

Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP, Director  
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100  
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2323  
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Web Address: <http://kernplanning.com/>



**PLANNING AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Planning  
Community Development  
Administrative Operations

**DATE:** February 26, 2021

**TO:** See Attached Mailing List

**FROM:** Kern County Planning and Natural  
Resources Department  
Attn: Ronelle Candia  
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100  
Bakersfield, CA 93301  
(661)862-8997; [CandiaR@kerncounty.com](mailto:CandiaR@kerncounty.com)

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
REPORT (EIR) FOR THE ARATINA SOLAR PROJECT 2.0 BY 50LW 8ME LLC**

The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department as Lead Agency (per CEQA Guidelines Section 15062) has determined that preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (per CEQA Guidelines 15161) is necessary for the proposed project identified below. The Planning and Natural Resources Department solicits the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval of the project.

You are invited to view the NOP and submit written comments regarding the scope and content of the environmental information in connection with the proposed project should you wish to do so. Due to the limits mandated by State law, your response must be received by **March 29, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.** Comments can be submitted to the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department at the address shown above or to [CandiaR@kerncounty.com](mailto:CandiaR@kerncounty.com).

A Scoping meeting will be held on **Friday, March 19, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.** In compliance with the Governor's Executive Order, the California Department of Public Health's guidelines on gatherings regarding COVID-19, and Kern County Local Emergency Declaration, the scoping meeting required by the CEQA Guidelines will be conducted online. Instructions for accessing the virtual scoping meeting will be available three (3) days before the meeting date on the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources website at <https://kernplanning.com>.

**PROJECT TITLE:** Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC (PP20401); ZCC 6, Map #192; ZCC 3, Map #208-5; ZCC 6, Map #208-6; ZCC 1, Map #209-1; CUP 16, Map #192; CUP 17, Map #192; CUP 3, Map #208-5; CUP 7, Map #208-6; CUP 1, Map #209-1; CUP 1, Map #209-2; GPA 6, Map #192; GPA 2, Map #192-35; GPA 3, Map #208-5; GPA 3, Map #208-6; GPA 1, Map #209-1; and GPA 1, Map #209-2.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The proposed project site is located in unincorporated Kern County, straddling State Route 58 between Gephart Road on the west and the San Bernardino County line on the east. The proposed project site is in the vicinity of the unincorporated communities of Boron and Desert Lake and north of the Edwards Air Force Base boundary. The existing U.S. Borax open pit mine and refinery are located approximately two miles north of the project site. The site is located within Sections 5 and 6, Township 10N, Range 7W; Sections 1 and 2, Township 10N, 8W; and Sections 33 and 35, Township 11N, Range 8W, San Bernardino Base Meridian.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** In August 2020, the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department circulated a Notice of Preparation for the previously proposed Aratina Solar Farm Project. Since that time, the project proponent, 64NB 8ME LLC, has modified the project design to incorporate additional setbacks from the unincorporated communities of Boron and Desert Lake and submitted a revised project description to the County. The proposed project described in the February 2021 Notice of Preparation/Initial Study reflects the modified project, titled the Aratina Solar Project 2.0.

The Aratina Solar Project 2.0, as proposed by 64NB 8ME LLC, would develop a photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure necessary to generate up to 530 megawatt-alternating current (MW-AC) of renewable energy, including up to 600 megawatts of energy storage, on approximately 2,317 acres of privately-owned land. The project site consists of five sites (Sites 1 through 5) located on 22 parcels. The project would be supported by a 230-kilovolt (kV) gen-tie overhead and/or underground electrical transmission line(s) originating from one or more on-site substations and terminating at the Southern California Edison's Holgate Substation to the north. Alternatively, the project may interconnect at Southern California Edison's Kramer Substation to the east, located in San Bernardino County via an up to 230kV transmission line located within an Edwards Air Force Base utility corridor. The project's permanent facilities would include, but are not limited to, service roads, a power collection system, inverter stations, transformer systems, transmission lines, electrical switchyards, project substations, energy (battery) storage system, and operations and maintenance facilities.

Implementation of the project as proposed includes the following requests:

a) Changes in zone classifications as follows:

- Zone Change Case No. 6, Map No. 192 – From A-1 to A for 696.69 acres
- Zone Change Case No. 3, Map No. 208-5 – From A-1 to A for 299.94 acres
- Zone Change Case No. 6, Map No. 208-6 – From A-1 to A for 222.49 acres and from R-1 to A for 79.6 acres
- Zone Change Case No. 1, Map No. 209-1 - From A-1 to A for 635.20 acres

b) Conditional Use Permits to allow for the construction and operation of five solar facilities with a total generating capacity of approximately 530 megawatts-alternating current (MW-AC) of renewable energy (broken down by site, below), including up to 600 megawatts of energy storage (for all sites), within the A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone Districts (in Zone Maps 192, 208-5, 208-6, and 209-1) and the M-1 (Light Industrial) Zone District (in Zone Map 209-2) pursuant to Sections 19.12.030.G and 19.36.30.G, respectively, of the Kern County Zoning Ordinance:

- Site 1 (up to 70 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 3, Map No. 208-5 for 299.94 acres
- Site 2 (up to 180 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 7, Map No. 208-6 for 169.92 acres
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 1, Map No. 209-1 for 635.20 acres
- Site 3 (up to 140 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 1, Map No. 209-2 for 620.26 acres

- Site 4 (up to 80 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 16, Map No. 192 for 339.46 acres
- Site 5 (up to 60 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 17, Map No. 192 for 252.31 acres
- c) General Plan Amendments to the Circulation Element of the Kern County General Plan to remove future road reservations on the section and mid-section lines within the project boundaries:
  - General Plan Amendment No. 6, Map No. 192
  - General Plan Amendment No. 2, Map No. 192-35
  - General Plan Amendment No. 3, Map No. 208-5
  - General Plan Amendment No. 3, Map No. 208-6
  - General Plan Amendment No. 1, Map No. 209-1
  - General Plan Amendment No. 1, Map No. 209-2

Documents can be viewed online at: <https://kernplanning.com/planning/notices-of-preparation/>

Signature:  
Name:

  
Ronelle Candia, Supervising Planner

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GPA 6; ZC 6, CUP 16, Map 192  
WO #PP20401 (EIR - Aratina Solar 2.0)  
I:\Planning\WORKGRPS\WP\LABELS\  
EIR05-19JJ.nop.doc  
Sc 07/29/20

City of Arvin  
P.O. Box 548  
Arvin, CA 93203

Bakersfield City Planning Dept  
1715 Chester Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Bakersfield City Public Works Dept  
1501 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

California City Planning Dept  
21000 Hacienda Blvd.  
California City, CA 93515

Delano City Planning Dept  
P.O. Box 3010  
Delano, CA 93216

City of Maricopa  
P.O. Box 548  
Maricopa, CA 93252

City of McFarland  
401 West Kern Avenue  
McFarland, CA 93250

City of Ridgecrest  
100 West California Avenue  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

City of Shafter  
336 Pacific Avenue  
Shafter, CA 93263

City of Taft  
Planning & Building  
209 East Kern Street  
Taft, CA 93268

City of Tehachapi  
Attn: John Schlosser  
115 South Robinson Street  
Tehachapi, CA 93561-1722

City of Wasco  
764 E Street  
Wasco, CA 93280

Inyo County Planning Dept  
P.O. Drawer "L"  
Independence, CA 93526

Kings County Planning Agency  
1400 West Lacey Blvd, Bldg 6  
Hanford, CA 93230

Los Angeles Co Reg Planning Dept  
320 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Bernardino Co Planning Dept  
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 1st  
Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0182

San Luis Obispo Co Planning Dept  
Planning and Building  
976 Osos Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Santa Barbara Co Resource Mgt Dept  
123 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Tulare County Planning & Dev Dept  
5961 South Mooney Boulevard  
Visalia, CA 93291

Ventura County RMA Planning Div  
800 South Victoria Avenue, L1740  
Ventura, CA 93009-1740

U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
Ridgecrest Field Office  
300 South Richmond Road  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

China Lake Naval Weapons Center  
Tim Fox, RLA - Comm Plans &  
Liaison  
429 E Bowen, Building 981  
Mail Stop 4001  
China Lake, CA 93555

Edwards AFB, Mission Sustainability  
Liaison  
412 TW, Bldg 2750, Ste 117-14  
195 East Popson Avenue  
Edwards AFB, CA 93524

Federal Aviation Administration  
Western Reg Office/  
777 South Aviation Boulevard  
Suite 150  
El Segundo, CA 90245

Federal Communications Comm  
18000 Studebaker Road, #660  
Cerritos, CA 90701

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
777 East Tahquitz Canyon Way,  
Suite 208  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Eastern Kern Resource Cons Dist  
300 South Richmond Road  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555-4436

Environmental Protection Agency  
Region IX Office  
75 Hawthorn Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

U.S. Dept of Agriculture/NRCS  
5080 California Avenue, Ste 150  
Bakersfield, CA 93309-0711

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 997  
Lake Isabella, CA 93240

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Regulatory Division  
1325 "J" Street, #1350  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2920

State Air Resources Board  
Stationary Resource Division  
P.O. Box 2815  
Sacramento, CA 95812

So. San Joaquin Valley Arch Info Ctr  
California State University of Bkfd  
9001 Stockdale Highway  
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Caltrans/Dist 6  
Planning/Land Bank Bldg.  
P.O. Box 12616  
Fresno, CA 93778

Caltrans/Dist 9  
Planning Department  
500 South Main Street  
Bishop, CA 93514

State Dept of Conservation  
Director's Office  
801 "K" Street, MS 24-01  
Sacramento, CA 95814-3528

Caltrans/  
Division of Aeronautics, MS #40  
P.O. Box 942873  
Sacramento, CA 94273-0001

State Clearinghouse  
Office of Planning and Research  
1400 - 10th Street, Room 222  
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Energy Commission  
James W. Reed, Jr.  
1516 Ninth Street  
Mail Stop 17  
Sacramento, CA 95814

State Dept of Conservation  
Geologic Energy Management  
Division  
4800 Stockdale Highway, Ste 108  
Bakersfield, CA 93309

California State University  
Bakersfield - Library  
9001 Stockdale Highway  
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Integrated Waste Management  
P.O. Box 4025, MS #15  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4025

California Fish & Wildlife  
1234 East Shaw Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93710

California Highway Patrol  
Planning & Analysis Division  
P.O. Box 942898  
Sacramento, CA 94298-0001

State Lands Commission  
100 Howe Avenue, Ste 100-South  
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

Public Utilities Comm Energy Div  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

California Regional Water Quality  
Control Board/Lahontan Region  
15095 Amargosa Road - Bld 2,  
Suite 210  
Victorville, CA 92392

State Dept of Water Resources  
San Joaquin Dist.  
3374 East Shields Avenue, Room A-7  
Fresno, CA 93726

State Dept of Toxic Substance  
Control  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1515 Tollhouse Road  
Clovis, CA 93612

Cal Environmental Protection Agency/  
Dept of Toxic Substances Control, Reg 1  
Attn: Dave Kereazis, Permit Div - CEQA  
8800 Cal Center Drive, 2nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95826

Kern County Administrative Officer

Kern County  
Agriculture Department

Kern County Airports Department

Kern County  
Env Health Services Department

Kern County Public Works  
Department/  
Building &  
Development/Floodplain

Kern County Public Works Department/  
Building & Development/Survey

Kern County Library/Beale  
Local History Room

Kern County Fire Dept  
David Witt, Fire Chief

Kern County Fire Dept  
Cary Wright, Fire Marshall

Kern County Parks & Recreation	Kern County Library/Beale Andie Sullivan	Kern County Library California City Branch 9507 California City Boulevard California City, CA 93505
Kern County Public Works Department/Operations & Maintenance/Regulatory Monitoring & Reporting	Kern County Sheriff's Dept Administration	Kern County Public Works Department/ Building & Development/Development Review
Muroc Unified School District 17100 Foothill Avenue North Edwards, CA 93523	Kern County Public Works Department/ Building & Development/Code Compliance	Mojave Unified School District 3500 Douglas Mojave, CA 93501
Local Agency Formation Comm/LAFCO 5300 Lennox Avenue, Suite 303 Bakersfield, CA 93309	Kern County Superintendent of Schools Attention School District Facility Services 1300 - 17th Street Bakersfield, CA 93301	KernCOG 1401 19th Street - Suite 300 Bakersfield, CA 93301
East Kern Air Pollution Control District 2700 M St., #302 Bakersfield, CA 93301	Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency 6500 West Avenue N Palmdale, CA 93551	Kern County Water Agency P.O. Box 58 Bakersfield, CA 93302-0058
East Kern Airport District Attention Stuart Witt 1434 Flightline Mojave, CA 93501	California City Airport 22636 Airport Way, #8 California City, CA 93505	Mojave Airport 1434 Flightline Mojave, CA 93501
Adams, Broadwell, Joseph & Cardozo Attention: Janet M. Laurain 601 Gateway Boulevard, Suite 1000 South San Francisco, CA 94080	East Kern Airport Dist Engineer 3900 Ridgemoor Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93306	Northcutt and Associates 4220 Poplar Street Lake Isabella, CA 93240-9536
Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment Attn: Marissa Alexander 1999 Harrison Street – Suite 650 San Francisco, CA 94612	Kern Audubon Society Attn: Frank Bedard, Chairman 4124 Chardonnay Drive Bakersfield, CA 93306	Los Angeles Audubon 926 Citrus Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90036-4929
Southern California Edison Planning Dept. 421 West "J" Street Tehachapi, CA 93561	Center on Race, Poverty & the Environmental/ CA Rural Legal Assistance Foundation 1012 Jefferson Street Delano, CA 93215	Defenders of Wildlife/ Kim Delfino, California Dir 980 - 9th Street, Suite 1730 Sacramento, CA 95814
Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee 4067 Mission Inn Avenue Riverside, CA 92501	Native American Heritage Council of Kern County Attn: Gene Albitre 3401 Aslin Street Bakersfield, CA 93312	Pacific Gas & Electric Co Land Projects 650 "O" Street, First Floor Fresno, CA 93760-0001

Sierra Club/Kern Kaweah Chapter  
P.O. Box 3357  
Bakersfield, CA 93385

Southern California Edison  
2244 Walnut Grove, Ave,  
GO-1 Quad 2C  
Rosemead, CA 91770

Verizon California, Inc.  
Attention Engineering Department  
520 South China Lake Boulevard  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Chumash Council of Bakersfield  
2421 "O" Street  
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2441

David Laughing Horse Robinson  
P.O. Box 20849  
Bakersfield, CA 93390

Kern Valley Indian Council  
Attn: Robert Robinson, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 401  
Weldon, CA 93283

Kern Valley Indian Council  
Historic Preservation Office  
P.O. Box 401  
Weldon, CA 93283

Santa Rosa Rancheria  
Ruben Barrios, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 8  
Lemoore, CA 93245

Tejon Indian Tribe  
Kathy Morgan, Chairperson  
1731 Hasti-acres Drive, Suite 108  
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians  
Chairperson  
115 Radio Street  
Bakersfield, CA 93305

Tubatulabals of Kern County  
Attn: Robert Gomez, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 226  
Lake Isabella, CA 93240

Tule River Indian Tribe  
Neal Peyron, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 589  
Porterville, CA 93258

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians  
Attn: John Valenzuela, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 221838  
Newhall, CA 91322

Matthew Gorman  
The Gorman Law Firm  
1346 E. Walnut Street, Suite 220  
Pasadena, CA 91106

Matthew Gorman  
The Gorman Law Firm  
1346 E. Walnut Street, Suite 220  
Pasadena, CA 91106

Carol Vaughn  
509 West Ward  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Joyce LoBasso  
P.O. Box 6003  
Bakersfield, CA 93386

Leadership Counsel for Justice &  
Accountability  
1527 19th Street, Suite 212  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

LIUNA  
Attn: Danny Zaragoza  
2201 "H" Street  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Mojave Foundation  
Attn: Todd Quelet  
16922 Airport Boulevard  
Mojave, CA 93501

National Public Lands News  
941 E. Ridgecrest Blvd  
Inyokern, CA 93555

Pleistocene Foundation  
2362 Lumill Street  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Raymond Kelso/  
Pleistocene Foundation  
2362 Lumill Street  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Terra-Gen Power, LLC  
Randy Hoyle  
11512 El Camino Real, Suite 370  
San Diego, CA 92130-3025

U.S. Army  
Attn: Tim Kilgannon, Region 9  
Coordinator  
Office of Strategic Integration  
721 19th Street, Room 427  
Denver, CO 80202

U.S. Air Force  
Attn: David Bell/AFCEC CZPW  
Western Regional/Leg Branch  
510 Hickman Ave., Bld 250-A  
Travis AFB, CA 94535-2729

U.S. Army  
Attn: Philip Crosbie, Chief  
Strategic Plans, S3, NTC  
P.O. Box 10172  
Fort Irwin, CA 92310

U.S. Navy  
Attn: Steve Chung  
Regional Community & Liaison  
Officer  
1220 Pacific Highway  
San Diego, CA 92132-5190

U.S. Marine Corps  
Attn: Patrick Christman  
Western Regional Environmental Officer  
Building 1164/Box 555246  
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055-5246

Congentrix Sunshine, LLC  
Rick Neff  
9405 Arrowpoint Blvd  
Charlotte, NC 28273

Terra-Gen  
Randy Hoyle, Sr. Vice Pres  
11512 El Camino Real, Suite 370  
San Diego, CA 92130

Renewal Resources Group  
Holding Company  
Rupal Patel  
113 South La Brea Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90036

Wind Stream, LLC  
Albert Davies  
1275 4th Street, No. 107  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Fotowatio Renewable Ventures  
Sean Kiernan  
44 Montgomery Street, Suite 2200  
San Francisco, CA 94104

EDP Renewables Company  
53 SW Yamhill Street  
Portland, OR 97204

PG&E  
Steven Ng, Manager  
Renewal Dev, T&D Intercon  
77 Beal Street, Room 5361  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Darren Kelly, Sr. Business Mgr  
Terra-Gen Power, LLC  
1095 Avenue of the Americas, 25th  
Floor, Ste A  
New York, NY 10036-6797

Bill Barnes, Dir of Asset Mgt  
AES Midwest Wind Gen  
P.O. Box 2190  
Palm Springs, CA 92263-2190

Recurrent Energy  
Seth Israel  
300 California Street, 8th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 92109

Wayne Mayes, Dir Tech Serv  
Iberdrola Renewables  
1125 NW Couch St, Ste 700, 7th Fl  
Portland, OR 97209

Michael Strickler, Sr Project Mgr  
Iberdrola Renewables  
1125 NW Couch St, Ste 700, 7th Fl  
Portland, OR 97209

Beyond Coal Campaign/Sierra Club  
Sarah K. Friedman  
1417 Calumet Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90026

Tehachapi Area Assoc of Realtors  
Carol Lawhon, Assoc Exe, IOM  
803 Tucker Road  
Tehachapi, CA 93561

Kelly Group  
Kate Kelly  
P.O. Box 868  
Winters, CA 95694

David Walsh  
22941 Banducci Road  
Tehachapi, CA 93561

Robert Burgett  
9261 60th Street, West  
Mojave, CA 93501

Structure Cast  
Larry Turpin, Sales Mgr  
8261 McCutchen Road  
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railroad  
740 East Carnegie Drive  
San Bernardino, CA 92408

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Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP, Director  
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100  
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2323  
Phone: (661) 862-8600  
Fax: (661) 862-8601 TTY Relay 1-800-735-2929  
Email: [planning@kerncounty.com](mailto:planning@kerncounty.com)  
Web Address: <http://kernplanning.com/>



**PLANNING AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Planning  
Community Development  
Administrative Operations

**DATE:** February 26, 2021

**TO:** Surrounding Property Owners within  
1,000 Feet of Project Boundary; and,  
Interested Parties

**FROM:** Kern County Planning and Natural  
Resources Department  
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

**SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report – Aratina Solar Project  
2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC (PP20401)**

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has determined that preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is necessary for the proposed project identified below. The purpose of this letter is to notify interested parties and surrounding property owners within 1,000 feet of the project boundaries of this determination. A copy of the Initial Study/Notice of Preparation (IS/NOP) prepared for this proposed project is available for viewing at the following Kern County website:

<https://kernplanning.com/planning/notices-of-preparation/>

The purpose of the IS/NOP is to describe the proposed project, specify the project location, and to identify the potential environmental impacts of the project so that Responsible Agencies and interested persons can provide a meaningful response related to potential environmental concerns that should be analyzed in the Environmental Impact Report.

You are invited to view the IS/NOP and submit written comments regarding this proposed project should you wish to do so. Due to the limits mandated by State law, your response must be received by **March 29, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.** Comments can be submitted to the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department, Attn: Ronelle Candia, at the address shown above or to [CandiaR@kerncounty.com](mailto:CandiaR@kerncounty.com).

A Scoping meeting will be held on **Friday, March 19, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.** In compliance with the Governor's Executive Order, the California Department of Public Health's guidelines on gatherings regarding COVID-19, and Kern County Local Emergency Declaration, the scoping meeting required by the CEQA Guidelines will be conducted online. Instructions for accessing the virtual scoping meeting will be available three (3) days before the virtual scoping meeting on the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources website at <https://kernplanning.com>.

Please be advised that any comments received after the dates listed above will still be included in the public record for this project and made available to decision makers when this project is scheduled for consideration at a public hearing. Please also be advised that you will receive an additional notice in the mail once a public hearing date is scheduled for this project. You will also be provided additional opportunities to submit comments at that time.

**PROJECT TITLE:** Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC (PP20401); ZCC 6, Map #192; ZCC 3, Map #208-5; ZCC 6, Map #208-6; ZCC 1, Map #209-1; CUP 16, Map #192; CUP 17, Map #192; CUP 3, Map #208-5; CUP 7, Map #208-6; CUP 1, Map #209-1; CUP 1, Map #209-2; GPA 6, Map #192; GPA 2, Map #192-35; GPA 3, Map #208-5; GPA 3, Map #208-6; GPA 1, Map #209-1; and GPA 1, Map #209-2.

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**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** In August 2020, the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department circulated a Notice of Preparation for the previously proposed Aratina Solar Farm Project. Since that time, the project proponent, 64NB 8ME LLC, has modified the project design to incorporate additional setbacks from the unincorporated communities of Boron and Desert Lake and submitted a revised project description to the County. The proposed project described in the Notice of Preparation/Initial Study reflects the modified project, titled the Aratina Solar Project 2.0.

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- Site 1 (up to 70 MW)
    - Conditional Use Permit No. 3, Map No. 208-5 for 299.94 acres
  - Site 2 (up to 180 MW)
    - Conditional Use Permit No. 7, Map No. 208-6 for 169.92 acres
    - Conditional Use Permit No. 1, Map No. 209-1 for 635.20 acres
  - Site 3 (up to 140 MW)
    - Conditional Use Permit No. 1, Map No. 209-2 for 620.26 acres
  - Site 4 (up to 80 MW)
    - Conditional Use Permit No. 16, Map No. 192 for 339.46 acres
  - Site 5 (up to 60 MW)
    - Conditional Use Permit No. 17, Map No. 192 for 252.31 acres
- c) General Plan Amendments to the Circulation Element of the Kern County General Plan to remove future road reservations on the section and mid-section lines within the project boundaries:
- General Plan Amendment No. 6, Map No. 192
  - General Plan Amendment No. 2, Map No. 192-35
  - General Plan Amendment No. 3, Map No. 208-5
  - General Plan Amendment No. 3, Map No. 208-6
  - General Plan Amendment No. 1, Map No. 209-1
  - General Plan Amendment No. 1, Map No. 209-2

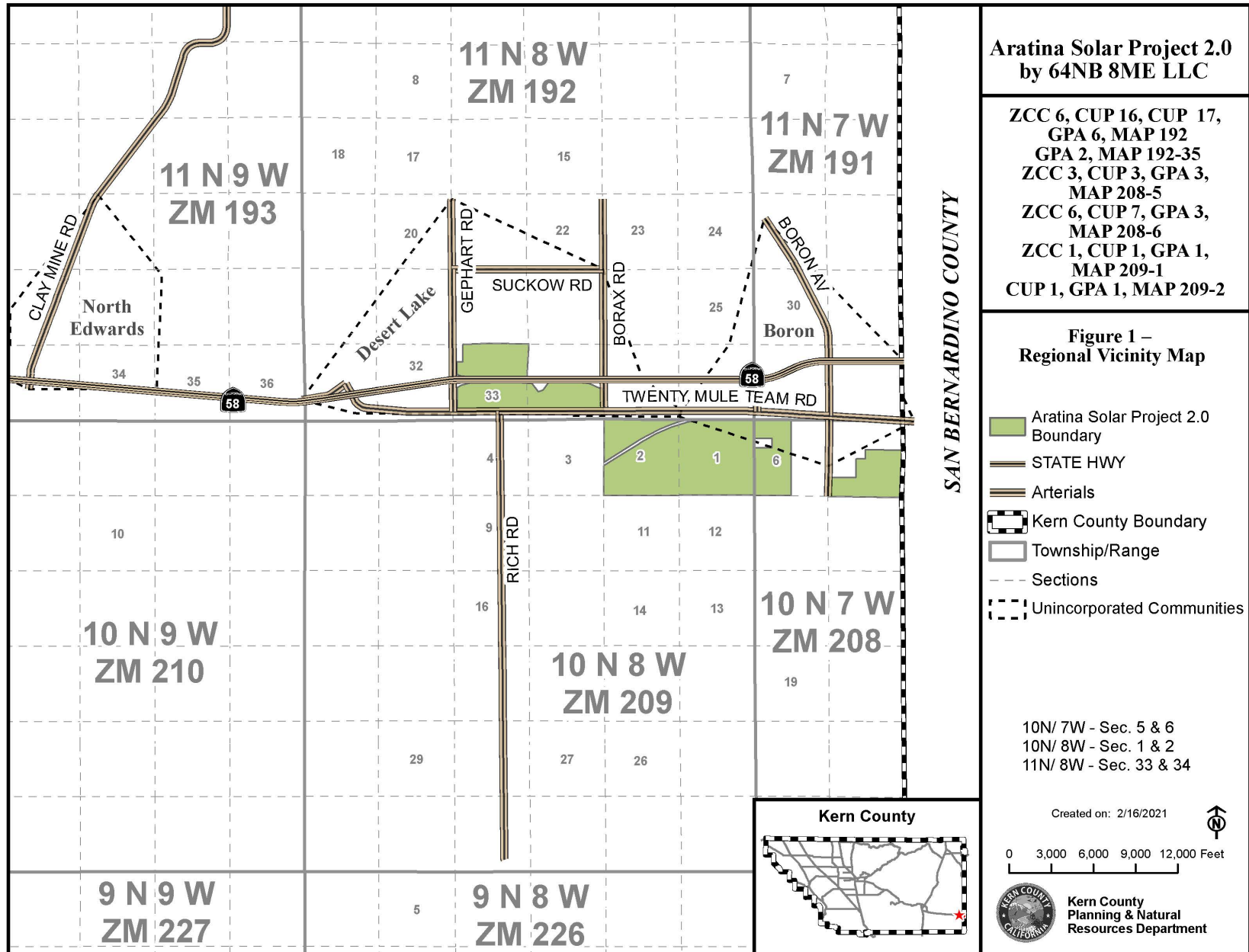
Should you have any questions regarding this project, or the Initial Study/Notice of Preparation, please feel free to contact me at (661) 862-8997 or [CandiaR@kerncounty.com](mailto:CandiaR@kerncounty.com)

Sincerely,

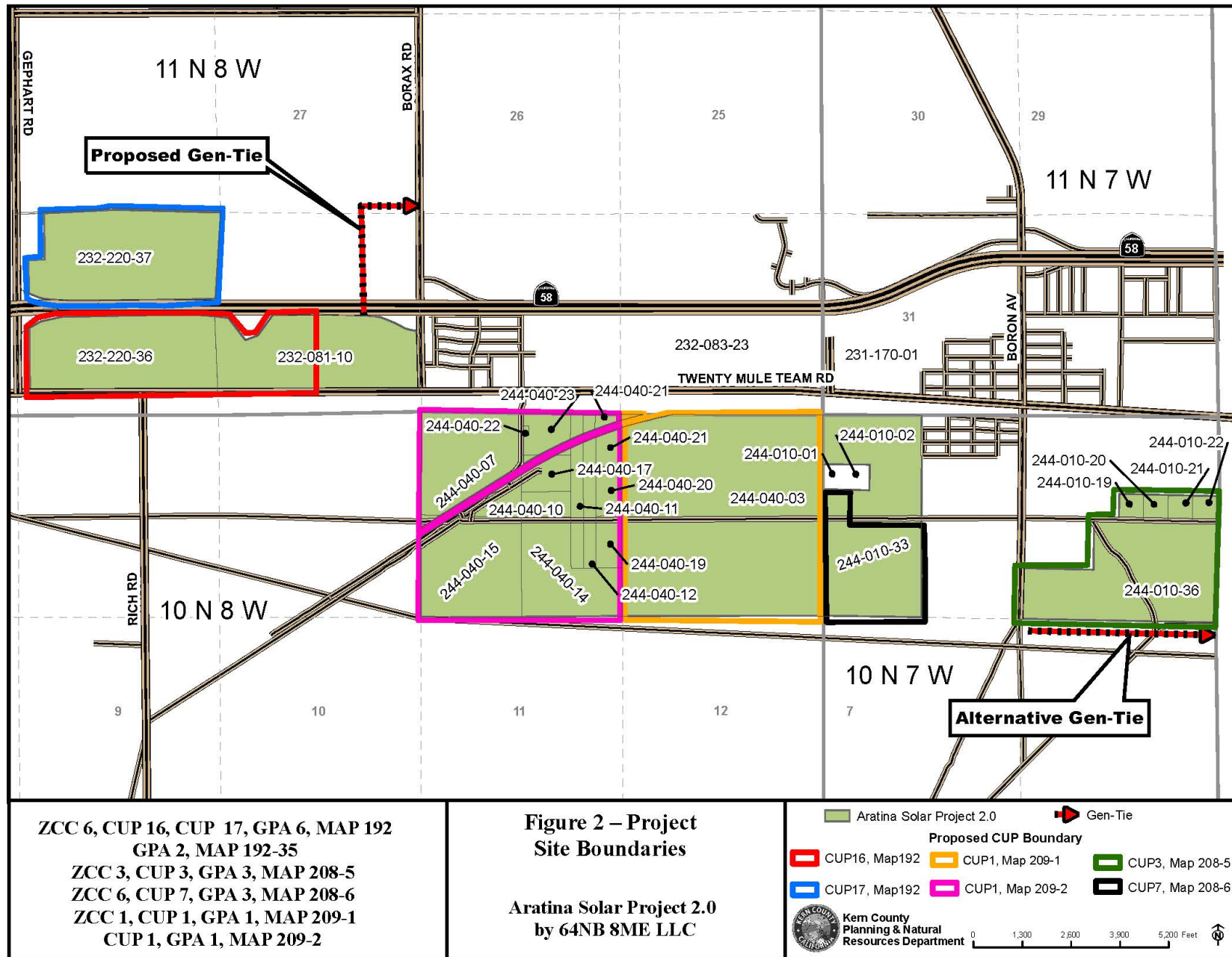


Ronelle Candia, Supervising Planner  
Advanced Planning Division

Attachments: Figure 1 -Vicinity Map  
Figure 2 – Project Site Boundaries







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GPA 6; ZC 6, CUP 16, Map 192  
WO #PP20401 (EIR - Aratina Solar)

Sc 02/18/21

231 180 07 00 8  
ALS FUND INC  
7586 WOODROW WILSON DR  
LOS ANGELES CA 90046

244 332 09 00 5  
ALVARENGA ANGELICA V  
11861 NANCY AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 171 01 00 1  
AMAYA GEORGE J & NANCY  
44 WALKER AV  
WAHIAWA HI 96786-1887

244 010 27 00 0  
ANA PROPERTIES LLC  
P O BOX 1510  
LA MIRADA CA 90637

232 081 12 00 7  
**DUP**  
ANTELOPE VALLEY E KERN  
WTR AG  
ADDRESS UNKNOWN

244 372 02 00 6  
ANTELOPE VALLEY E KERN WTR AG  
P O BOX 3176  
QUARTZ HILL CA 93534

244 010 32 00 4 **DUP**  
ANTELOPE VALLEY EAST KERN  
WATER AGENCY  
P O BOX 3176  
QUARTS HILL CA 93534

244 312 03 00 1  
ASBURY ROBERT J &  
DANIELLE  
PO BOX 402  
POTTER VALLEY CA 95469-  
0402

244 312 04 00 4  
ASCENCIO ERICK JR  
44708 FENHOLD ST  
LANCASTER CA 93535-3417

232 171 24 00 8  
ASHPAUGH LIVING TRUST  
2797 MAGNOLIA ST  
CAMARILLO CA 93012-8044

232 171 07 00 9  
**DUP**  
ASHPAUGH TRUST  
2797 MAGNOLIA ST  
CAMARILLO CA 93012-8044

244 352 09 00 1  
ATKINSON GARY D & MARIAN K  
26535 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516

244 351 09 00 4  
AUSTIN RONALD  
1337 CASIANO RD  
LOS ANGELES CA 90049

244 342 14 00 2  
BAHRS THOMAS  
PO BOX 6582  
ORANGE CA 92863-6582

232 171 27 00 7  
BAIRD CAROL J  
24147 SAGE AV  
BORON CA 93516-1331

231 190 24 00 0  
BALLESTEROS JONATHAN  
ROBERT  
26145 TWENTY MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516

232 150 02 00 1  
BANKS LISA  
12153 EL MIRAGE ST  
BORON CA 93516-1312

232 171 05 00 3  
BARNARD DORIS M  
24164 JUNIPER AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 332 15 00 2  
BEALMER WILLIAM LIVING  
TRUST  
732 PALMER ST  
NIPOMO CA 93444-9569

232 172 27 00 4  
BEARDEN ERBY R &  
MILDRED F  
24263 JOSHUA AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 341 12 00 9  
BELARDES AUDREY DELIA FAMILY  
TRUST  
26849 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516-1938

231 101 12 00 5  
BENCH SHAMMA MICHELLE  
26562 NUGENT ST  
BORON CA 93516

231 190 30 00 7  
BIRCH JARED & PRINNIS  
26095 20 MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516-1410

244 312 11 00 4  
BISHOP TIMOTHY T  
26967 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1920

232 173 09 00 9  
BLODGETT ZACHARY JOE  
12363 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516-1341

232 173 03 00 1  
BLUE GARRY & BOBBIE  
16771 ALEXANDER AV  
NORTH EDWARDS CA 93523

244 312 16 00 9  
BORON BIBLE CHURCH  
P O BOX 627  
BORON CA 93596

231 040 01 00 9  
BORON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
26962 TWENTY MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516

231 180 10 00 6  
**DUP**  
BORON COMMUNITY  
SERVICE DIST  
ADDRESS UNKNOWN

232 220 27 00 4  
BORON COMMUNITY SERVICE DIST  
P O BOX 1060  
BORON CA 93596

232 140 28 00 4  
BRANDEL CHARLES F & CINDY L  
REV TR  
2057 WEST AVE M-8  
PALMDALE CA 93551

232 182 20 00 6  
BRECKENRIDGE RUTH E  
24171 CHAPARREL AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 182 21 00 9  
BRECKENRIDGE STEVE & JAMIE  
24157 CHAPPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 040 14 00 1  
BRITTON ASSCS LLC  
PO BOX 27325  
ANAHEIM CA 92809-0110

231 190 12 00 5  
BROWN JACQUILINE S  
7475 W SAHARA AV # 100  
LAS VEGAS CA 89117

232 181 02 00 7  
BROWN MORTON EUGENE &  
PASSMORE DEBURAH  
24422 TAMARISK AV  
BORON CA 93516-1358

244 351 07 00 8  
BURGESS ROBERT E  
11945 FOOTHILL RD  
RED BLUFF CA 96080-8984

244 361 10 00 9  
BURKE SHEILA  
P O BOX 5651  
SANTA MONICA CA 90409

244 361 11 00 2  
BURKE SHEILA  
PO BOX 5651  
SANTA MONICA CA 90409

231 190 09 00 7  
BUTLER TONI LEE  
11 IRIS CT  
BODFISH CA 93205

244 331 12 00 6  
CAILLIER FAM LIV TR  
26655 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516-1934

244 331 13 00 9  
CAILLIER FAM LIV TR  
9195 SVL BOX  
VICTORVILLE CA 92395-5135

244 341 11 00 6  
CAILLIER JEREMY  
16640 ALEXANDER AV  
EDWARDS CA 93523-3526

232 182 06 00 6  
CAILLIER KAREN TR  
25831 CHERRYHILL DR  
BORON CA 93516-1202

232 172 07 00 6  
CANADA MICHAEL W & DEBORAH L  
24192 SAGE AV  
BORON CA 93516-1332

244 040 21 00 1  
CAO TIM  
7856 CARMENCITA AV  
SACRAMENTO CA 95829-9425

232 172 26 00 1  
CARBAJAL JAVIER  
24153 TAMARISK AV  
BORON CA 93516-1345

244 351 11 00 9  
CARBONARI JESSICA I  
1125 REGENTS ST  
LANCASTER CA 93534-1400

244 371 05 00 8  
CARDOZA ROBERTA A TR  
1031 NORD AV  
BAKERSFIELD CA 93314-9784

244 362 06 00 5  
CAREY JOHN W & CATHY E  
P O BOX 494  
BORON CA 93596

244 361 02 00 6  
CASTANEDA JOSE T  
P O BOX 866  
LOMA LINDA CA 92354

231 101 13 00 8  
CESENA RUPERTO R & GLORIA F  
DE  
26545 TWENTY MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516

244 332 03 00 7  
CHALTRAW IRENE P  
P O BOX 344  
BORON CA 93596

244 341 14 00 5  
CHAVEZ BRANDON DE LA TORRE  
494 MARIN ST  
TULARE CA 93274-4892

232 150 08 00 9  
COOK FAMILY TR  
24138 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 183 05 00 0  
COOK FAMILY TR  
24138 CHAPARRAL AV  
DESERT LAKE CA 93516

231 180 03 00 6  
CORE FAMILY TR  
305 SUNDOWN DR  
FARMINGTON AR 72730

232 182 05 00 3  
CORONEL WILLARDO C  
24172 JOSHUA AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 010 06 00 9  
COUNTY OF KERN  
**GENERAL  
SERVICES/PROPERTY MGT**

244 010 07 00 2  
COUNTY OF KERN  
1115 TRUXTUN AV  
BAKERSFIELD CA 93301

**DUP**

244 010 14 00 2  
**DUP**  
COUNTY OF KERN  
1115 TRUXTUN AV FLR 4  
BAKERSFIELD CA 93301

244 010 23 00 8  
COUNTY OF KERN  
1415 TRUXTUN AVE.  
BAKERSFIELD CA 93301-5215

232 182 01 00 1  
COX JEFFREY C SR  
12246 SIERRA VIEW  
BORON CA 93516

232 140 09 00 9  
CRANE FAMILY TRUST  
4640 ADMIRALTY WY STE 500  
MARINA DEL REY CA 90292

244 352 13 00 2  
CRAWFORD BRENT &  
MONICA  
P O BOX 280004  
NORTHRIDGE CA 91328-0004

232 150 38 00 6  
DABBAS EMIL & LEILA  
PO BOX 4006  
CASTAIC CA 91310-4006

244 361 12 00 5  
DAVENPORT JOHN D & JESSIE  
N  
26567 FERGUSON ST  
BORON CA 93516-1905

232 140 14 00 3  
DAVIS DALE FAMILY TRUST  
24337 WOODFORD  
TEHACHAPI RD  
TEHACHAPI CA 93561-9539

232 172 03 00 4  
DAVIS DAVID K  
24136 SAGE AV  
BORON CA 93516-1332

231 190 07 00 1  
DAVIS JIMMY R & JOAQUINA D  
27156 COTE ST  
BORON CA 93516-1621

244 010 17 00 1  
DELA CRUZ MANUEL &  
IMELDA  
2233 5 DUVALL ST  
LOS ANGELES CA 90031

231 180 06 00 5  
DENNIS DESERT LAND LLC  
ADDRESS UNKNOWN

**DUP**

232 081 05 00 7  
DESERT LAKE COMM SERVICE  
DIST  
12200 DEL ORO ST  
BORON CA 93516-1376

232 140 45 00 3  
DESERT PARTNERS PROP  
INVEST LLC  
12366 BORON AV  
BORON CA 93516-1614

232 150 19 00 1  
DESERT PARTNERS PROP INVS LLC  
PO BOX 4006  
CASTAIC CA 91310-4006

232 140 46 00 6  
**DUP**  
DESERT PARTNERS PROPERTY  
INVEST LLC  
12366 BORON AV  
BORON CA 93516-1614

231 180 04 00 9  
DLI LLC  
4825 S HIGHWAY 95 2  
FORT MOHAVE AZ 86426

244 040 07 00 1  
DORA LAND  
PO BOX 1405  
APPLE VALLEY CA 92307-0026

244 040 23 00 7  
**DUP**  
DORA LAND  
P O BOX 1405  
APPLE VALLEY CA 92307

232 140 38 00 3  
DOVER GEORGE P A & HUA-  
CHIEN HSU  
21947 JALAMA RD  
APPLE VALLEY CA 92307-  
9335

232 184 05 00 7  
DURHAM WILLIAM W  
6820 AQUEDUCT RD  
PHELAN CA 92371-7102

244 351 05 00 2  
DUVALL KUMIKO M  
P O BOX 143  
BORON CA 93596-0143

232 171 25 00 1  
EDMONDS WILLIAM R  
3601 REDLANDS DR  
BAKERSFIELD CA 93306

232 182 04 00 0  
EDMONDS WILLIAM R ET AL  
3601 REDLANDS DR  
BAKERSFIELD CA 93306-2123

232 183 06 00 3  
ELLWOOD FRAN  
24152 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 171 29 00 3  
ENGLISH JACK & GAIL  
P O BOX 114  
BORON CA 93516

232 181 23 00 8  
ENGLISH MELVIN A & ROBERTA TR  
24169 JOSHUA AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 341 07 00 5  
EPHRIAM DEBORA  
4235 126TH ST APT 105  
HAWTHORNE CA 90245

232 173 01 00 5  
**DUP**  
EPHRIAM DEBORA D  
ADDRESS UNKNOWN

244 311 04 00 7  
ESTRELLA MONICA  
26848 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516-1937

232 172 29 00 0  
EVANS KIM  
12400 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516-1343

231 180 11 00 9  
EYRE JANET L  
27151 ANDERSON ST  
BORON CA 93516-1603

231 102 06 00 5  
FAMILY DOLLAR INC  
500 VOLVO PW  
CHESAPEAKE VA 23320-1604

244 371 08 00 7  
FENNELL J C & OPAL F FAMILY  
TRUST  
26800 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1919

232 213 04 00 5  
FINDLEY MILDRED LIVING  
TRUST  
2 PAPER MILL CREEK CT  
NOVATO CA 94949

244 040 11 00 2  
FINNE JOHN  
2042 S CAPELLA CT  
COSTA MESA CA 92626-3522

244 371 09 00 0  
FIRE & GLORY INVS INC  
2601 OAKDALE RD STE H2  
MODESTO CA 95355-2256

232 083 24 00 6  
FLAGSTONE CANYON INC  
PO BOX 1823  
QUITMAN TX 75783-2823

232 172 08 00 9  
FLORES LOPEZ ERBIN & PENA PENA  
MARIA D R  
10589 SHERILL ST  
ANAHEIM CA 92804

244 342 01 00 4  
FOLLENDRE HARTWELL D &  
BRENDA J FMLY TR  
2828 WEST AVE 0  
PALMDALE CA 93551

244 331 10 00 0  
FONSECA ROSEMARY  
P O BOX 70692  
PT RICHMOND CA 94807-  
0692

232 173 04 00 4  
GALLEGOS LIVING TR  
27096 JEROME ST  
BORON CA 93516

231 101 08 00 4  
GARCIA HERNANDEZ TRINIDAD  
2410 34TH ST # D  
SANTA MONICA CA 90405-2162

232 184 02 00 8  
GARRETT JAREN WAIN  
12335 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516-1341

