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NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE ADELANTO SWITCHING STATION EXPANSION PROJECT

Date: February 10, 2021

To: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Adelanto Switching Station Expansion Project

An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) has been prepared by the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) for the proposed Adelanto Switching Station Expansion Project (Project). LADWP is the Lead Agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), responsible for preparation of this document.

Project Description: The proposed Project would occur within the existing approximate 315-acre fenced LADWP property. Currently located on the property are an existing switching station and converter station. As part of the proposed Project, a new converter station would be built adjacent to the existing converter station in order to upgrade and replace aging infrastructure. The existing converter station would be demolished once the new converter station is operational. The existing switching station would also be expanded to accommodate the new converter station and associated equipment. In addition, other Project components include transmission line relocation, construction of new towers, site preparation, and demolition of existing structures. The proposed Project is needed to upgrade and replace aging infrastructure and to allow LADWP greater control in managing the energy transfer along existing high voltage transmission lines and improve long-term reliability.

Project Location: The Project site is located on approximately 315 acres in the City of Adelanto, San Bernardino County, California. The Project site is completely fenced and is bounded by Raccoon Avenue to the west, Pansy Road to the south, and Daisy Road to the east. Rancho Road is located approximately 350 feet north of the Project site. Interstate 15 (I-15) is located approximately eight miles to the east of the Project site, United States Highway 395 (US-395) is approximately 1.5 miles to the east, and State Route 18 (SR-18) is approximately 3.5 miles to the south.

Public Review Period: The public comment period for the IS/MND will commence on February 10, 2021 and conclude on March 11, 2021. The IS/MND is available for review on the LADWP website at <u>http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices</u>.



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Environmental Effects

The IS/MND describes potentially significant impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, and transportation. Mitigation measures have been defined to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Other effects found to be less than significant are also described in the IS/MND.

Per Section 15087(c)(6) of the CEQA Guidelines, the proposed Project site is not on any of the lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code.

Public Comments: Please submit comments in writing to the address provided below. Comment letters must be received by 5:00 p.m. on March 11, 2021.

> Los Angeles Department of Water and Power 111 North Hope Street, Room 1044 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Attn: Mr. Eduardo Cuevas Email: Eduardo.Cuevas@ladwp.com

All comments received related to issues discussed in the IS/MND will be included in the final package that is provided to the City of Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners for final consideration and approval at a future date. Once determined, the Board hearing date and time will be posted on the LADWP website at <u>http://www.ladwp.com/envnotices</u>. Please check the Board agenda within 72 hours of the scheduled time and date to confirm. You may access the Board agenda on the LADWP website at <u>http://www.ladwp.com/AboutLADWP</u> or contact the commission office at (213) 367-1356.

PLEASE NOTE: LADWP's practice is to make the entirety of comments received a part of the public record. Therefore, names, home addresses, home phone numbers, and email addresses of commenters, if included in the response, will be made part of the record available for public review. Individual commenters may request that LADWP withhold their name and/or home addresses, etc., but if you wish LADWP to consider withholding this information you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. In the absence of this written request, this information will be made part of the record for public review. LADWP will always make submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of, or officials of, organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

For any questions regarding the review of the IS/MND, please contact Mr. Eduardo Cuevas at (213) 367-3553 or Eduardo.Cuevas@ladwp.com.

Martin & Parker Fir

Charles C. Holloway Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment