Type or Print Signature: Marianne Mollring, Senior Planner | Submitted by (Signature): Chrissy Monfette, Planner | |

State 15083, 15085

County Clerk File No.: _____

**LOCAL AGENCY
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**



County of Fresno

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

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk, County of Fresno
2221 Kern Street
Fresno, CA 93721

From: Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, Development Services
and Capital Projects
2220 Tulare Street (corner of Tulare and "M") Suite "A", Fresno, CA 93721

Contact: Chrissy Monfette, (559) 600-4245

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the Public
Resource Code

Project: Supplemental Initial Study Application No. 7635, Unclassified Conditional Use
Permit Application No. 3650

Location: The subject parcel is located along Jayne Avenue from the Gates Substation
(approximately one mile west of the intersection of Lassen Avenue and Jayne
Avenue) to the boundary between Kings County and Fresno County. (Sup. Dist.
4), County of Fresno

Sponsor: WESTLANDS TRANSMISSION, LLC

Description: Allow a 6.3-mile-long, double-circuit, 230-kV generation tie-line (gen-tie line)
running along Jayne Avenue from the Gates Substation (approximately one mile
west of the intersection of Lassen Avenue and Jayne Avenue) to the boundary
between Kings County and Fresno County. This project is part of the Westlands
Solar Park Master Plan. This portion is located in 100- to 350-foot-wide private
easements and includes a temporary staging area and 44 transmission towers
between 110 and 175 feet in height. Three additional towers may be constructed
within the Gates Substation. Each monopole will require the clearing of
approximately one acre of land for construction purposes, and approximately 700
sf around each pole will remain permanently cleared for safety purposes during
operation. Including the staging site, it is anticipated that 74.5 acres of land will
be impacted by construction on 18 parcels in the Exclusive Agricultural Zone
Districts (20- and 40-acre minimum parcel size)

This is to advise that the County of Fresno (Lead Agency Responsible Agency) has approved the above described project on November 14, 2019, and has made the following determination:

1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.

2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [was was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Initial Study with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, 2220 Tulare Street, Suite A, Corner of Tulare and "M" Streets, Fresno, California.

Chrissy Monfette, Planner

(559) 600-4245 /EMAIL cmonfette@fresnocountyca.gov

Date