244 341 10 00 3  
GARTICA ANDREW  
26875 NICHOLS  
BORON CA 93516

244 351 10 00 6  
GENERATOR GROUP INC  
15445 VENTURA BL # 50  
SHERMAN OAKS CA 91403-3005

244 010 36 00 6  
GENUS L P  
2006 HIGHWAY 395  
FALLBROOK CA 92028

232 150 40 00 1  
GILL JOGINDER S  
12845 STILL CREEK CT  
RANCHO CUCAMONG CA 91739-9440

244 010 25 00 4  
GILMORE JACKIE LEE & MONICA  
36228 VILLAGE RD  
YUCAIPA CA 92399-5295

244 040 03 00 9  
GM GABRYCH FAMILY L P  
2006 HIGHWAY 395  
FALLBROOK CA 92028

231 180 08 00 1  
GOIST PAUL E  
26496 ANDERSON ST  
BORON CA 93516

244 311 14 00 6  
GOMEZ FAM TR  
629 SMITHFIELD VALLEY RD  
AMENIA NY 12501

231 190 05 00 5  
GOMEZ MARIO  
45430 GINGHAM AV  
LANCASTER CA 93535-1910

244 311 07 00 6  
GONZALEZ APOLONIO & LUCIANA  
37635 CLUNY AV  
PALMDALE CA 93550

232 081 02 00 8  
GRACE LIVING STONE LLC  
471 W CAMINO REAL AV  
ARCADIA CA 91007-7302

244 351 06 00 5  
GRANADOS GLENDA  
SUYAPA  
26549 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516-1932

232 183 02 00 1  
GREEN ANNA  
24086 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516-1302

244 010 28 00 3  
GURROLA DIONISIO & JUANA ET AL  
3511 E 56TH ST  
MAYWOOD CA 90270

232 182 23 00 5  
HAGOOD KENNETH R  
24129 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 183 04 00 7  
HALCROMB KENT A  
24124 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93596

244 352 11 00 6  
HANSON JAMES & TENA  
26509 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1912

244 311 10 00 4  
HARMON JAMES P & BONNIE M  
26887 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 181 21 00 2  
HARRALD VAN D  
P O BX 252  
BORON CA 93516

232 184 04 00 4  
HAYNES CHRISTOPHER A  
12301 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 171 23 00 5  
HAYNES DANNY S & LYNDA S  
TRUST  
20825 HACIENDA BL  
CALIFORNIA CITY CA 93505-2804

232 150 01 00 8  
HENDERSON MICHAEL  
PO BOX 342  
BORON CA 93596-0342

244 332 02 00 4  
HIKIN VLAD  
12330 OSBORNE ST # 76  
PACOIMA CA 91331-2043

244 332 07 00 9  
HIKIN VLAD  
12330 OSBORN # 76  
PACOIMA CA 91331

244 332 14 00 9  
HOBBS JAMES L & DEANNA M  
26633 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1914

244 332 01 00 1  
HOBBS JOHNNY  
26600 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516-1933

244 311 12 00 0  
HOBBS MARIE ANITA  
26861 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1918

232 171 30 00 5  
HOBBS NICHOLAS C & SIDNEY K  
12466 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516

244 332 16 00 5  
HOEGNER PHILLIP J LIV TR  
26601 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1914

232 150 33 00 1  
HOWARD DENNIS A  
1027 MCDONALD AV  
WILMINGTON CA 90744-3331

244 352 06 00 2  
HUBBARD ARIEL LORRAINE &  
DONALD P  
3900 E MAIN ST SP 28  
VENTURA CA 93003-0336

244 352 07 00 5  
**DUP**  
HUBBARD ARIEL LORRAINE &  
DONALD P  
3900 MAIN ST # 28  
VENTURA CA 93003

244 352 08 00 8  
**DUP**  
HUBBARD ARIEL LORRAINE &  
DONALD P  
3900 E MAIN ST # 28  
VENTURA CA 93003

232 081 10 00 1  
HUI JOHN  
5560 S FORT APACHE RD STE 100  
LAS VEGAS NV 89148

232 290 03 00 5  
HUN MICHAEL & NANCY  
P O BOX 250  
HEMET CA 92546

244 362 02 00 3  
**DUP**  
IRISH DAVID F & DIANE  
26620 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516

244 362 03 00 6  
IRISH DAVID F & DIANE M  
26620 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 150 03 00 4  
IRVING CYNTHIA A  
P O BOX 446  
BORON CA 93596

232 290 08 00 0  
IRVING DEBBIE LYNN  
24301 TWENTY MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516

232 182 19 00 4  
J 4 PROP GROUP LLC  
4001 N DASHWOOD PL  
MERIDIAN ID 83646-9077

232 172 06 00 3  
**DUP**  
J4 PROP GROUP LLC  
4001 N DASHWOOD PL  
MERIDIAN ID 83646-9077

244 331 02 00 7  
JACKSON FAMILY TRUST  
26596 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1913

231 180 13 00 5  
JAGANNATHAN THIRUPPATHI &  
SRIDEVI TR  
124 N TUMBLEWEED TL  
AUSTIN TX 78733-3221

232 172 04 00 7  
JENNINGS BOBBY G &  
PATRICIA L TRUST  
24150 SAGE AV  
BORON CA 93516-1332

244 332 08 00 2  
JESUS NAME TABERNACLE UTD  
PENT CH  
PO BOX 488  
BORON CA 93596-0488

232 150 41 00 4  
JJJ TRUCK WASH LLC  
12845 STILL CREEK CT  
RANCHO CUCAMONG CA 91739-9440

232 213 01 00 6  
JOB BROCK L & CRYSTAL L  
24300 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 181 01 00 4  
JOB JEREMEH & MICHELLE  
24336 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516-1308

232 213 03 00 2  
JOB JEREMEH JUSTYN &  
MICHELLE LYNN  
24336 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516-1304

244 311 08 00 9  
JOHN STREET TR  
12556 SUGAR ST  
BORON CA 93516-1723

231 090 29 00 6  
JOSHUA PARK LLC  
12223 HIGHLAND AV  
RANCHO CUCAMONG CA  
91739-2574

231 190 29 00 5  
JUDD ROBERT L JR & HILDEGARD  
26109 TWENTY MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516

244 361 01 00 3  
JUSTINIANO VELEZ & ANA LIDIA  
BARBOSA  
26500 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 181 24 00 1  
KAPUSTA ALISON M  
24155 JOSHUA AV  
BORON CA 93516

231 101 03 00 9  
KARRIS PROP INC  
42263 W 50TH ST # 107  
QUARTZ HILL CA 93536

231 190 01 00 3  
KELLER GAGE SHELLEY LIV TR  
PO BOX 626  
BORON CA 93596-0626

232 183 10 00 4  
KELLEY CHARLES & TABITHA  
24218 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 332 13 00 6  
KELLY SHOUBE FAMILY TRUST  
PO BOX 91  
BORON CA 93596-0091

244 352 10 00 3  
KENNEDY CHARLES D & MELBA I  
26501 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1912

232 140 40 00 8  
KIBEL ROBBIE JEAN SURIVORS  
TRUST  
4389 TAYLOR HALL LN  
ADAMS TN 37010-9181

231 101 07 00 1  
KIM CHONG SU  
12025 GARDNER  
BORON CA 93516

232 220 36 00 0  
KING ILLY FAMILY TRUST  
1102 VIA HISPANO  
NEWBURY PARK CA 91320-6761

244 341 08 00 8  
KIRBY JAMES A & MARY LOU  
27809 PROSPECT  
BORON CA 93516

244 362 09 00 4  
KOMETAS BARBARA P  
35530 DESERT ROSE WY  
LAKE ELSINORE CA 92532-2914

231 190 06 00 8  
KRIGBAUM DOMINICA Y  
227 ASTI WY  
MADERA CA 93638

232 183 03 00 4  
KRING ROGER A & ANGELA  
24100 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 173 05 00 7  
KRIZAUSKAS JOHN  
12443 SIERRA VIEW  
BORON CA 93516

244 352 01 00 7  
KRIZAUSKAS JOHN  
26502 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516-1931

232 140 15 00 6  
KRUTOFF EDWIN D FAMILY  
TRUST  
1133 9TH ST # 101  
SANTA MONICA CA 90403

232 172 25 00 8  
KULIKOFF JULIEANN  
8537 SATINWOOD AV  
CALIFORNIA CITY CA 93505-3810

244 331 08 00 5  
LAGUNA JESSENIA D G  
27095 COTE ST  
BORON CA 93516-1618

232 172 24 00 5  
LAKSHMIPATHY ARUN  
10645 N TATUM BL # C200  
PHOENIX AZ 85028-3053

231 190 17 00 0  
LANDAKER INVESTMENTS LLC  
16510 RIDGE FIELD DR  
RIVERSIDE CA 92503-0241

231 190 36 00 5  
LANDSGAARD ERIC F & DEBBIE L  
FAM TR  
PO BOX 167  
ROSAMOND CA 93560-0167

244 333 01 00 8  
LANGE JERRY A  
7714 N STODDARD AV  
KANSAS CITY MO 64152-2193



232 182 02 00 4  
LASEINDE OLUMUYIWA B  
24128 JOSHUA AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 183 01 00 8  
LEE JOB BROCC & CRYSTAL  
4001 N DASHWOOD PL  
MERIDIAN ID 83646-9077

232 081 04 00 4  
LEE REALCORP  
466 FOOTHILL BL # 317  
LA CANADA FLINT CA 91011-3518

244 010 31 00 1  
LENNOX FAMILY TRUST  
1519 RUBENSTEIN AV  
CARDIFF CA 92007

244 352 04 00 6  
LEYENDECKER CHARLES F  
26578 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516-1931

231 190 35 00 2  
LIMA ARACELY  
PO BOX 836  
MOJAVE CA 93502-0836

232 182 17 00 8  
LIMA SAUL  
8019 WHITEOAK AV  
RESEDA CA 91335

231 190 20 00 8  
LIZARRAGA MARIA ALICIA  
PO BOX 36  
MOJAVE CA 93502-0036

231 190 33 00 6  
LONG ROBERTA KAY  
9392 LUDERS AV  
GARDEN GROVE CA 92844-2356

244 352 12 00 9  
LOPEZ JOSE & ANA  
20348 89TH ST  
CALIFORNIA CITY CA 93505

244 361 13 00 8  
LOPEZ LA HOMA LIVING TR  
P O BOX 257  
BORON CA 93596

232 181 20 00 9  
LOPEZ MARK L  
24211 JOSHUA AV  
BORON CA 93516

231 101 10 00 9  
LYON JAMES & TERRI  
26540 NUDGENT ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 182 08 00 2  
LYON MASHIEL & JAMES  
24224 JOSHUA AV  
BORON CA 93516-1323

244 342 11 00 3  
MAC LEAN DANIELLE &  
PEREZ JOSE  
26979 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516-1940

232 183 09 00 2  
MADERA ELIZABETH M &  
INTERIANO ANGEL A C  
24194 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 342 15 00 5  
MADRIGAL FELIPE & MARIA  
Z  
418 E 82ND ST  
LOS ANGELES CA 90003

232 184 01 00 5  
MATEIRO SHANIE L  
12349 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516-1341

244 311 06 00 3  
MICHAELS MICHAEL  
9668 MILLIKEN AV STE 104  
RANCHO CUCAMONG CA 91730-6136

244 342 02 00 7  
MILLER JAMES LEE  
26934 JESSIE ST  
BORON CA 93516-1911

232 150 04 00 7  
MILLER WILLIAM T & BETTY J  
27095 JEROME ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 150 18 00 8  
MINE MINERAL & PROCESSING  
WORKERS BLDG ASSN  
24001 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 172 22 00 9  
MOESSNER TODD & MARION  
16948 HILLCREST AV  
EDWARDS CA 93523

244 332 06 00 6  
MONTES MARCELLA  
991 W BLAINE ST # 9  
RIVERSIDE CA 92507-3705

244 331 11 00 3  
MONTOKA ALFONSO & JUANA  
29708 SILVER ST  
CASTAIC CA 91384

244 363 01 00 7  
MORIDI KAMBIZ FAM TR  
17458 BLUEWATER CT  
RIVERSIDE CA 92503

231 190 32 00 3  
MORRIS CLAUDE C  
26967 ANDERSON ST  
BORON CA 93516-1509

232 181 07 00 2  
MORRIS FAMILY TRUST  
24196 TAMARISK AV  
BORON CA 93516-1346

244 331 17 00 1  
MORRIS MAUREEN C  
PO BOX 414  
BORON CA 93596

231 190 11 00 2  
MUNOZ RANDY & MELISSA  
JANE  
26401 20 MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516-1406

231 101 09 00 7  
NAYERY RANDY  
26586 NUGENT ST  
BORON CA 93516

244 332 05 00 3  
NGUYEN MIMI A  
7701 DUQUESNE PL  
WESTMINSTER CA 92683

244 341 13 00 2  
NGUYEN TRANG THUY THI  
14616 S DENKER AV  
GARDENA CA 90247-2815

244 010 30 00 8  
NGUYEN YEN MY  
107 E MELBOURNE AV  
SILVER SPRING MD 20901

232 083 21 00 7  
NORTON LILLIAN M  
PO BOX 858  
PALO CEDRO CA 96073-0858

244 362 01 00 0  
ORELLANA FRANCISCO  
ANTONIO  
11850 PATRICIA AV  
BORON CA 93516-1922

244 010 05 00 6  
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC CO  
1 MARKET PZ STE 400  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105-1004

244 010 11 00 3  
PACIFIC TEL & TEL CO  
140 NEW MONTGOMERY ST # 818  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105-3705

244 010 04 00 3  
PAK JACQUELINE H TR  
10830 MARIETTA AV  
CULVER CITY CA 90232-3714

231 190 16 00 7  
PATEL HASMUKH B & WIBHA H REV  
LIV TR  
26881 TWENTY MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516

244 361 14 00 1  
PEREZ JOSE LUIS & LOURDES  
20529 FERGUSON ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 150 09 00 2  
PEREZ SARA ANGEL  
6828 WUNDERLIN AV  
SAN DIEGO CA 92114

232 182 18 00 1  
PETREY AUSTIN B  
24209 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 010 19 00 7  
PIETRANGELO LINDA LIVING TRUST  
1705 LAMPLIGHTER LN  
LAS VEGAS NV 89104-3722

232 172 28 00 7  
PINA BRAULIO & NARCILE  
24125 TAMARISK AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 184 09 00 9  
PINA BRAULIO SR & NARCILE  
24125 TAMARISK AV  
BORON CA 93516-1345

231 090 25 00 4  
PLANET BORON LLC  
1752 E AVENUE J # 256  
LANCASTER CA 93535

232 172 01 00 8  
POE DENISE  
12446 SIERRA VIEW  
BORON CA 93516

244 311 02 00 1  
POTTS BENTON TRUST  
12555 SUGAR ST  
BORON CA 93516-1722

244 331 18 00 4  
POTTS ELANIE ROSELL  
PO BOX 316  
BORON CA 93596-0316

232 171 04 00 0  
PRICE ELMER RAY TR  
24150 JUNIPER AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 182 24 00 8  
RATLIFF ALLEN  
12200 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516-1340

232 184 08 00 6  
RATLIFF DAVID & BERZINS DORLINE  
12221 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516-1339

231 190 10 00 9  
RATLIFF TRAVIS E & BROOKE  
G  
24452 SAGE AV  
BORON CA 93516-1338

244 311 11 00 7  
REAL EST PROBLEM SOLVERS CORP  
1214 N HOLLY ST  
ANAHEIM CA 92801-1623

244 362 07 00 8  
REAL EST PROBLEM SOLVERS CORP  
11815 NANCY AV  
BORON CA 93516-1942

232 171 06 00 6  
REAL ESTATE PROBLEM  
SOLVERS CORP  
1214 N HOLLY ST  
ANAHEIM CA 92801-1623

232 171 02 00 4  
REID BEATRICE  
24122 JUNIPER AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 361 07 00 1  
RENAUD SHARON S  
26592 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516

231 101 01 00 3  
RICHARDS FMLY TR  
18700 STATON AV  
CASTRO VALLEY CA 94546

244 332 10 00 7  
RICHARDS RICK L  
26727 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1916

244 361 04 00 2  
RICHARDS ROY L  
13657 FLINT ST  
EDWARDS CA 93523-3502

244 361 03 00 9  
RICHARDS ROY LEE & HEIDI  
DAWNELLE  
26550 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1913

231 180 09 00 4  
RICHARDSON GEORGE E JR &  
NANCY DIANE  
16761 FOOTHILL AV  
NORTH EDWARDS CA 93523

232 181 25 00 4  
RICHARDSON NANCY D & GEORGE  
E  
16761 FOOTHILL  
NORTH EDWARDS CA 93523

231 190 23 00 7  
RIDDLE JOHN W &  
JACQUELINE J  
27110 NUDGENT ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 183 11 00 7  
RIDDLE LAMOUR & GEORGIA  
436 DAKAR ST  
HENDERSON NV 89015

232 213 06 00 1  
RIDDLE NANCY J  
25461 PARAMOUNT DR  
TEHACHAPI CA 93561-6504

244 331 01 00 4  
RIVERS CONSTANCE  
11931 BORON AV  
BORON CA 93516-1903

231 190 08 00 4  
ROBERSON MAXINE S TRUST  
11 IRIS CT  
BODFISH CA 93205-9677

232 181 03 00 0  
ROBERSON TERRY LEE  
24140 TAMARISK AV  
BORON CA 93516

244 341 09 00 1  
ROBERTS LEE W III & STACY L  
8264 GENERAL PULLER HW  
TOPPING VA 23169

244 342 10 00 0  
ROBERTSON JACOB  
26997 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516

244 311 09 00 2  
ROBERTSON LUCAS  
25836 CHERRYHILL DR  
BORON CA 93516

244 362 11 00 9  
ROBERTSON LUCAS  
12686 CLAYMINE RD APT 2  
EDWARDS CA 93523-3208

232 183 13 00 3  
ROCHA GUSTAVO  
11572 KATHY LN  
GARDEN GROVE CA 92840-1719

244 332 04 00 0  
ROLYAS FAMILY TRUST  
16956 DESERITA AV  
NORTH EDWARDS CA 93525

232 171 28 00 0  
ROLYAS TRUST  
16956 DESERITA AV  
NORTH EDWARDS CA 93523

232 181 08 00 5  
ROQUEMORE SHAWN  
24210 TAMARISK AV  
BORON CA 93516-1348

232 173 02 00 8  
ROQUEMORE TR  
12485 SIERRA VIEW  
BORON CA 93516

231 190 31 00 0  
ROSALES MARIA  
22709 SHERMAN WY  
WEST HILLS CA 91307-2333

232 140 17 00 2  
ROSOFF KAY K TR  
35189 BEACH RD  
CAPSTRANO BCH CA 92624

232 213 02 00 9  
ROSS FAMILY TR  
24304 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93596

231 101 05 00 5  
RUBIO ELEAZAR SR  
26596 NUDGENT ST  
BORON CA 93516-1530

244 331 09 00 8  
RUONA MARTTI  
PO BOX 573  
BORON CA 93596-0573

232 184 03 00 1  
RUSSELL AUSTIN LEE  
12321 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516-1341

232 181 31 00 1  
SALAS MACLOVIO  
24164 TAMARISK AV  
BORON CA 93516-1346

231 103 01 00 7  
SANTA FE  
ADDRESS UNKNOWN

**DUP**

232 173 07 00 3  
SAVAGE WOODIE F  
12415 SIERRA VIEW  
DESERT LAKE CA 93516

244 361 09 00 7  
SCHMIDT KAREN L  
P O BOX 256  
BORON CA 93516

232 181 27 00 0  
SCHROEDER FAM TR  
360 KINLEY ST  
LA HABRA CA 90631-4313

232 182 07 00 9  
SEARCY AARON G  
24210 JOSHUA ST  
BORON CA 93516

231 190 03 00 9  
SEARCY FAMILY TR  
P O BOX 584  
BORON CA 93596

232 173 08 00 6  
SEWELL JANICE LIV TR  
12401 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 140 29 00 7  
SHAHER CASE 2007 FAMILY TR  
6989 ELIZABETH LAKE RD  
LEONA VALLEY CA 93551-7576

244 010 15 00 5  
SHEN FAMILY TRUST  
1650 BOREL PL STE 105  
SAN MATEO CA 94402-3540

231 190 18 00 3  
SMITH ELBERT L H TR  
4491 E RIDGE GATE RD  
ANAHEIM CA 92807

232 183 12 00 0  
SMITH JAMES  
24242 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 150 06 00 3  
SMITH NANCY RUTH  
24147 TWENTY MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516

232 171 26 00 4  
SMITH NICHOLAS T  
24159 SAGE ST  
BORON CA 93516

244 362 08 00 1  
SMITH WILMA E  
26707 FERGUSON ST  
BORON CA 93516-1907

244 372 03 00 9  
SOLIS FORTUNATO B  
1802 ONTARIO AV  
NIAGARA FALLS NY 14305-2960

244 351 02 00 3  
SOWERSBY ROGER L  
2100 VICTORIA  
FULLERTON CA 92631

244 351 03 00 6  
SOWERSBY ROGER L TR  
2100 VICTORIA  
FULLERTON CA 92631

231 180 02 00 3  
SPARKS FLORENCE J IRREV  
TRUST  
44439 E 3RD ST  
LANCASTER CA 93535-2506

232 181 32 00 4  
SPEARS TRISHA  
43821 REMBRANDT ST  
LANCASTER CA 93535-4274

244 352 03 00 3  
STARTUP DONALD W  
4614 S 300TH PL  
AUBURN WA 98001-2929

232 184 07 00 3  
STOGNER SCOTT W & TERRI L  
12235 SIERRA VIEW ST  
BORON CA 93516-1339

244 010 01 00 4  
SU ROSA CHEN  
18207 CHARLTON LN  
NORTHRIDGE CA 91326-3617

244 332 11 00 0  
SWIGER ROBERT & MAURINE D  
PO BOX 955  
GLENDALE OR 97442-0955

244 311 05 00 0  
TANG MICHAEL M  
9851 BOLSA AV SP 139  
WESTMINSTER CA 92683-6657

244 311 01 00 8  
THOMAS CECILIA  
12652 DAISY ST  
BORON CA 93516

244 312 14 00 3  
THOMASSON NADINE  
26933 JOHN ST  
BORON CA 93516-1920

244 351 12 00 2  
TIETZE NORMAN A  
11919 PATRICIA AV  
BORON CA 93516

231 101 11 00 2  
TIMBOL RODOLFO R & ELIZABETH C  
2505 ANTHEM VILLAGE DR E573  
HENDERSON NV 89072

244 312 06 00 0  
TOVEG ISAAC  
3166 CADET CT  
LOS ANGELES CA 90068-1854

232 140 20 00 0  
TROESTER PAUL C  
800 MEADOW LN  
STORM LAKE IA 50588-2755

232 140 19 00 8  
TROESTER TERRY  
800 MEADOW LN  
STORM LAKE IA 50588-2755

232 140 21 00 3  
TROESTER TERRY P  
800 MEADOW LN  
STORM LAKE IA 50588-2755

**DUP**

244 312 07 00 3  
TROTH MICHAEL  
26866 JAMISON RD  
BORON CA 93516

232 183 07 00 6  
TRUMBULL RITA  
25824 CHERRYHILL DR  
BORON CA 93516-1203

231 190 37 00 8  
TURAJSKI DAVID  
4541 CAMBURY DR  
LA PALMA CA 90623-1918

244 361 15 00 4  
TURNER THOMAS H & SHEILA  
M  
26501 FERGUSON ST  
BORON CA 93516-1905

232 081 11 00 4  
U S A  
450 GOLDEN GATE AVE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

