

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: San Luis Obispo

1055 Monterey Street

San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

From: (Public Agency): Heritage Ranch Community Services District
45870 Heritage Road
Paso Robles, CA 93446

(Address)

Project Title: Photovoltaic (PV) System Project

Project Applicant: Heritage Ranch Community Services District

Project Location - Specific:

APN 012-371-009, APN 012-181-085

Project Location - City: Paso Robles Project Location - County: San Luis Obispo

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

Solar energy generation to offset energy used by the water and wastewater facilities located on the properties.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Heritage Ranch Community Services District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Scott B. Duffield, General Manager

Exempt Status: (check one):

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301(b) and 15303
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

The solar equipment consists of minor alteration to the existing public facilities at the water treatment plant and the wastewater treatment plant, will be erected within existing disturbed footprints of the water treatment plant and the wastewater treatment plant sites, and will not involve expansion of use of the public facilities beyond that existing at the time of determination.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Scott B. Duffield, General Manager Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (805) 227-6230

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Signature: Scott B. Duffield Date: 01/28/2020 Title: General Manager

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: February 3, 2020

FEB 03 2020
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

**HERITAGE RANCH COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 20-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HERITAGE RANCH
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT APPROVING THE PHOTOVOLTAIC
SYSTEM PROJECT AND DECLARING IT TO BE CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT
FROM CEQA; AND AWARDING THE PROJECT TO THE MOST QUALIFIED
PROPOSER.**

WHEREAS, the Heritage Ranch Community Services District (the "District"), in the State of California (the "State"), is a community services district duly organized and existing pursuant to the constitution and laws of the State; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the District (the "Board") is the governing body of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the District to make certain expenditures relating to certain solar energy generation facilities of benefit to the District consisting of the following: (a) a primary solar array of approximately 162 kW DC in size to be located at 4870 Heritage Road to offset energy used by the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Administration Building, (b) a primary solar array of approximately 385 kW DC in size to be located at Well Road to offset energy used by the Water Treatment Plant, Pump Station 1, and Pump Station 4, and (c) certain secondary solar arrays to be located within the District (collectively, the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to deliver the Project as a Design-Build contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Directors of the Heritage Ranch Community Services District that:

Section 1. Approval of Project and CEQA. The Board approves the Project and declares the Project to be categorically exempt in accordance with Section 15301, and Section 15303 of the CEQA Guidelines. The following findings support that the Project is consistent with these exemptions:

- Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 Existing Facilities, exempts projects that involve *"the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination."*

Findings: The following findings support that the Project is consistent with this provision:

- The solar equipment will offset energy for the operation of the existing public facilities at the water treatment plant and the wastewater treatment plant.
- The solar equipment consists of minor alteration to the existing public facilities at the water treatment plant and the wastewater treatment plant.

- The solar equipment will be erected within existing disturbed footprints of the water treatment plant and the wastewater treatment plant sites.
 - The solar equipment will not involve expansion of use of the public facilities beyond that existing at the time of determination.
- Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 New Construction, exempts projects that involve *“construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure.”*

Findings: The following findings support that the Project is consistent with this provision:

- The solar equipment consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities to the existing public facilities at the water treatment plant and the wastewater treatment plant.
- The solar equipment will be erected within existing disturbed footprints of the water treatment plant and the wastewater treatment plant sites.
- The solar equipment will not involve expansion of use of the public facilities beyond that existing at the time of determination.

Section 2. Award of Project. The Board awards the Project to the most qualified proposer determined by the Board to be Stockman’s Energy, Inc.

Section 3. Authorization. The Board authorizes the General Manager to file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk and Office of Planning and Research, and to execute a construction agreement and issue a notice to proceed for the Project.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Heritage Ranch Community Services District on the 16th day of January 2020, by the following roll call vote.

AYES: Barker, Burgess, Cousineau, Rowley

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Capps

APPROVED:


Dan Burgess, President
Board of Directors

ATTEST:


Kristen Gelos, Secretary
Board of Directors