232 081 15 00 6  
U S BORAX INC  
4700 DAYBREAK PARKWAY  
SOUTH JORDAN UT 84095-5120

244 362 10 00 6  
UMSTED FAMILY TRUST  
P O BOX 5  
BORON CA 93596

232 140 39 00 6  
UNIVERSAL EXPOSURE INC  
351 VERANO DR  
OJAI CA 93023

232 181 26 00 7  
VALDEZ HENRY FLORES & JODI  
RENEE  
24127 JOSHUA AV  
BORON CA 93516

232 173 06 00 0  
VAN DE VELDE DON TR  
6741 LINCOLN AV SP 124  
BUENA PARK CA 90620-5649

232 172 02 00 1  
VAN HORN ELMER EUGENE REV  
TRUST  
24122 SAGE AV  
BORON CA 93516-1332

232 213 05 00 8  
VILLAGOMEZ JUANA  
15420 COVELLO ST  
VAN NUYS CA 91406-3309

244 300 09 00 2  
WANG CHEN & VICTORIA R  
1650 BOREL PL STE 105  
SAN MATEO CA 94402-3540

244 300 10 00 4  
WANG CHEN & VICTORIA R  
2075 WOODSIDE RD  
REDWOOD CITY CA 94061

232 150 43 00 0  
WAY SHAUNNA  
24144 JOSHUA ST  
BORON CA 93516

232 171 03 00 7  
WELBORN WENDY  
26387 20 MULE TEAM RD  
BORON CA 93516-1407

232 184 06 00 0  
WELBORN WENDY  
12249 SIERRA ST  
BORON CA 93516

244 010 29 00 6  
WGLANDS LLC  
PO BOX 1084  
HIGHLAND PARK IL 60035-7084

232 290 11 00 8  
WILSON FAMILY TRUST  
12165 DEL ORO ST  
BORON CA 93516-1357

232 183 14 00 6  
WIXOM LYNDON  
24264 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516-1306

231 090 27 00 0  
WOLOWIEC MICHAEL  
44453 FOXTON AV  
LANCASTER CA 93535-3044

244 010 26 00 7  
WON YONG HWA  
1947 PEACEFUL HILLS RD  
WALNUT CA 91789-4022

231 190 13 00 8  
WOOD SCOTT  
28005 S 855 P R  
KENNEWICK WA 99338-1180

244 371 03 00 2  
WYCLIFFE SEAN  
11411 SILVERADO WY  
YUCAIPA CA 92399

244 332 12 00 3  
YOAKIM SAMIR J  
2345 EVENING PRIMROSE AV  
PALMDALE CA 93551-4184

232 183 15 00 9  
YOUNGBLOOD ALLEN  
12183 EL MIRAGE ST  
BORON CA 93516-1312

232 182 22 00 2  
ZUCCONI LUANNE  
24143 CHAPARRAL AV  
BORON CA 93516-1303

244 312 05 00 7  
ALDABA JOSE R  
29962 NICHOLS ST  
BORON CA 93516

NICK JENSEN, PHD  
LEAD CONSERVATION SCIENTIST  
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
2707 K STREET, SUITE 1  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816

ISABELLA LANGONE  
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT  
SOCIETY  
2517 GLENBROOK DRIVE  
LODI, CA 95242

DAVID EYRE  
12131 BORON AVE.  
BORON, CA 93516

DONNA FORT  
24330 TAMARISK AVE  
BORON, CA 93516

MILLIE ASHPAUGH  
24183 SAGE AVE.  
BORON, CA 93516

PATRICIA M. EYRE  
11946 BORON AVE.  
BORON, CA.93516

CHARLES & MELBA KENNEDY  
26501 JOHN STREET  
BORON, CA 93516

JAMES & TENA HANSON  
26509 JOHN STREET  
BORON, CA 93516

## Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P. O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613

For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH # \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Title:** Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC

Lead Agency: Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department

Contact Person: Ronelle Candia

Mailing Address: 2700 "M" Street Suite 100

Phone: (661) 862-8997

City: Bakersfield

Zip: 93301

County: Kern

**Project Location:** County: Kern City/Nearest Community: Boron, Desert Lake Community

Cross Streets: Straddling State Route 58 between Gephart Road on the west and the San Bernardino County line on the east. Zip Code: 93501

Lat. / Long.: 34°59'31.59" N / 117° 40'36.62"W

Total Acres: 2,554

Assessor's Parcel No.: Multiple

Section: Multiple

Twp.: Multiple

Range: Multiple

Base: SBB&M

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: SR 58

Waterways: N/A

Airports: \_\_\_\_\_

Railways: BNSF

Schools: West Boron Elementary School

### Document Type:

CEQA: ☒ NOP  
☐ Early Cons  
☐ Neg Dec  
☐ Mit Neg Dec

☐ Draft EIR  
☐ Supplement/Subsequent EIR  
(Prior SCH No.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

NEPA: ☐ NOI  
☐ EA  
☐ Draft EIS  
☐ FONSI

Other: ☐ Joint Document  
☐ Final Document  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Local Action Type:

☐ General Plan Update  
☒ General Plan Amendment  
☐ General Plan Element  
☐ Community Plan

☐ Specific Plan  
☐ Master Plan  
☐ Planned Unit Development  
☐ Site Plan

☒ Rezone  
☐ Prezone  
☒ Use Permit  
☐ Land Division (Subdivision, etc.)

☐ Annexation  
☐ Redevelopment  
☐ Coastal Permit  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Development Type:

☐ Residential: Units \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Office: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Commercial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Industrial: Sq.ft. \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Employees \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Educational \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Recreational \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Water Facilities: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Transportation: Type \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Mining: Mineral \_\_\_\_\_  
☒ Power: Type Solar PV MW 530  
☐ Waste Treatment: Type \_\_\_\_\_ MGD \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Hazardous Waste: Type \_\_\_\_\_  
☒ Other: Battery Energy Storage up to 600 MW

### Project Issues Discussed in Document:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetic/Visual	<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation/Parks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vegetation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Land	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood Plain/Flooding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools/Universities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Land/Fire Hazard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Septic Systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Supply/Groundwater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archeological/Historical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geologic/Seismic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sewer Capacity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetland/Riparian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minerals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildlife
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Zone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Growth Inducing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drainage/Absorption	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing Balance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic/Hazardous	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic/Jobs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Services/Facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Circulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cumulative Effects
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>GHG, Wildfire, Tribal Cultural Resources, Energy</u>			

### Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Undeveloped Land. Zoning: A-1 (Limited Agriculture), M-1 (Light Industrial), R-1 (Low-Density Residential) *Kern County General Plan: 7.1 (Light Industrial); 7.3 (Heavy Industrial); 8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size); 8.5 (Resource Management (Minimum 20 acres)); and 8.5/2.5 ((Resource Management (Minimum 20 acres)/Flood Hazard)*

### Project Description:

In August 2020, the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department circulated a Notice of Preparation for the previously proposed Aratina Solar Farm Project. Since that time, the project proponent, 64NB 8ME LLC, has modified the project design to incorporate additional setbacks from the unincorporated communities of Boron and Desert Lake and submitted a revised project description to the County. The proposed project described in the Notice of Preparation/Initial Study reflects the modified project, titled the Aratina Solar Project 2.0.

The Aratina Solar Project 2.0, as proposed by 64NB 8ME LLC, would develop a photovoltaic solar facility and associated infrastructure necessary to generate up to 530 megawatt-alternating current (MW-AC) of renewable energy, including up to 600 megawatts of energy storage, on approximately 2,317 acres of privately-owned land. The project site consists of five sites (Sites 1 through 5) located on 22 parcels. The project would be supported by a 230-kilovolt (kV) gen-tie overhead and/or underground electrical transmission line(s) originating from one or more on-site substations and terminating at the Southern California Edison's Holgate Substation to the north. Alternatively, the project may interconnect at Southern California Edison's Kramer Substation to the east, located in San Bernardino County via an up to 230kV transmission line located within an Edwards Air Force Base utility corridor. The project's permanent facilities would include, but are not limited to, service roads, a power collection system, inverter stations, transformer systems, transmission lines, electrical switchyards, project substations, energy (battery) storage system, and operations and maintenance facilities.

Implementation of the project as proposed would require:

Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC (PP20401); ZCC 6, Map #192; ZCC 3, Map #208-5; ZCC 6, Map #208-6; ZCC 1, Map #209-1; CUP 16, Map #192; CUP 17, Map #192; CUP 3, Map #208-5; CUP 7, Map #208-6; CUP 1, Map #209-1; CUP 1, Map #209-2; GPA 6, Map #192; GPA 2, Map #192-35; GPA 3, Map #208-5; GPA 3, Map #208-6; GPA 1, Map #209-1; and GPA 1, Map #209-2.



Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".

If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Air Resources Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Emergency Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S California Highway Patrol	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction
<input type="checkbox"/> CalFire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Parks & Recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Caltrans District # <u>6 &amp; 9</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Caltrans Division of Aeronautics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Public Utilities Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning (Headquarters)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Regional WQCB # <u>Lahontan</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy	<input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers and Mtns Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board	<input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Conservation, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S State Lands Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
<input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Energy Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Fish & Game Region # <u>Fresno</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Food & Agriculture, Department of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Toxic Substances Control, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Water Resources, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S Integrated Waste Management Board	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Native American Heritage Commission	

**Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)**

Starting Date February 26, 2021 Ending Date March 29, 2021

**Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):**

Consulting Firm: _____	Applicant: <u>64 NB 8ME LLC c/o 8minute Solar Energy</u>
Address: _____	Address: <u>5455 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2010</u>
City/State/Zip: _____	City/State/Zip: <u>Los Angeles, CA 90036</u>
Contact: _____	Phone: <u>(323) 525-0900</u>
Phone: _____	

**Signature of Lead Agency Representative:** /s/ **Date:** 02/26/2021  
Ronelle Candia, Supervising Planner

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

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## **NOTICE OF PREPARATION/INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST**

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### **Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC**

Zone Change Case No. 6, Map No. 192  
Zone Change Case No. 3, Map No. 208-5  
Zone Change Case No. 6, Map No. 208-6  
Zone Change Case No. 1, Map No. 209-1  
Conditional Use Permit No. 16, Map No. 192  
Conditional Use Permit No. 17, Map No. 192  
Conditional Use Permit No. 3, Map No. 208-5  
Conditional Use Permit No. 7, Map No. 208-6  
Conditional Use Permit No. 1, Map No. 209-1  
Conditional Use Permit No. 1, Map No. 209-2  
General Plan Amendment No. 6, Map No. 192 (Circulation)  
General Plan Amendment No. 2, Map No. 192-35 (Circulation)  
General Plan Amendment No. 3, Map No. 208-5 (Circulation)  
General Plan Amendment No. 3, Map No. 208-6 (Circulation)  
General Plan Amendment No. 1, Map No. 209-1 (Circulation)  
General Plan Amendment No. 1, Map No. 209-2 (Circulation)

PLN – 19-01431  
(PP20401)

---

#### **LEAD AGENCY:**



Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department  
2700 M Street, Suite 100  
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2370

February 2021

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# INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department will initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Aratina Solar Project 2.0 in the unincorporated area of southeastern Kern County, California.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In August 2020, the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department circulated a Notice of Preparation for the previously proposed Aratina Solar Farm Project. Since that time, the project proponent, 64NB 8ME LLC, has modified the project design to incorporate additional setbacks from the unincorporated communities of Boron and Desert Lake and submitted a revised project description to the County. The proposed project described in this Notice of Preparation/Initial Study reflects the modified project, titled the Aratina Solar Project 2.0.

### 1. Project Description

#### 1.1. Project Location

The proposed Aratina Solar Project 2.0 (proposed project) is a proposal by 64NB 8ME LLC (project proponent) to construct and operate a photovoltaic (PV) solar facility and associated infrastructure to generate up to 530 megawatts (MW) of renewable electrical energy and up to 600 MW of energy storage on approximately 2,317 acres of privately-owned land. The proposed project site is located in the Mojave Desert within unincorporated Kern County, straddling State Route 58 between Gephart Road on the west and the San Bernardino County line on the east (*Figure 1, Regional Vicinity Map*). Access to the site would be from Gephart Road, Borax Road, Boron Avenue, and/or 20 Mule Team Road.

The site is located within Sections 5 and 6, Township 10N, Range 7W; Sections 1 and 2, Township 10N, 8W; and Sections 33 and 35, Township 11N, Range 8W, San Bernardino Base Meridian. The project site is in the vicinity of the unincorporated communities of Boron and Desert Lake and north and east of the boundaries of Edwards Air Force Base. The U.S. Borax open pit mine and refinery are located approximately two miles north of the project site.

The project boundaries are shown on *Figure 2, Project Site Boundaries*, which also shows the proposed transmission line alignments being considered. From the proposed project's substation(s), power would be transmitted to the Southern California Edison (SCE) Holgate Substation via up to 230 kV overhead and/or underground line(s). Alternatively, the proposed project may transmit its power to the SCE Kramer Substation located in San Bernardino County via a transmission line located within an Edwards Air Force Base.

As shown on *Figure 3, Aerial Photograph* and *Figures 4A to 4M, Site Plans*, the project area is divided into five sites (Sites 1 through 5) and is comprised of 22 privately owned parcels. *Table 1, Project Assessor Parcel Numbers, Existing Map Codes, Existing and Proposed Zoning, and Acreage*, on the next page identifies the 22 individual parcels by site, their respective assessor parcel numbers (APN), acreages, and existing and proposed zoning designations. *Figure 2, Project Site Boundaries*, identifies the assessor parcel

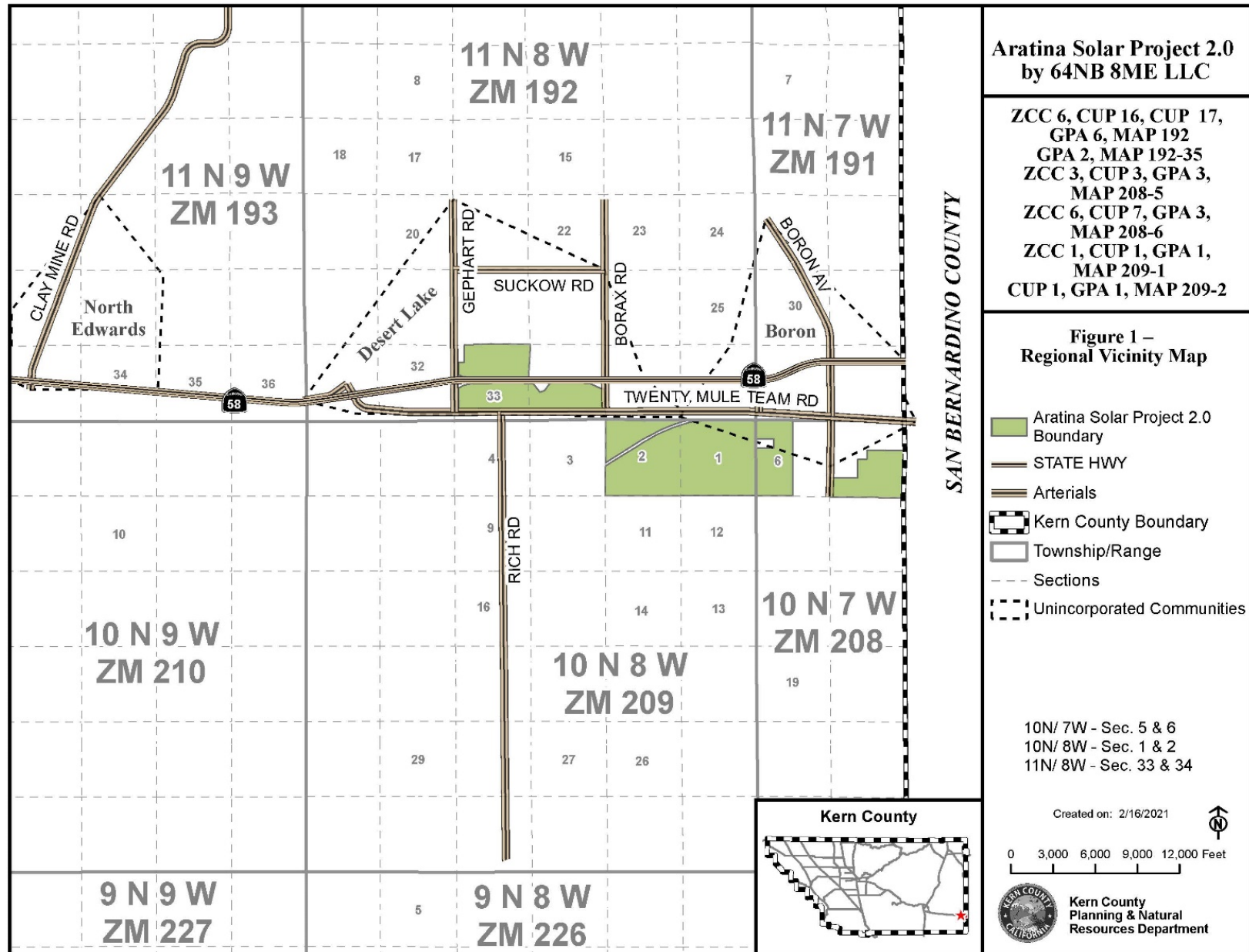


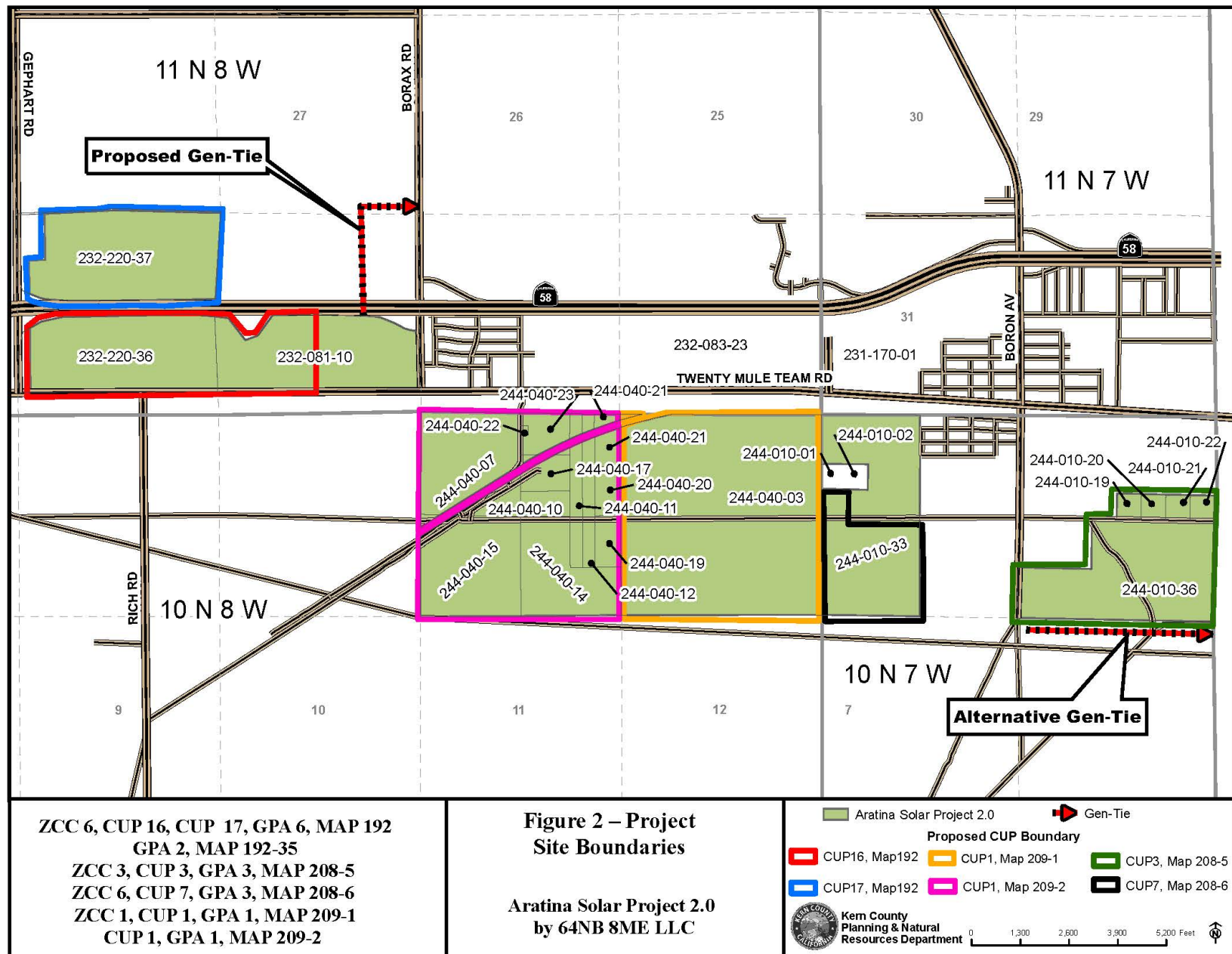
numbers that comprise each of the project sites and *Figure 5, Proposed CUP Boundaries*, identifies the boundaries of each of the proposed Conditional Use Permits (CUPs).

**Table 1. Project Assessor Parcel Numbers, Existing Map Codes, Existing and Proposed Zoning, and Acreage**

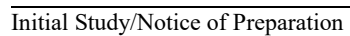
Site	APN	Existing Map Code Designation	Existing Zoning	Proposed Zoning	Zone Change Acres	CUP Acres
1	244-010-19	8.3	A-1	A	10.15	10.15
	244-010-20	8.3	A-1	A	10.15	10.15
	244-010-21	8.3	A-1	A	10.15	10.15
	244-010-22	8.3	A-1	A	10.15	10.15
	244-010-36	8.3	A-1	A	259.34	259.34
	Total				299.94	299.94
2	244-010-33	8.3	A-1, R-1	A	302.09	169.92
	244-040-03	8.3	A-1	A	635.20	635.20
	Total				937.29	805.12
3	244-040-07	7.1/7.3	M-1	M-1	N/A	155.00
	244-040-10	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	20.0
	244-040-11	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	28.49
	244-040-12	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	28.49
	244-040-14	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	120.00
	244-040-15	7.1/7.3	M-1	M-1	N/A	158.00
	244-040-17	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	26.05
	244-040-19	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	20.0
	244-040-20	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	20.0
	244-040-21	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	16.98
	244-040-22	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	1.08
	244-040-23	7.1	M-1	M-1	N/A	26.17
	Total				N/A	620.26
4	232-081-10	8.3	A-1	A	221.26	116.34
	232-220-36 (partial)	8.5	A-1	A	223.12	223.12
	Total				444.38	339.46
5	232-220-37 (partial)	8.5/2.5	A-1	A	252.31	252.31
	Total				252.31	252.31
Project Totals for all Sites					1,933.92	2,317.09
General Plan Map Code: 2.5 = Flood Hazard Overlay; 7.1 = Light Industrial; 7.3 = Heavy Industrial; 8.3 = Extensive Agriculture (Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size); 8.5 = Resource Management (Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size)						
Zone Designation: A = Exclusive Agriculture; A-1 = Limited Agriculture; M-1 = Light Industrial; R-1 = Low-Density Residential						













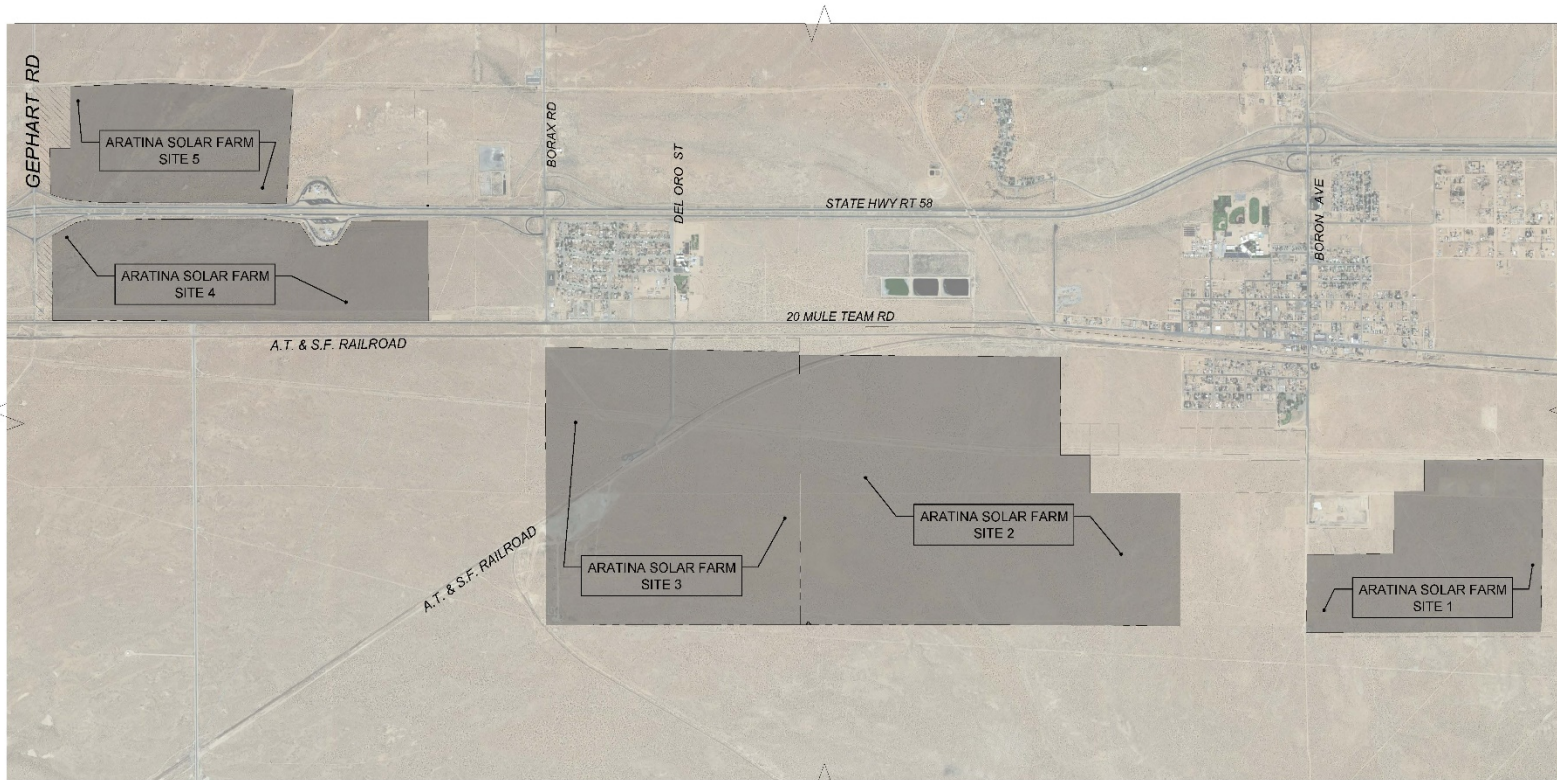


Figure 4A - Overall Site Layout

0' 1000' 2000'  
500' 1500' 2500'



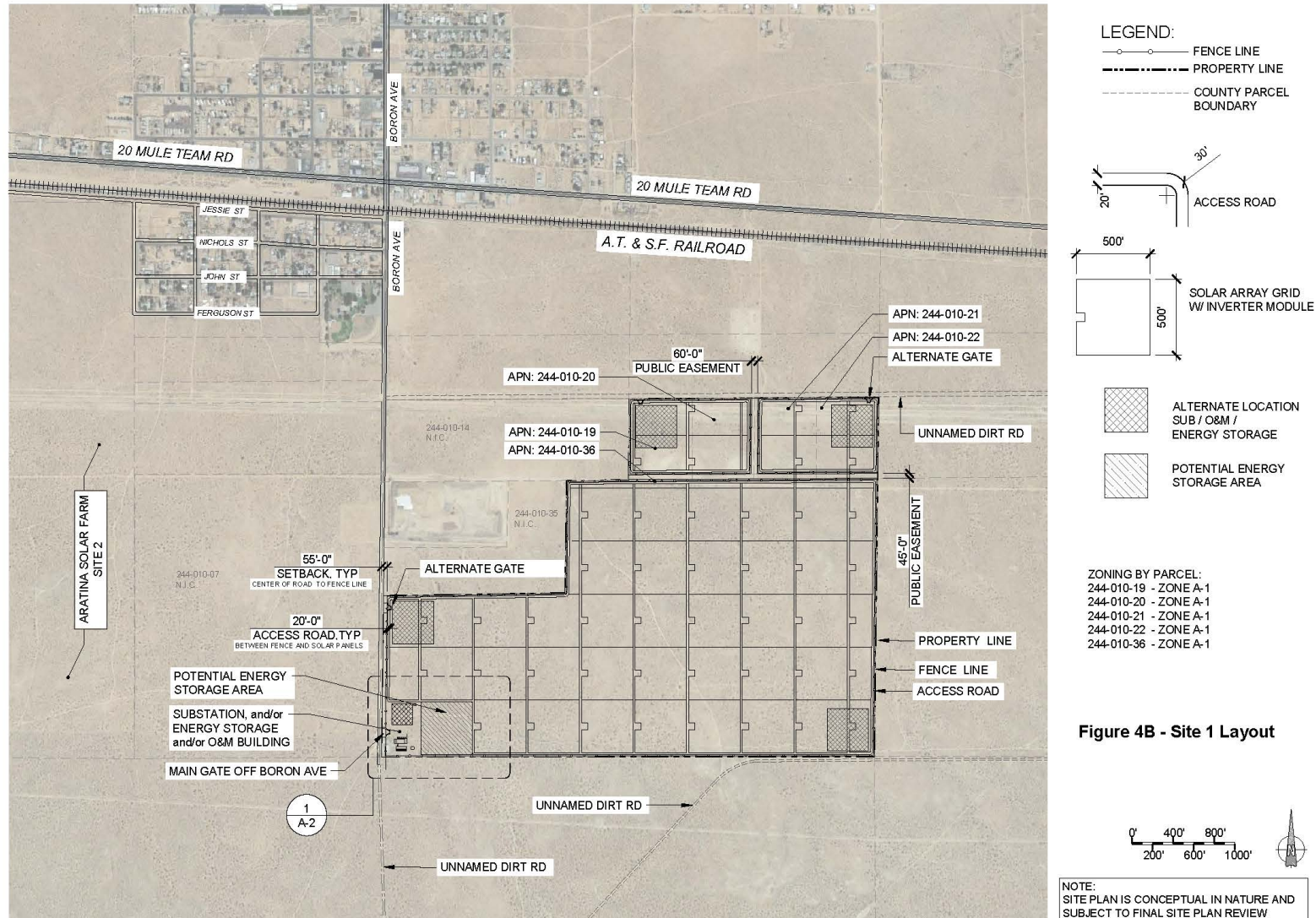
NOTE:  
SITE PLAN IS CONCEPTUAL IN NATURE AND  
SUBJECT TO FINAL SITE PLAN REVIEW

ZCC 6, CUP 16, CUP 17, GPA 6, MAP 192, GPA 2, MAP 192-35  
ZCC 3, CUP 3, GPA 3, MAP 208-5, ZCC 6, CUP 7, GPA 3, MAP 208-6  
ZCC 1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-2

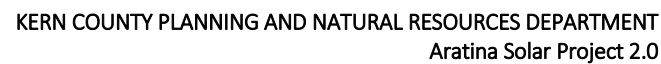
Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC

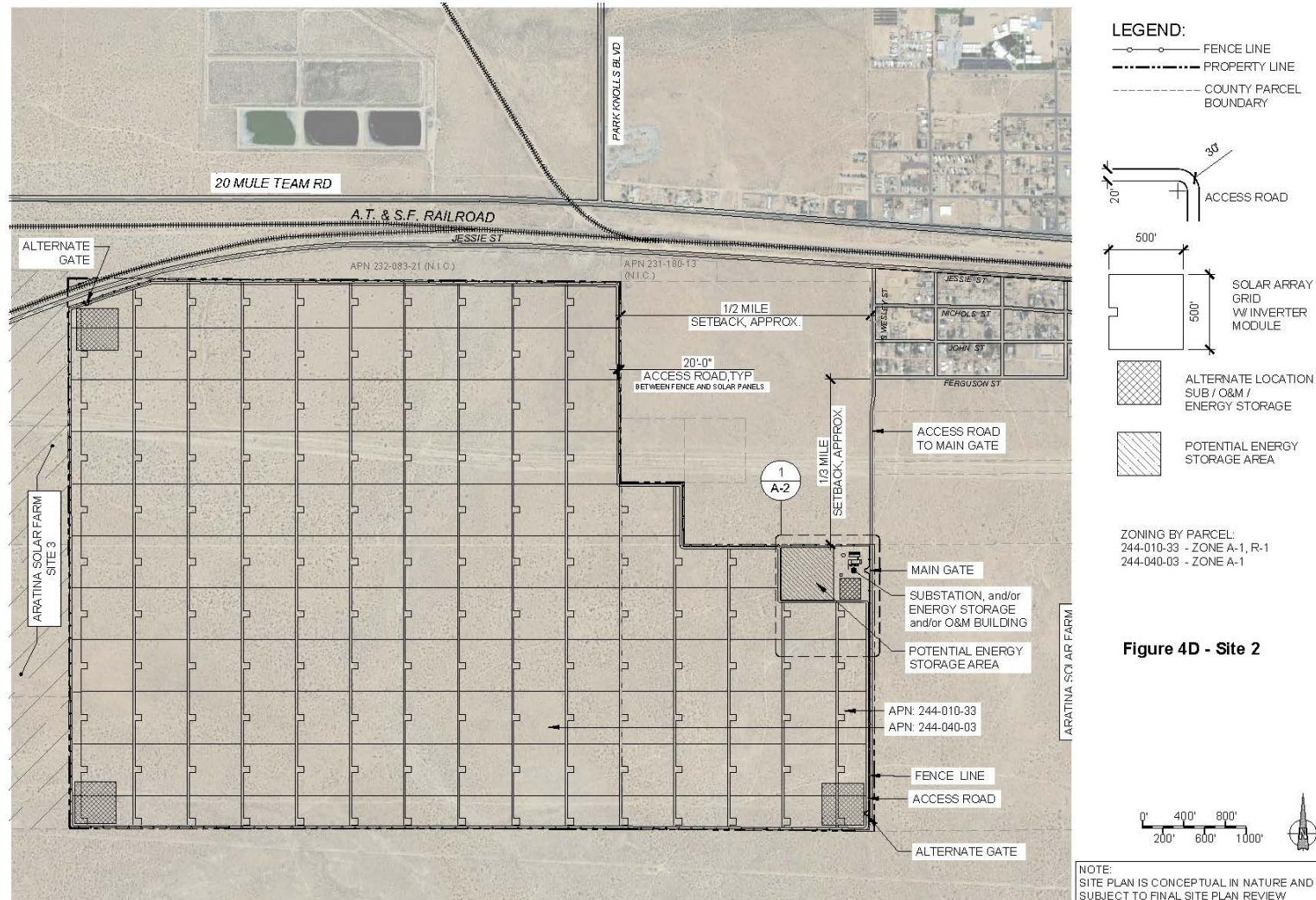
T11N/R3W, Sec. 23-35  
T10N/R3W, Sec. 1 & 2  
T10N/R7W - S & 6

DESIGNED BY: JERRY L. LEE  
DATE: 1/12/201  
SHEET:  
A-0  
SCALE:  
1:25,000









Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC  
SITE 2

11/18/2020, Sec. 35, 35  
11/18/2020, Sec. 35, 35  
11/18/2020, Sec. 35, 35

DATE: 11-20-20  
SCALE: 1:10,000

**A-1.1**

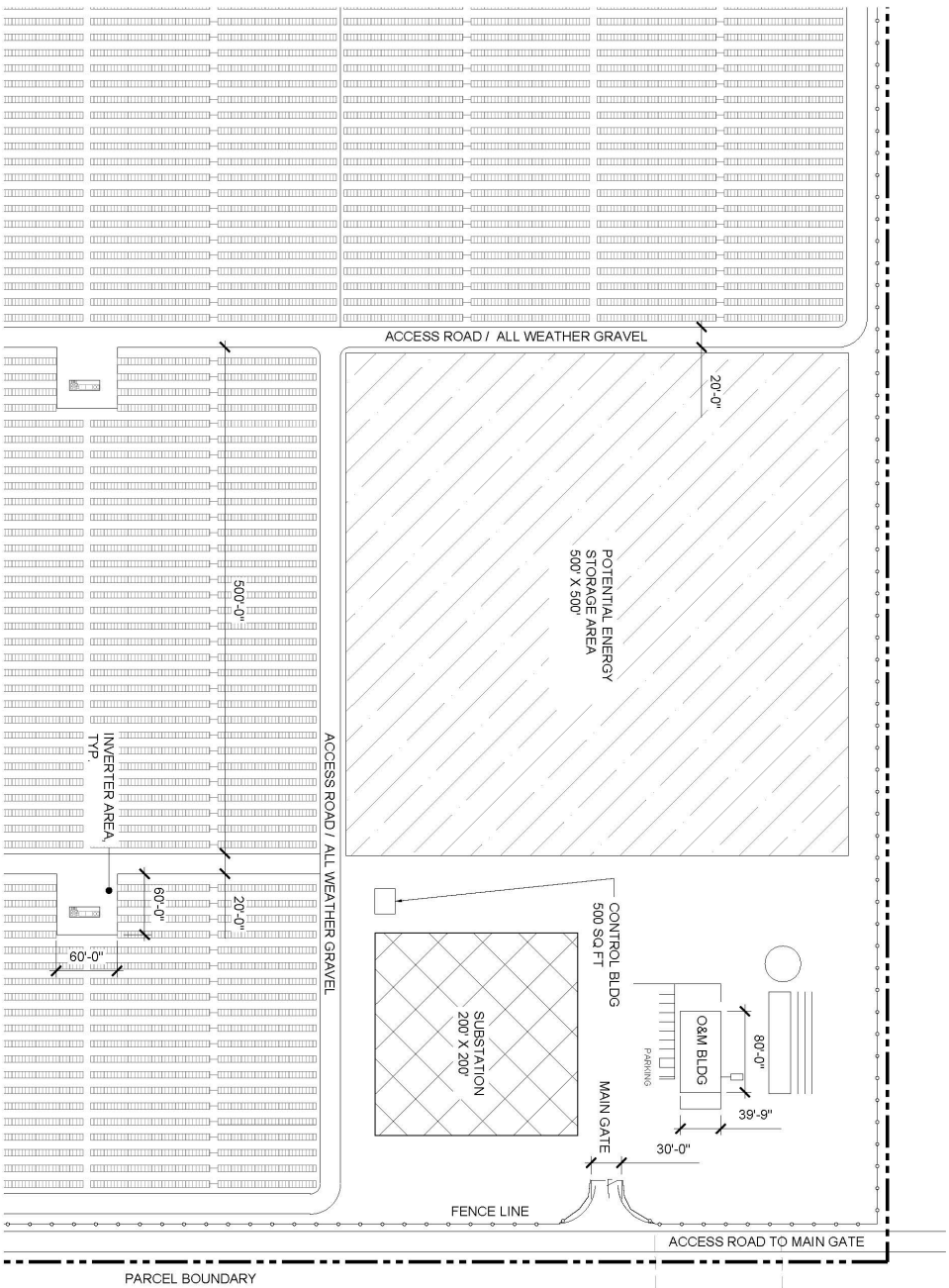


Figure 4E - Site 2 Call Out A2



NOTE:  
SITE PLAN IS CONCEPTUAL IN NATURE AND  
SUBJECT TO FINAL SITE PLAN REVIEW

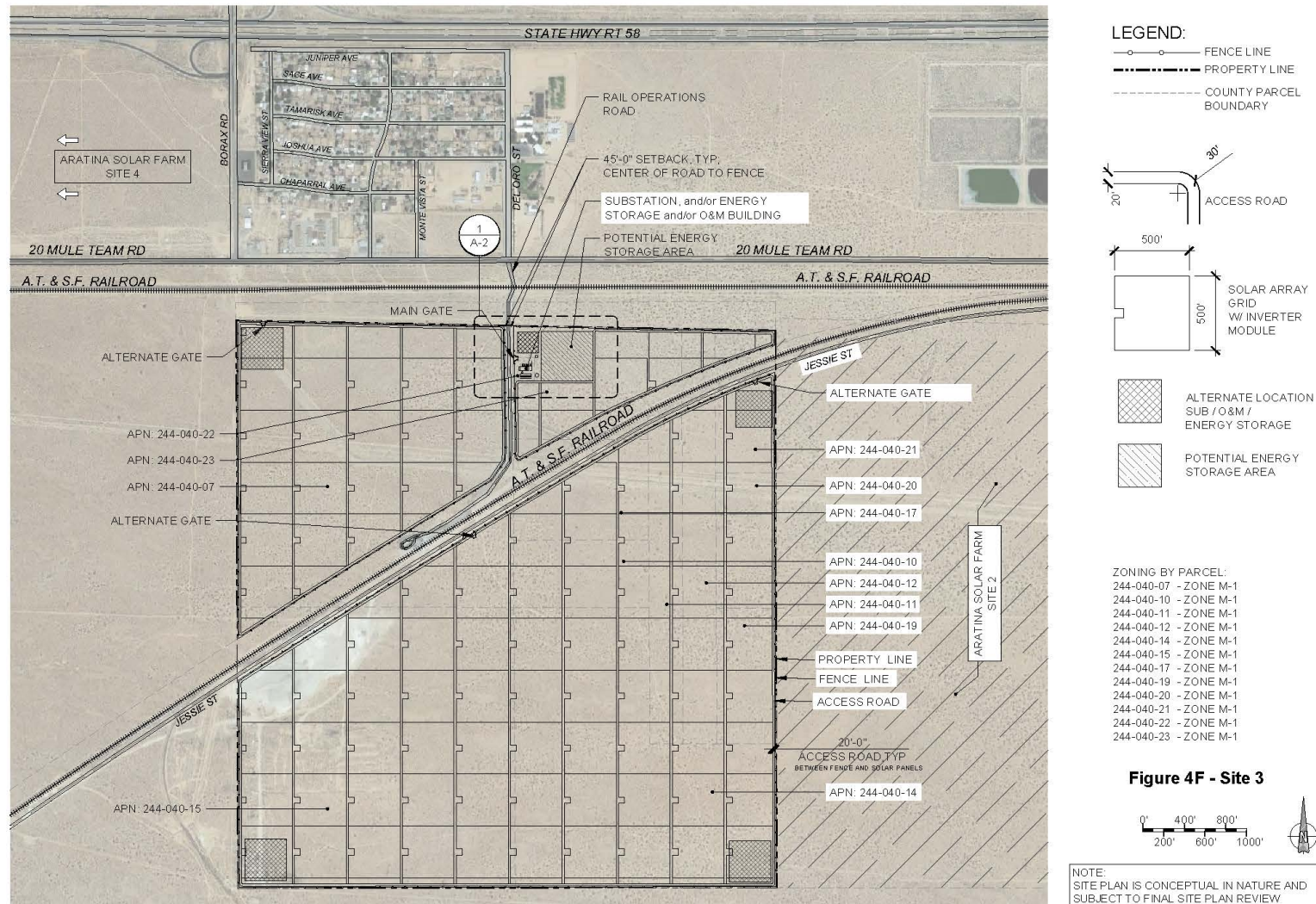


PROJECT INFORMATION	
DATE	1-15-2021
SHEET	A-2
SCALE	1" = 100'

Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC  
Site 2  
T11N/R8W- Sec. 33-35  
T10N/R8W- Sec. 1 & 2  
T10N/R7W - 5 & 6

ZCC 6, CUP 16, CUP 17, GPA 6, MAP 192, GPA 2, MAP 192-35  
ZCC 3, CUP 3, GPA 3, MAP 208-5, ZCC 6, CUP 7, GPA 3, MAP 208-6  
ZCC 1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-2





Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC  
Site 3  
THUNDERBOLT, Sec. 18, 3E  
THUNDERBOLT, Sec. 18, 3E  
T10N18W - 6 & 6

APPROVED BY: CHRISTINE HORTON/ARATINA  
DATE: 10/20/21  
SHEET: A-1.1  
SCALE: 1:10,000

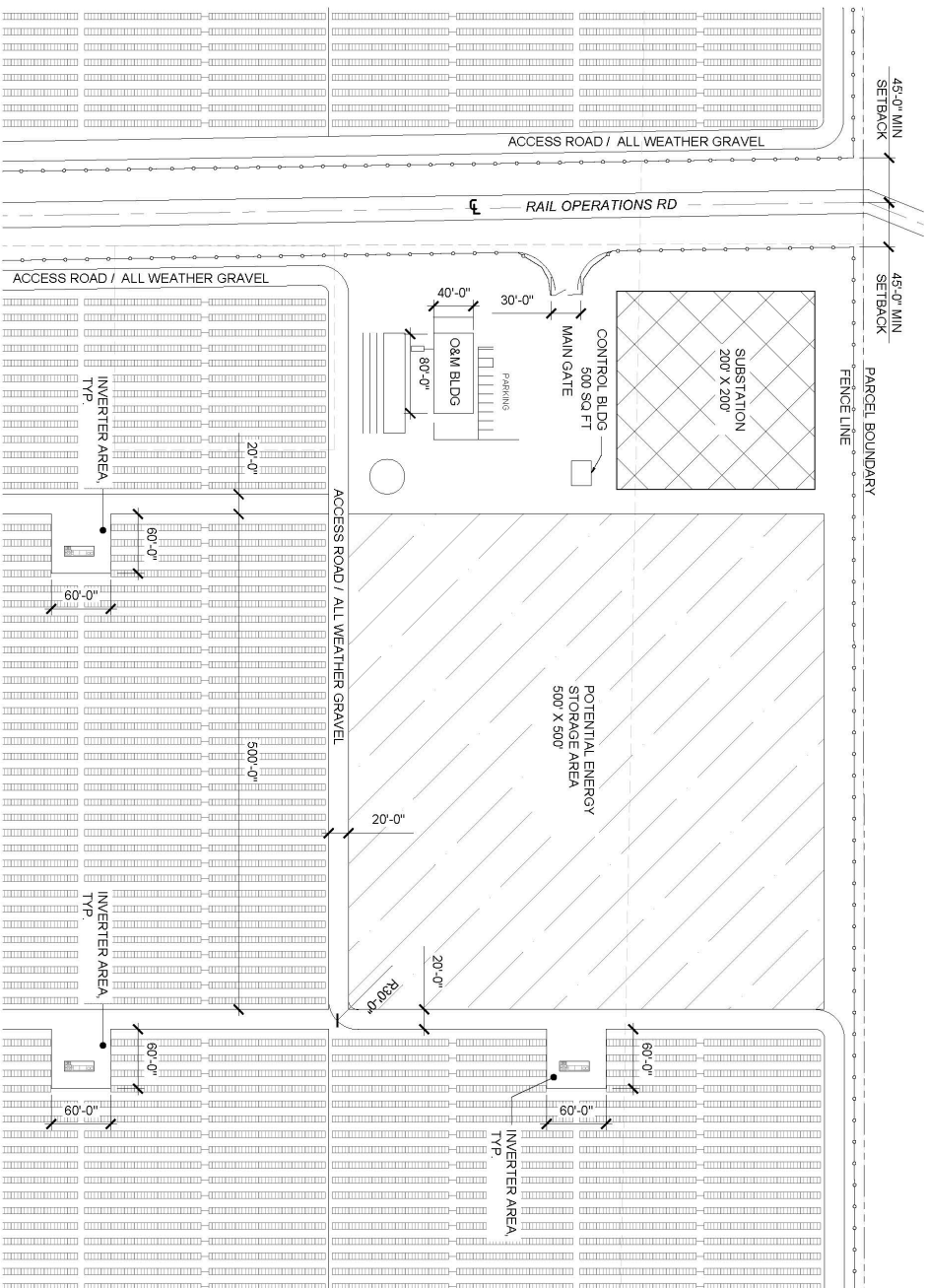
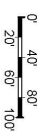


Figure 4G - Site 3 Call Out A2

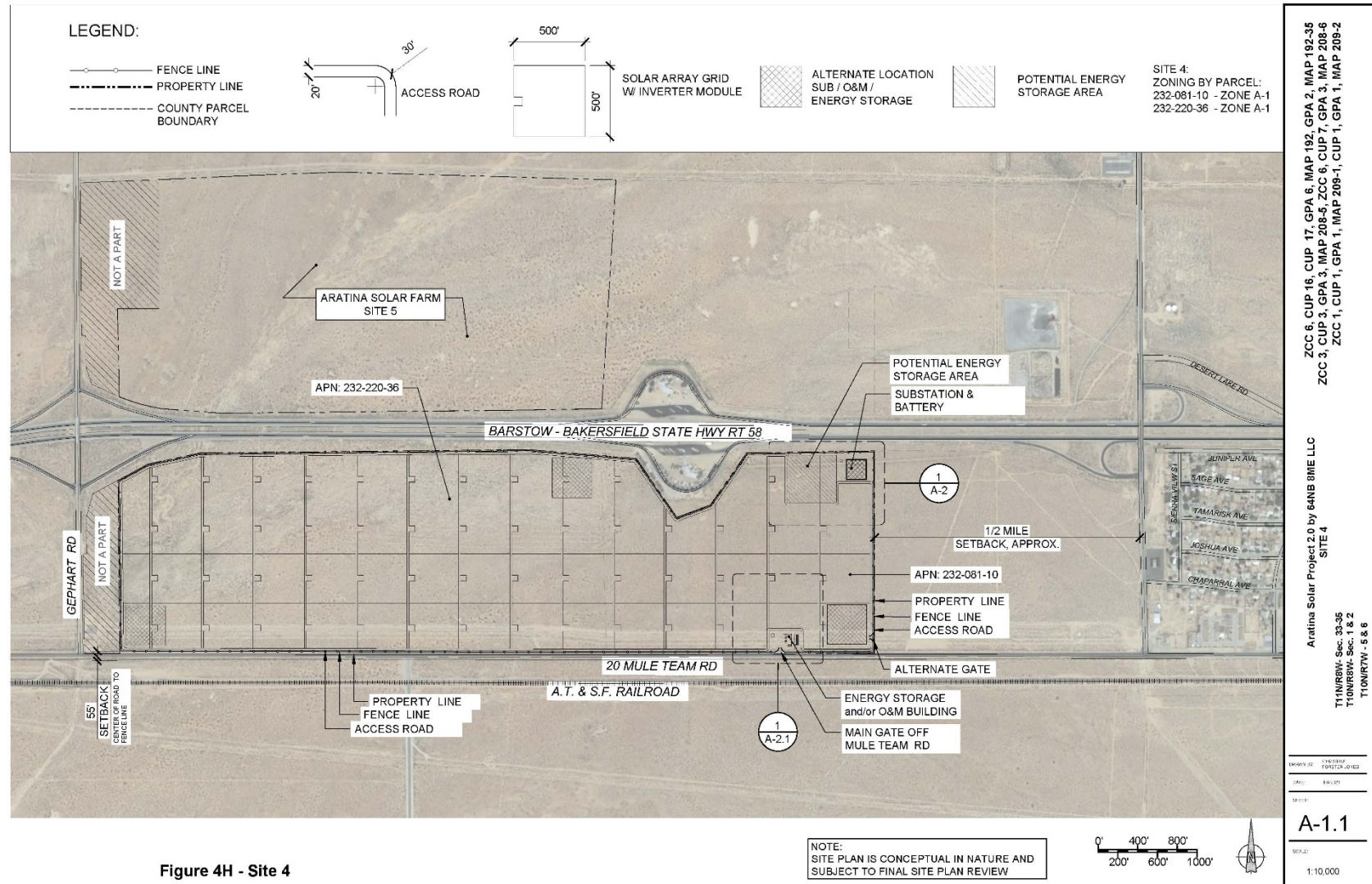


NOTE:  
SITE PLAN IS CONCEPTUAL IN NATURE AND  
SUBJECT TO FINAL SITE PLAN REVIEW



DRAWN BY: J. B. BROWN CHECKED BY: J. B. BROWN DATE: 11-15-2021 SHEET: 11-15-2021	SCALE: 1" = 100'	A-2	Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC SITE 3 T11N/R8W- Sec. 33-35 T10N/R8W- Sec. 1 & 2 T10N/R7W - 5 & 6	ZCC 6, CUP 16, CUP 17, GPA 6, MAP 192, GPA 2, MAP 192-35 ZCC 3, CUP 3, GPA 3, MAP 208-5, ZCC 6, CUP 7, GPA 3, MAP 208-6 ZCC 1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-2





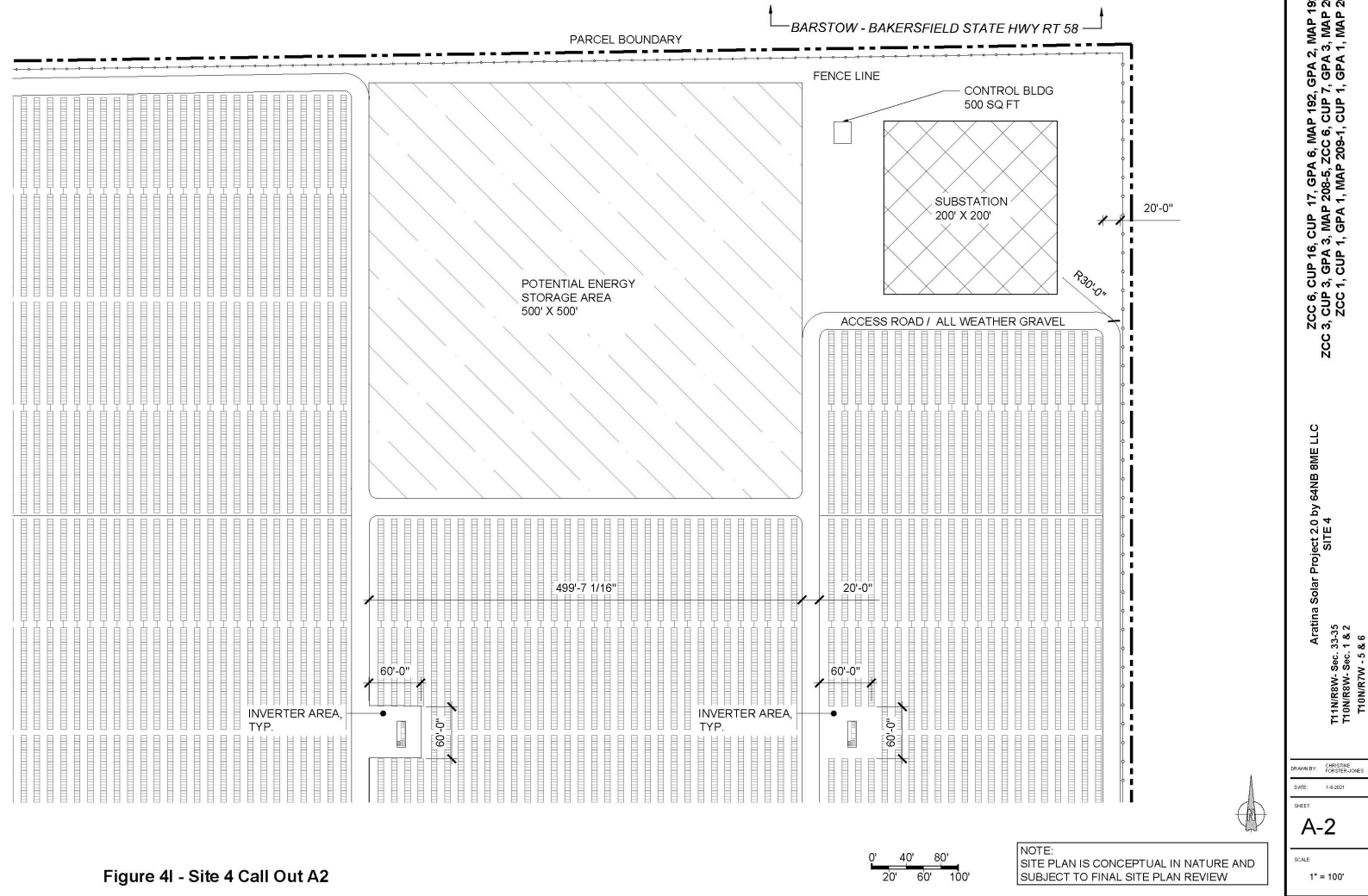
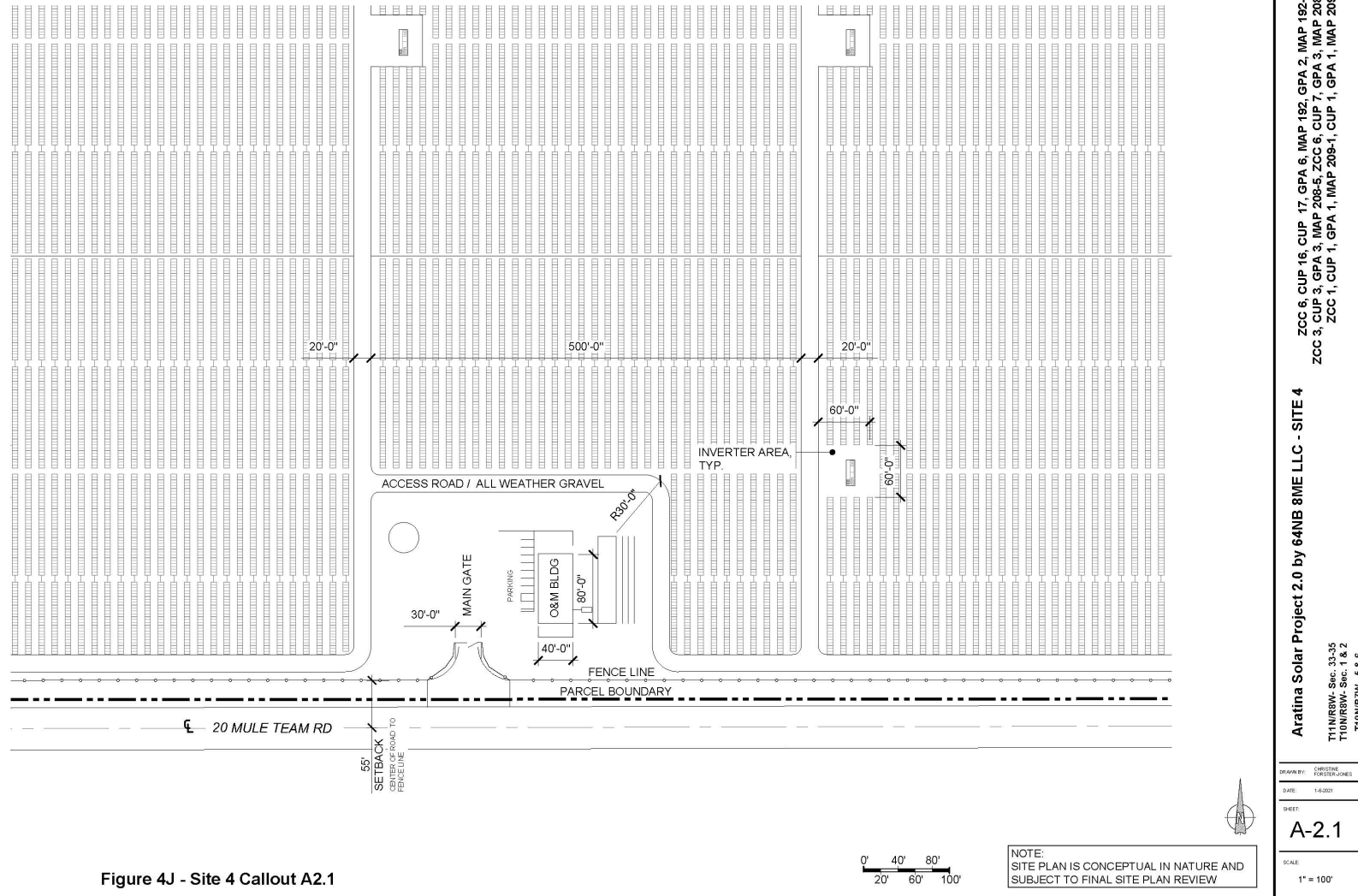
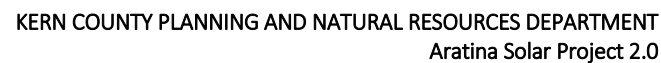


Figure 4I - Site 4 Call Out A2







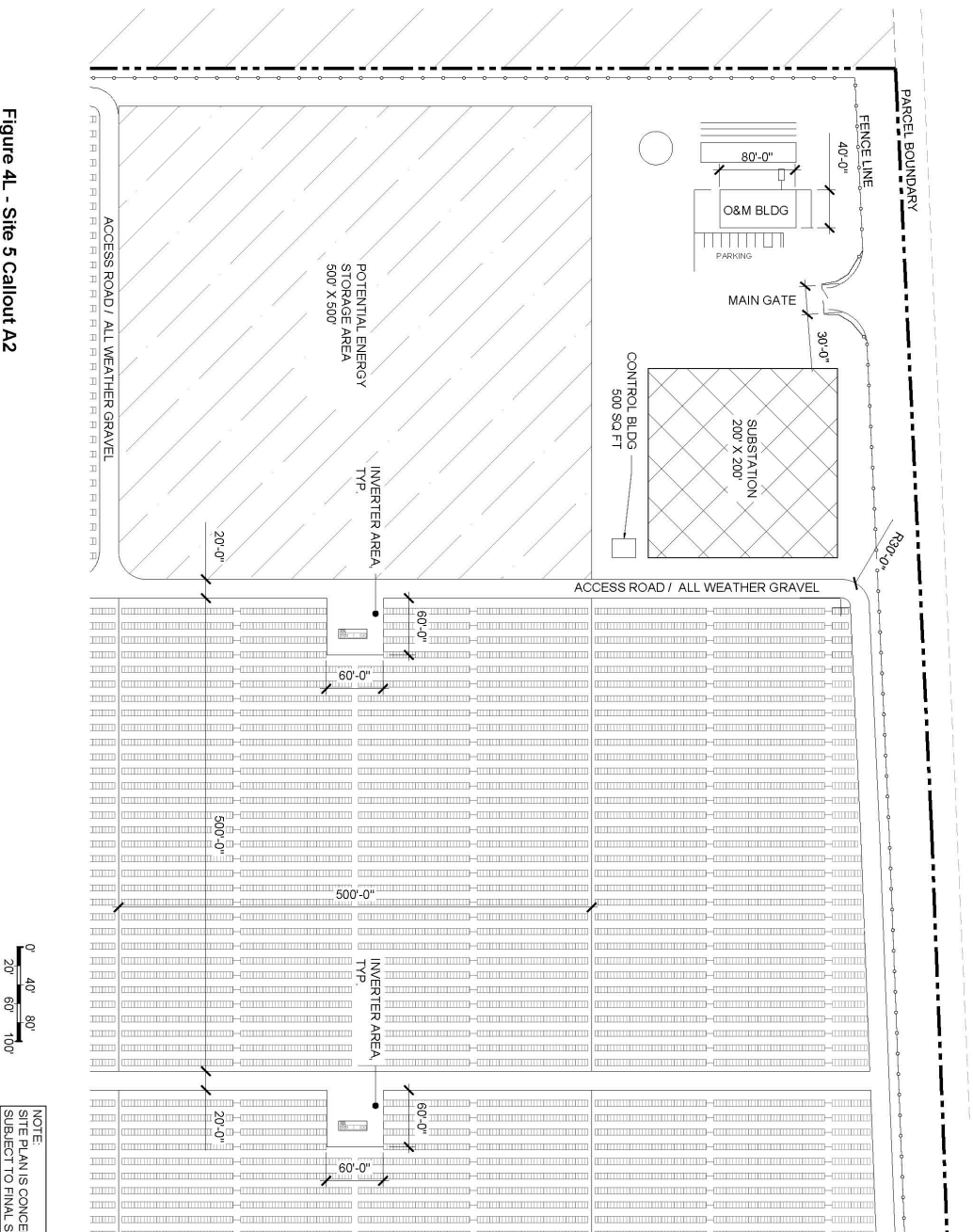


Figure 4L - Site 5 Callout A2



NOTE:  
SITE PLAN IS CONCEPTUAL IN NATURE AND  
SUBJECT TO FINAL SITE PLAN REVIEW



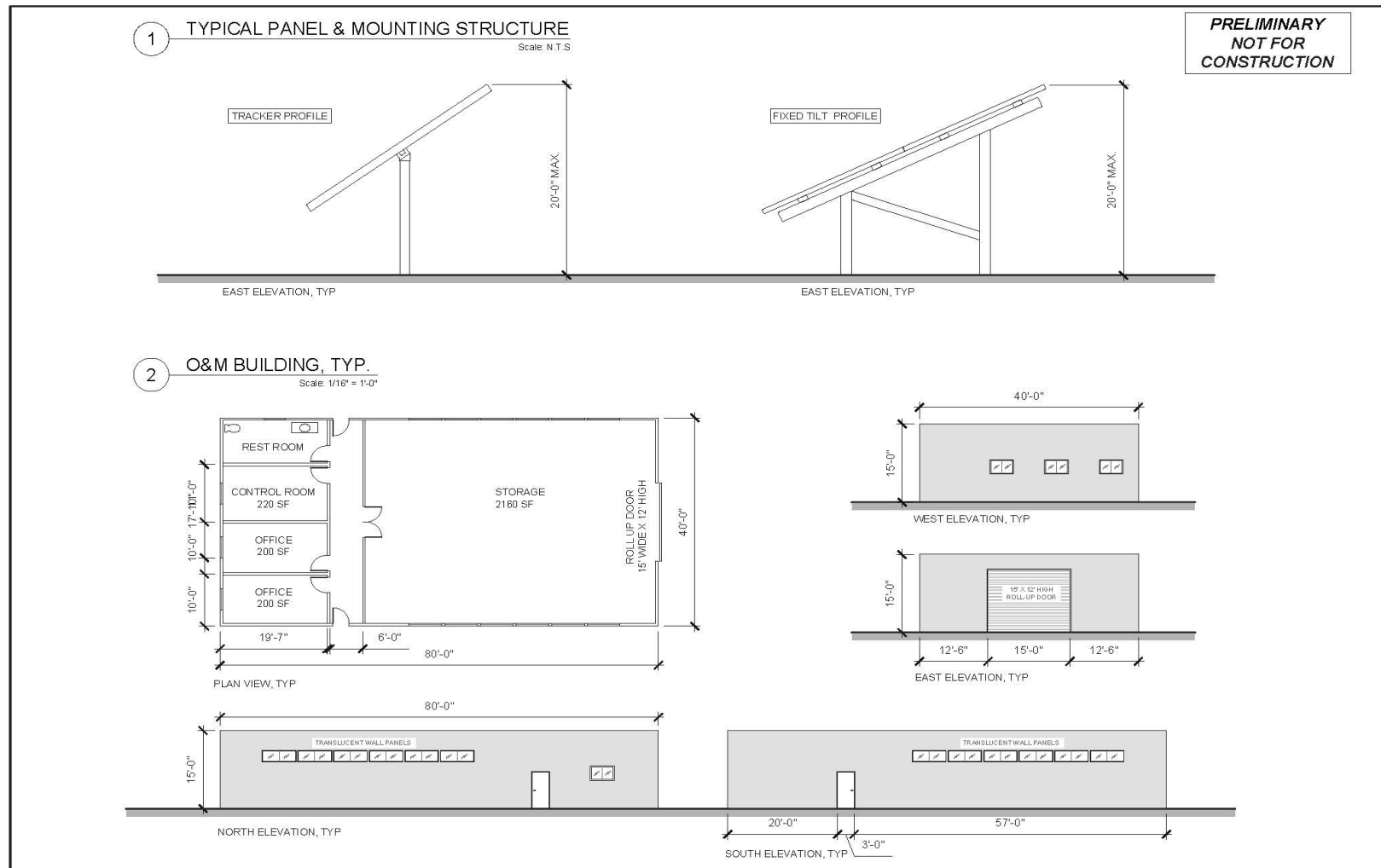
A-2

SCALE  
1" = 100'

Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC - SITE 5

T11N/R8W- Sec. 33-35  
T10N/R8W- Sec. 1 & 2  
T10N/R7W - 5 & 6

ZCC 6, CUP 16, CUP 17, GPA 6, MAP 192, GPA 2, MAP 192-35  
ZCC 3, CUP 3, GPA 3, MAP 208-5, ZCC 6, CUP 7, GPA 3, MAP 208-6  
ZCC 1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-2



ZCC 6, CUP 16, CUP 17, GPA 6, MAP 192, GPA 2, MAP 192-35  
ZCC 3, CUP 3, GPA 3, MAP 208-5, ZCC 6, CUP 7, GPA 3, MAP 208-6  
ZCC 1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-1, CUP 1, GPA 1, MAP 209-2

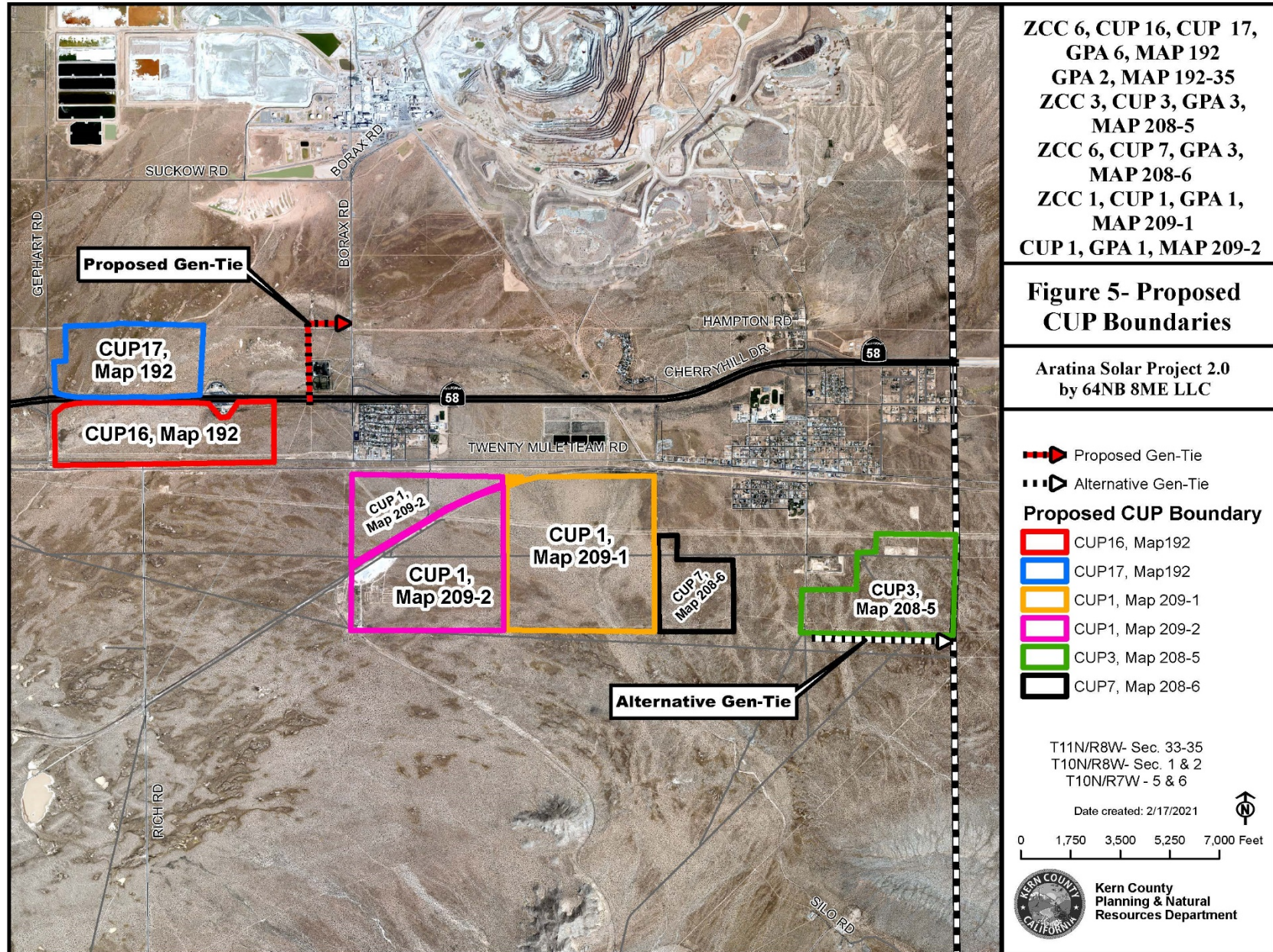
KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
ARATINA SOLAR

Aratina Solar Project 2.0 by 64NB 8ME LLC

Typical Solar Array and O&M Areas

Figure 4M









## 1.2. Environmental Setting

The project site is located on the western edge of the Mojave Desert. The project site is located on the Boron and Leuhman Ridge 7.5 minute USGS Quadrangles. Sites 1, 2, and 3 are located within the Leuhman Ridge USGS Quadrangle; Sites 4 and 5 are located within the Boron USGS Quadrangle (USGS 2012; USGS 2018). The Burlington-Santa Fe Railroad crosses the project site, traversing generally north/south through Site 3, then paralleling SR 58 east-west; refer to *Figure 2, Project Site Boundaries*.

The proposed project would be served by the Kern County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement and public safety services (Boron Substation, 26949 Cote Street), Kern County Fire Department for fire protection services (Fire Station #17, 26965 Cote Street), and Kern County Medical Emergency Services for medical care and emergency services.

The Kern County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) covers operations at the Edwards Air Force Base, which borders the project site to the west and south. The nearest public airport to the project site is the California City Municipal Airport located approximately 18 miles northwest of the project site. The project site is not located within any safety or noise zones for the California City Municipal Airport.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) delineates flood hazard areas on its Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). According to the FIRMs for the project area, portions of the project are located in a 100-year flood area (Zones A and AH, 1% annual chance of flooding) and in a 500-year flood area (Zone X, 0.2 % annual chance of flooding); refer to *Figure 6, FEMA Floodplain Map*. The major source of flooding in this area is the Twenty Mule Team Creek. The majority of Site 5 and the westernmost portion of Site 4 are located within the 100-year floodplain of the Twenty Mule Team Creek. The 100-year floodplain of an unnamed creek crosses Site 2. The majority of Site 4 is located within the 500-year floodplain.

The project site is not designated by the California Department of Conservation (DOC) as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, or Unique Farmland. Sites 1, 2, 4, and 5 are designated as nonagricultural and natural vegetation. The majority of Site 3 is designated as nonagricultural and natural vegetation, except for the southwest portion that is designated as vacant or disturbed land. There are no lands designated as important farmland located adjacent to or in the vicinity of the project site. Additionally, no lands affected by the project are subject to a Williamson Act Land Use contract, nor are they located within a Kern County Agricultural Preserve.

The project site is not within a mineral recovery area or within a designated mineral and petroleum resource site designated by the Kern County General Plan, nor is it identified as a mineral resource zone by the Department of Conservation's State Mining and Geology Board. The project site is not located within the County's NR (Natural Resources) or PE (Petroleum Extraction) Zone Districts.

The project site is located entirely within the Kern County General Plan area. As shown on *Table 1, Project Assessor Parcel Numbers, Existing Map Codes, Existing and Proposed Zoning, and Acreage*, and *Figure 7, Existing General Plan and Specific Plan Land Use Designations*, the project site consists of 22 privately owned parcels designated by the Kern County General Plan as Map Code 7.1 (Light Industrial); 7.3 (Heavy Industrial); 8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Minimum 20 Acre Parcel Size); 8.5 (Resource Management, Minimum 20 Acre Parcel Size), and 8.5/2.5 (Resource Management, Minimum 20 Acre Parcel Size/Flood Hazard). As shown on *Figure 8, Existing Zoning*, the project site is currently zoned A-1 (Limited Agriculture), M-1 (Light Industrial), and R-1 (Low-Density Residential).



## Surrounding Land Uses

*Table 2, Existing Project Site and Surrounding Properties, Existing Land Use, General Plan Map Code Designations, and Zoning*, identifies the existing land use, the existing general plan land use designation, and the existing zoning for each of the five project sites. Additionally, such conditions are described for adjacent lands to the north, east, south, and west of each of the sites.

Existing land use in the project area generally includes undeveloped desert lands, scattered rural residential uses, access roadways, and other wind and solar energy projects that are currently in various stages of planning or construction. Other development in the area includes the Boron Sanitary Landfill, Borax mine, Boron Recreational Park, and the Edwards Air Force Base. Rural residential uses are found in the unincorporated communities of Desert Lake and Boron to the north of the project site, located along SR 58.

The sensitive receptors closest to the project site are the Desert Lake Apartments approximately 0.13 miles to the north of Site 3 across Twenty Mule Team Road. Single-family residences are located approximately 0.3 miles northeast of the northeastern corner of Site 2 along Ferguson Street in the community of Boron; Boron Park, a local park, is located approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the northeastern corner of Site 2. The closest school to the site is the West Boron Elementary School, located approximately 0.30 miles north of Site 3.

There are several existing, planned, and permitted solar energy and transmission projects in the Mojave Desert Air Basin where the project site is located. However, there are currently no solar projects proposed or awaiting construction within a 6-mile radius of the proposed project.

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**TABLE 2. EXISTING PROJECT SITES AND SURROUNDING PROPERTIES,  
EXISTING LAND USE, GENERAL PLAN MAP CODE DESIGNATIONS, AND  
ZONING**

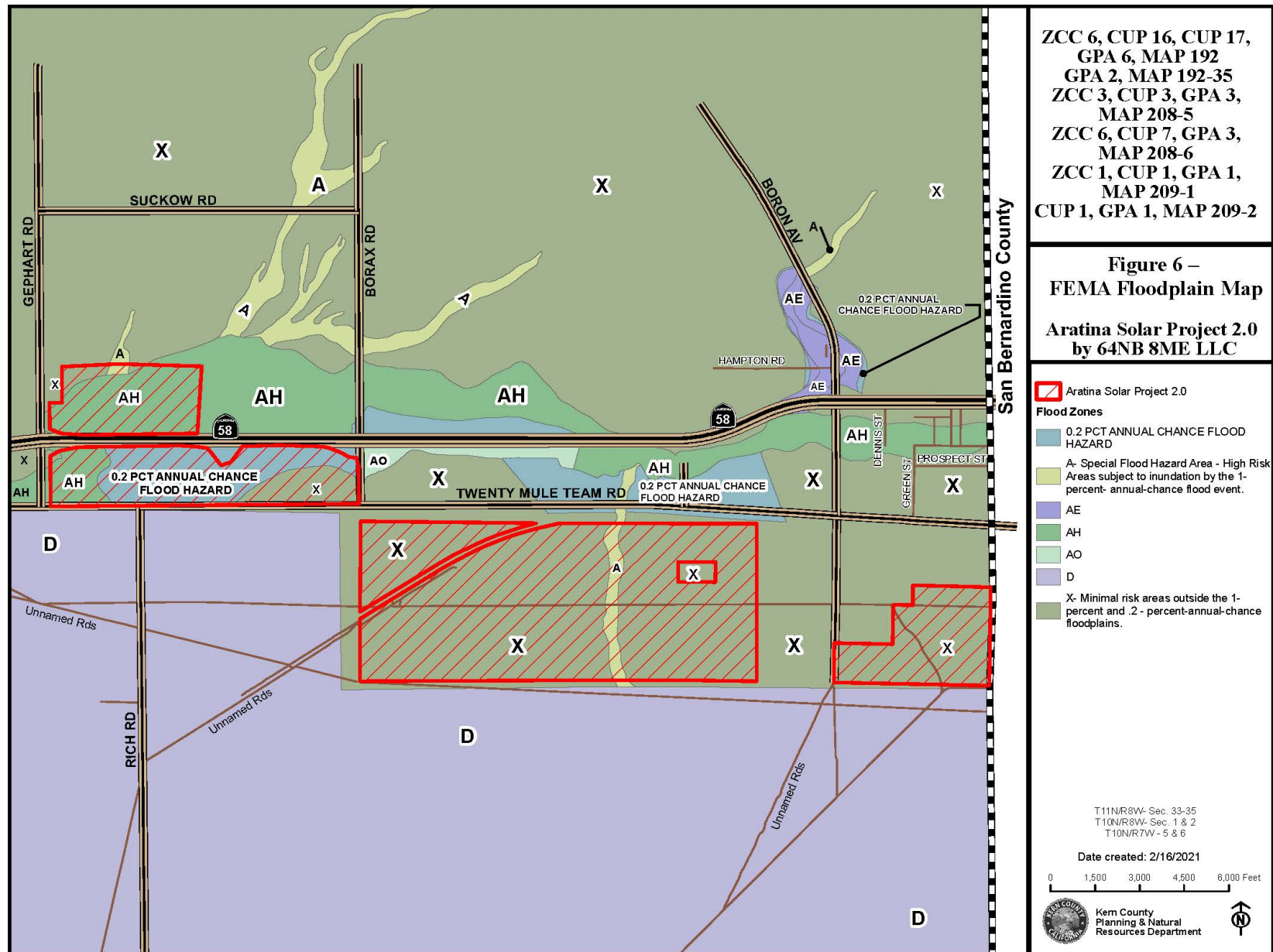
Location	Existing Land Use	Existing General Plan Map Code Designations	Existing Zoning
<b>Site 1</b>	<b>Undeveloped</b>	<b>8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size)</b>	<b>A-1 (Limited Agriculture)</b>
<b>North</b>	Undeveloped, residential dwellings, Boron Recreation Park	8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size), 3.1 (Parks and Recreation Areas), 5.4 (Maximum 1 Unit/Net Acre)	A (Exclusive Agriculture), A-1 (Limited Agriculture), R-1 (Low-Density Residential)
<b>East</b>	Undeveloped	San Bernardino County	San Bernardino County
<b>South</b>	Undeveloped, Edwards Air Force Base	1.1 (State or Federal Land), 8.5 (Resource Management)	A-1 H (Limited Agriculture, Airport Approach Height)
<b>West</b>	Undeveloped, Boron Sanitary Landfill	8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size), 8.5 (Resource Management), 3.4 (Solid Waste Disposal Facility), 3.4.1 (Solid Waste Disposal Facility Buffer)	A-1 (Limited Agriculture), A (Exclusive Agriculture), R-1 (Low-Density Residential)
<b>Site 2</b>	<b>Undeveloped</b>	<b>8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size)</b>	<b>A-1 (Limited Agriculture); R-1 (Low-Density Residential)</b>
<b>North</b>	Undeveloped, railroad, commercial	3.3 (Other Facilities), 8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size), 7.1 (Light Industrial), 7.2 (Service Industrial)	A-1 (Limited Agriculture); R-1 (Low-Density Residential); M-1 (Light Industrial); M-2 (Medium Industrial)
<b>East</b>	Undeveloped, residential dwellings	5.3 (Maximum 10 Units/Net Acre), 5.4 (Maximum 4 Units/Net Acre), 8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size), 8.5 (Resource Management)	R-2 (Medium-Density Residential), R-1 (Low-Density Residential), A-1 (Limited Agriculture)
<b>South</b>	Undeveloped, Edwards Air Force Base	1.1 (State or Federal Land)	A-1 H (Limited Agriculture, Airport Approach Height)
<b>West</b>	Undeveloped, railroad	7.1 (Light Industrial)	M-1 (Light Industrial)
<b>Site 3</b>	<b>Undeveloped</b>	<b>7.1 (Light Industrial); 7.3 (Heavy Industrial)</b>	<b>M-1 (Light Industrial)</b>
<b>North</b>	Undeveloped, residential dwellings (Desert Lake community), railroad	7.1 (Light Industrial), 8.5 (Resource Management, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size)	CH (Highway Commercial); C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial), C-2 (General Commercial); A-1 (Limited Agriculture); R-1 (Low-Density Residential)
<b>East</b>	Undeveloped	8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size),	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)
<b>South</b>	Undeveloped, Edwards Air Force Base	1.1 (State or Federal Land)	A-1 H (Limited Agriculture, Airport Approach Height)
<b>West</b>	Undeveloped, railroad	1.1 (State or Federal Land)	A-1 H (Limited Agriculture, Airport Approach Height)

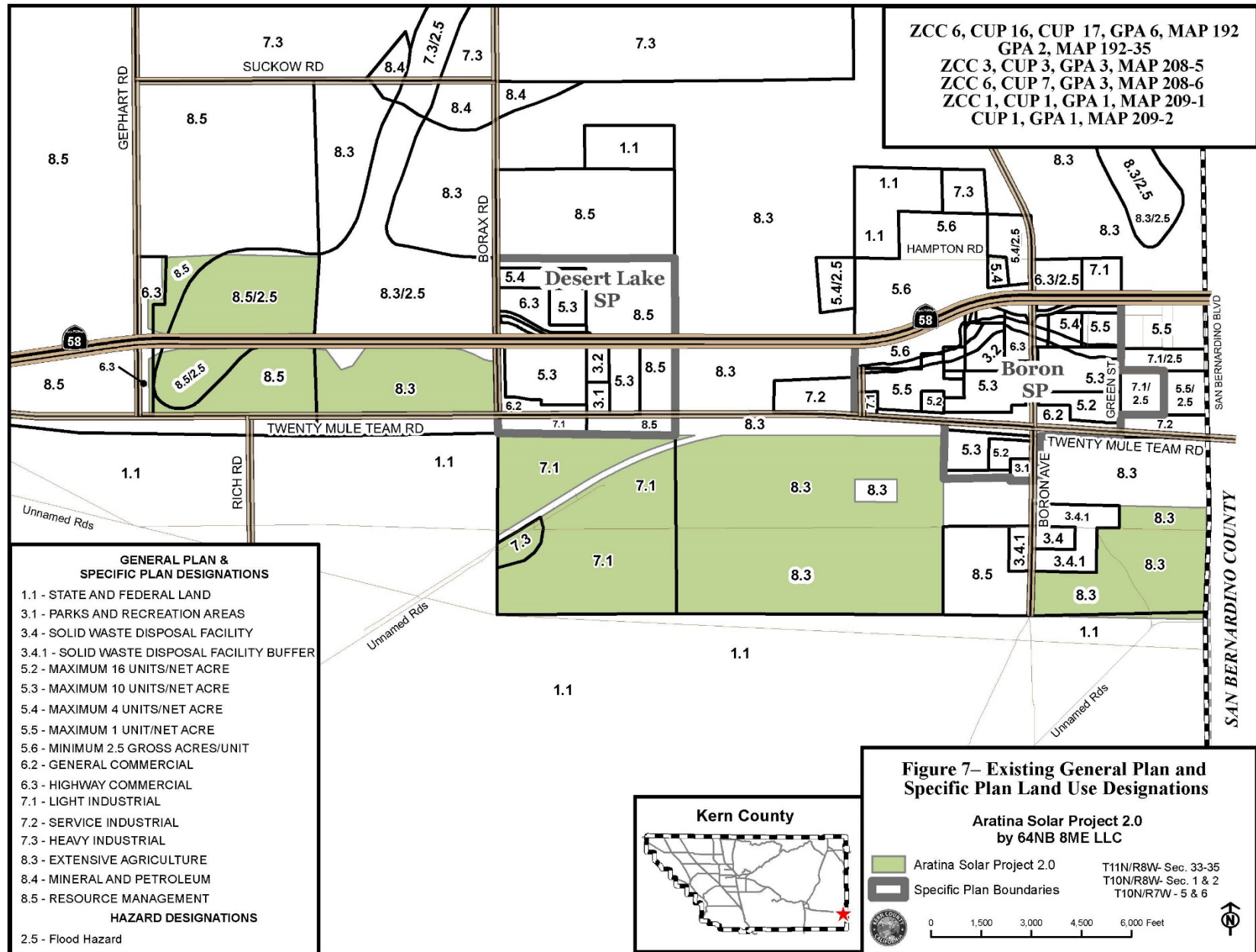


**TABLE 2, CONTINUED**

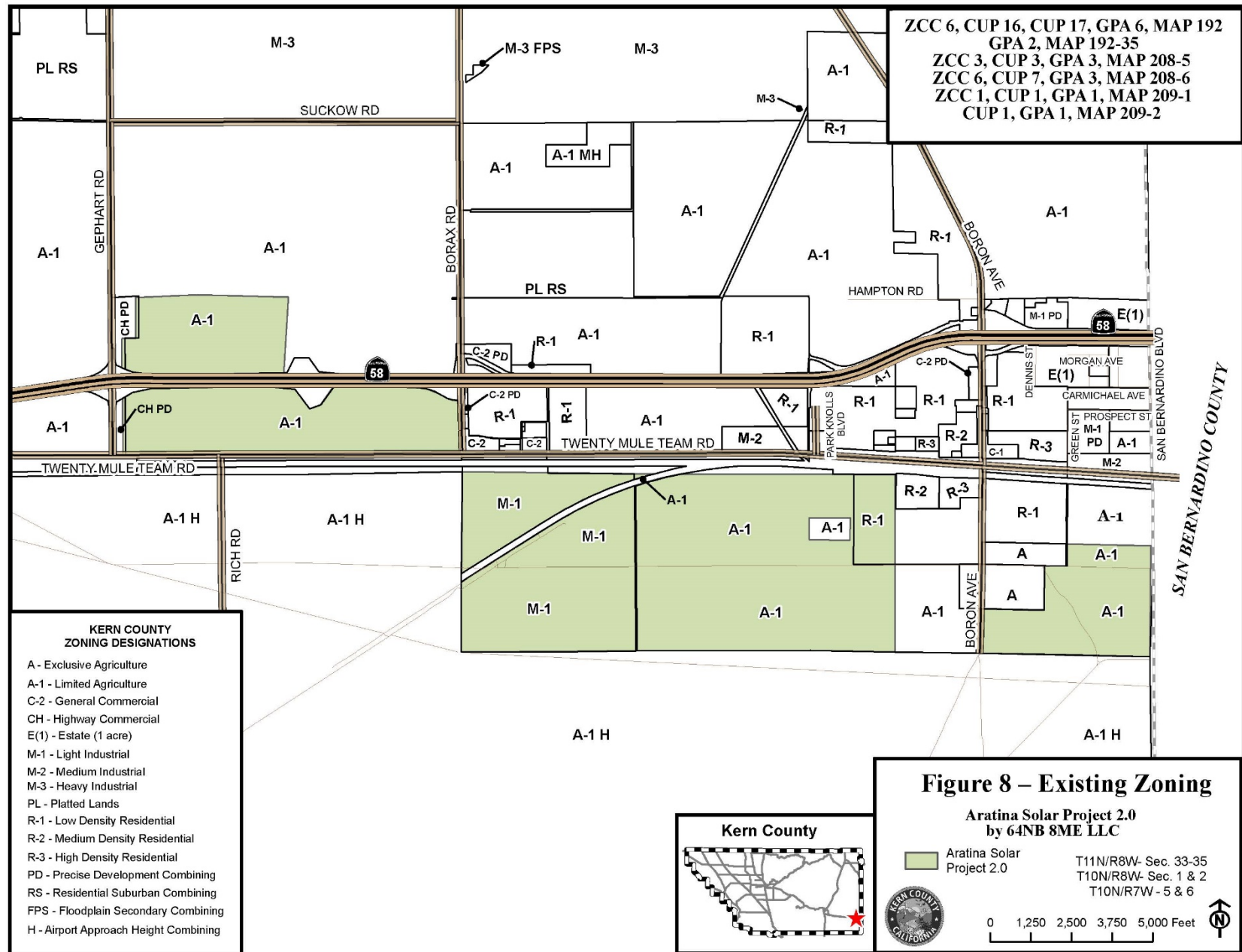
Location	Existing Land Use	Existing General Plan Map Code Designations	Existing Zoning
<b>Site 4</b>	<b>Undeveloped</b>	<b>8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size); 8.5 (Resource Management, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size)</b>	<b>A-1 (Limited Agriculture)</b>
<b>North</b>	Undeveloped	8.3/2.5 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size/ Flood Hazard), 8.5/2.5 (Resource Management, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size/Flood Hazard)	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)
<b>East</b>	Residential dwellings (Desert Lake community)	5.3 (Maximum 10 Units/Net Acre), 6.2 (General Commercial)	R-1 (Low Density Residential), C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial), C-2 (General Commercial)
<b>South</b>	Undeveloped, railroad, Edwards Air Force Base	1.1 (State or Federal Land)	A-1 H (Limited Agriculture, Airport Approach Height)
<b>West</b>	Undeveloped	6.3 (Highway Commercial)	CH PD (Highway Commercial, Precise Development Combining)
<b>Site 5</b>	<b>Undeveloped</b>	<b>8.5/2.5 (Resource Management, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size/Flood Hazard)</b>	<b>A-1 (Limited Agriculture)</b>
<b>North</b>	Undeveloped	8.5 (Resource Management)	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)
<b>East</b>	Undeveloped	8.3/2.5 (Extensive Agriculture, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size/ Flood Hazard)	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)
<b>South</b>	Undeveloped	8.5 (Resource Management), 8.5/2.5 (Resource Management, Min. 20 Acre Parcel Size/Flood Hazard)	A-1 (Limited Agriculture)
<b>West</b>	Undeveloped	6.3 (Highway Commercial)	CH PD (Highway Commercial, Precise Development Combining)

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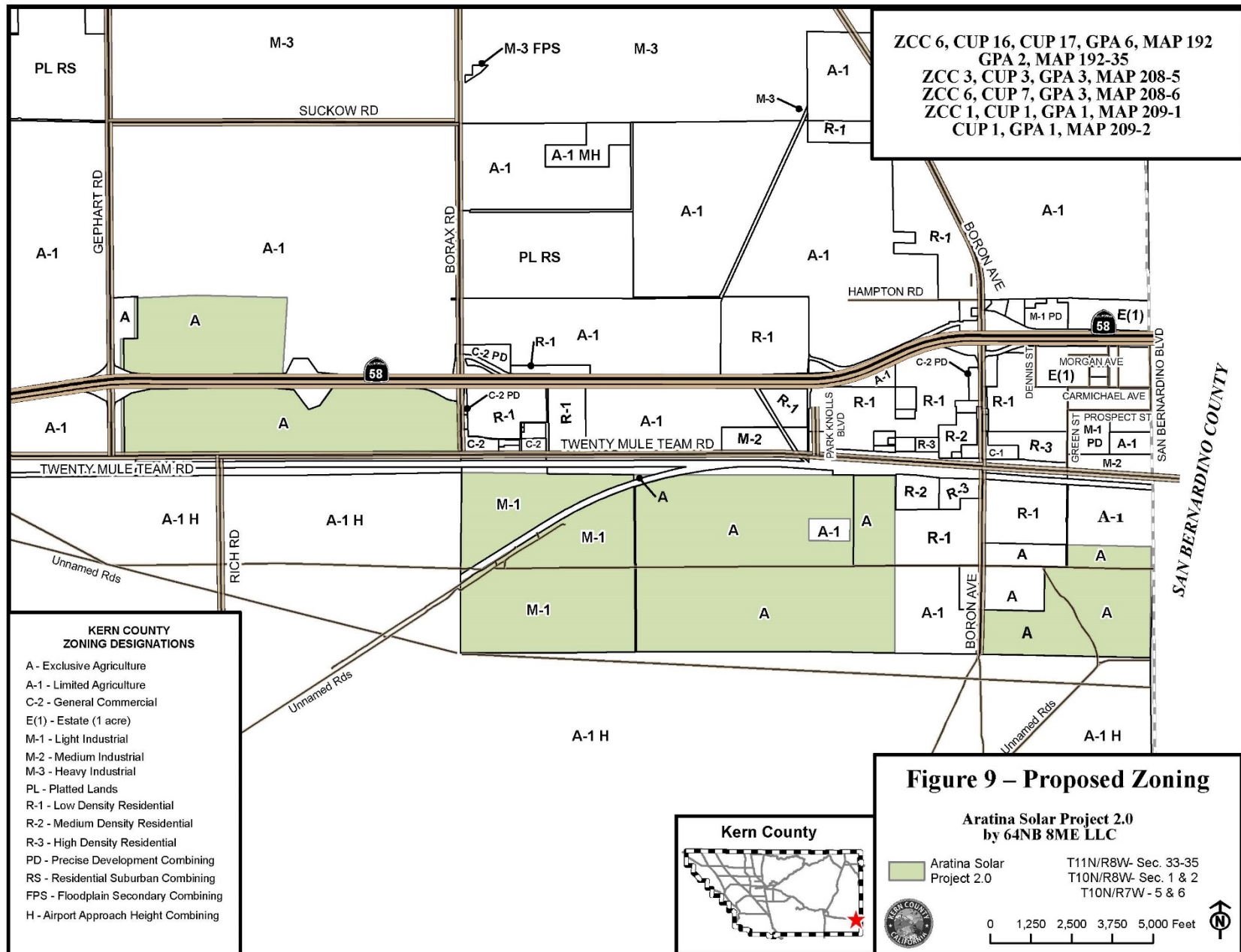


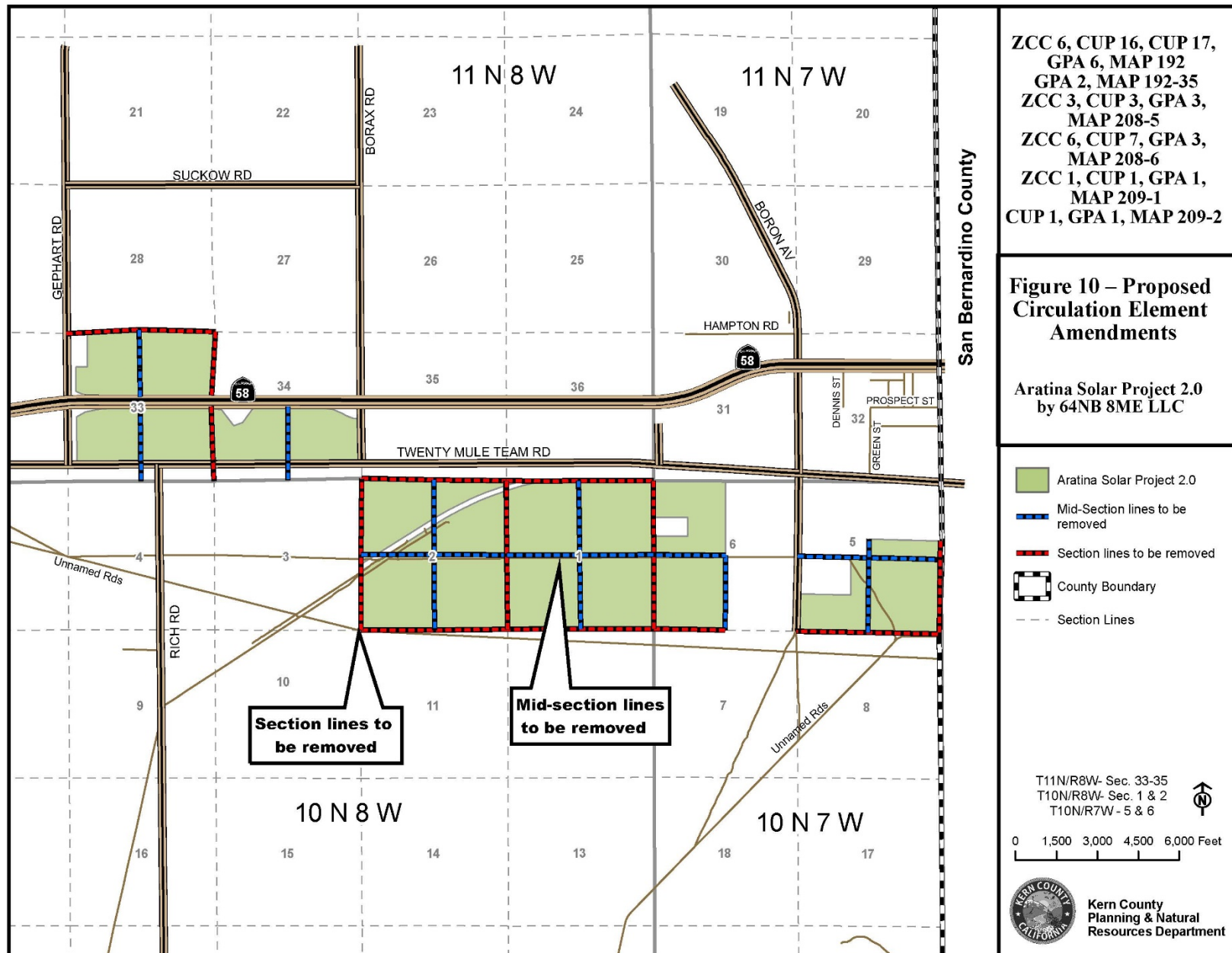














## 1.3. Project Description

### Project Overview

The Aratina 2.0 project by 64NB 8ME LLC (project proponent) is a proposed photovoltaic (PV) solar facility with associated infrastructure on approximately 2,317 acres of privately-owned land in southeastern Kern County (*Figure 1, Regional Vicinity Map*). As stated above, the facility would consist of 5 sites (Sites 1 to 5) to generate a combined (up to) 530 MW of renewable electrical energy. The project also includes the installation of associated (up to) 600 MW energy storage (battery) facilities. The project's permanent facilities would include, but are not limited to, service roads, a power collection system, inverter stations, transformer systems, transmission lines, electrical switchyards, project substations, energy (battery) storage system, and operations and maintenance facilities.

Implementation of the project as proposed includes the following requests. Refer to *Table 1, Project Assessor Parcel Numbers, Existing Map Codes, Existing and Proposed Zoning, and Acreage Figure 5, Proposed CUP Boundaries; Figure 7, Existing General Plan and Specific Plan Land Use Designations; Figure 8, Existing Zoning; Figure 9, Proposed Zoning; and Figure 10, Proposed Circulation Element Amendments*.

Changes in zone classifications as follows:

- Zone Change Case No. 6, Map No. 192 – from A-1 to A for 696.69 acres
- Zone Change Case No. 3, Map No. 208-5 – From A-1 to A for 299.94 acres
- Zone Change Case No. 6, Map No. 208-6 – From A-1 to A for 222.49 acres and from R-1 to A for 79.6 acres
- Zone Change Case No. 1, Map No. 209-1 from A-1 to A for 635.20 acres

Conditional Use Permits to allow for the construction and operation of five solar facilities with a total generating capacity of approximately 530 megawatts-alternating current (MW-AC) of renewable energy (broken down by site, below), including up to 600 megawatts of energy storage (for all sites), within the A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone Districts (in Zone Maps 192, 208-5, 208-6, and 209-1) and the M-1 (Light Industrial) Zone District (in Zone Map 209-2) pursuant to Sections 19.12.030.G and 19.36.30.G, respectively, of the Kern County Zoning Ordinance:

- Site 1 (up to 70 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 3, Map No. 208-5 for 299.94 acres
- Site 2 (up to 180 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 7, Map No. 208-6 for 169.92 acres
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 1, Map No. 209-1 for 635.20 acres
- Site 3 (up to 140 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 1, Map No. 209-2 for 620.26 acres



- Site 4 (up to 80 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 16, Map No. 192 for 339.46 acres
- Site 5 (up to 60 MW)
  - Conditional Use Permit No. 17, Map No. 192 for 252.31 acres

General Plan Amendments to the Circulation Element of the Kern County General Plan to remove future road reservations on the section and mid-section lines within the project boundaries:

- General Plan Amendment No. 6, Map No. 192
- General Plan Amendment No. 2, Map No. 192-35
- General Plan Amendment No. 3, Map No. 208-5
- General Plan Amendment No. 3, Map No. 208-6
- General Plan Amendment No. 1, Map No. 209-1
- General Plan Amendment No. 1, Map No. 209-2

*Figure 2, Project Site Boundaries*, shows the boundaries of the proposed project. With the requested zone change, the project would be zoned A (Exclusive Agriculture) within Zone Maps 192, 208-5, 208-6, 209-1) and M-1 (Light Industrial) in Zone Map 209-2. Therefore, pursuant to Chapter 19.12.030.G and Chapter 19.36.30.G, Conditional Use Permits (CUPs) are required to allow for the construction and operation of the PV solar facility under this zoning.

The power generated on the project site would assist the state in complying with the Renewables Portfolio Standard under Senate Bill 350, which requires that by December 31, 2030, 50 percent of all electricity sold in the state shall be generated from renewable energy sources. The power generated on the project site would be sold to California investor-owned utilities, municipalities, community choice aggregators, or other purchasers in furtherance of the goals of the California Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard. The project has an anticipated operational life of up to 35 years. At the end of the project's operational term, the project proponent would determine whether the project site should be decommissioned and deconstructed or if it would seek an extension of its CUP. If any portion of the project site is decommissioned, it would be converted to other uses in accordance with the applicable land use regulations in effect at that time.

## 1.4. Project Facilities, Construction, and Operations

### Project Facilities

The combined project facilities would include the following components, which are described in greater detail thereafter:

- Solar PV modules
- Collection, inverter stations, and transformer systems
- Energy storage system



- Substation(s)
- Operations and maintenance (O&M) facilities
- Onsite meteorological stations and towers
- Transmission line
- Stormwater facilities/detention
- Site access and security
- Water storage tank(s)
- Project site lighting

### *Solar PV Module Configuration*

The proposed project would utilize photovoltaic panels or modules (including but not limited to concentrated photovoltaic technology (CPV) or bi-facial technology which have similar rectangular shapes, sizes and thickness) on mounting frameworks to convert sunlight directly into electricity. Individual panels would be installed on either fixed-tilt or tracker mount systems (single- or dual-axis, using galvanized steel or aluminum). If the panels are configured for fixed-tilt, the panels would be oriented toward the south. For tracking configurations, the panels would rotate to follow the sun over the course of the day. Maximum panel height is anticipated to be up to 20 feet high, depending on the mounting system selected and on County building codes.

The solar array fields would be arranged in groups called “blocks” with inverter stations generally located centrally within the blocks. Blocks would produce direct electrical current (DC), which is converted to alternating electrical current (AC) at the inverter stations.

Each PV module would be placed on a fixed-tilt or tracker mounting structure. The foundations for the mounting structures can extend up to 10 feet below ground, depending on the structure, soil conditions, and wind loads, and may be encased in concrete or utilize small concrete footings. A light-colored ground cover or palliative may be used to increase electricity production. Final solar panel layout and spacing would be optimized for project area characteristics and the desired energy production profile. *Figures 4A to 4M, Site Plans*, show the proposed layout of the solar panels within the respective sites.

### *Collection, Inverter, and Transformer Systems*

Photovoltaic energy is delivered via cable to inverter stations, generally located near the center of each block. Inverter stations are typically comprised of one or more inverter modules with a rated power of up to 5 MW each, a unit transformer, and voltage switch gear. The unit transformer and voltage switch gear are housed in steel enclosures, while the inverter module(s) are housed in cabinets. Depending on the vendor selected, the inverter stations may lie within an enclosed or canopied metal structure, typically on a skid or concrete mounted pad.

### *Energy Storage System*

Each Site may include one or more Energy Storage Systems (ESS), located at or near a substation/switchyard (on-site or shared) and/or at the inverter stations, but possibly elsewhere on-site. Such



large-scale ESSs would be up to 600 MW-AC in capacity and up to 25 acres in total area. ESSs consist of modular and scalable battery packs and battery control systems that conform to U.S. national safety standards. The ESS modules, which could include commercially available lithium or flow batteries, typically consist of standard International Organization for Standardization containers (approximately 40 feet in length by 8 feet in width by 8 feet in height) housed in pad- or post-mounted, stackable metal structures, but may also be housed in a dedicated building(s) in compliance with applicable regulations. The maximum height of a dedicated structure is not expected to exceed 25 feet. The actual dimensions and number of energy storage modules and structures vary depending on the application, supplier, and configuration chosen, as well as on offtaker/power purchase agreement requirements and on County building standards. The ESS modules would have a fire rating in conformance with Kern County standards.

### *Substation(s)*

Output from the inverter stations would be transferred via electrical conduits and electrical conductor wires to one or more on-site substation(s) or switchyard(s) (collectively referred to as a “substation”). Each substation may contain several components, including auxiliary power transformers, distribution cabinets, revenue metering systems, microwave transmission tower, and voltage switch gear. Each substation would occupy an area of approximately 200 feet by 200 feet, secured separately by an additional chain-link fence, and typically located along the perimeter of the project. The final location(s) would be determined before issuance of building permits.

Substations typically include a small control building (roughly 500 square feet) standing approximately 10 feet tall. The building is either prefabricated concrete or steel housing with rooms for the voltage switch gear and the metering equipment, a room for the station supply transformer, and a separate control technology room in which the main computer, the intrusion detection system, and the main distribution equipment are housed. Components of this building (e.g., control technology room and intrusion detection system) may alternatively be located at the operations and maintenance (O&M) building(s).

### *Operations and Maintenance Facilities*

Each Site may include an O&M building of approximately 40 feet by 80 feet in size, and approximately 15 feet in height, with associated on-site parking (unpaved). The O&M building(s) may be co-located with the substation(s) and would be steel framed, with metal siding and roof panels. The O&M building(s) may include the following:

- Office
- Repair building/parts storage
- Control room
- Restroom
- Septic tank and leach field

Roads, driveways, and parking lot entrances would be constructed in accordance with Kern County improvement standards. Parking spaces and walkways would be constructed in accordance with all California Accessibility Regulations.



The proposed project may share O&M facilities with any future energy projects in the area and/or may be remotely operated. Any unused O&M areas on-site may be covered by solar panels.

### *Onsite Meteorological Station*

A solar meteorological station would be located on-site, the location of which would be determined at final project design. The meteorological station would include solar energy (irradiance) meters, in addition to an air temperature sensor and wind anemometer. It is anticipated that the maximum height of this equipment would be up to 20 feet.

### *Transmission Line*

From the proposed project's substation(s), power could be transmitted to the Southern California Edison (SCE) Holgate Substation via up to 230 kV overhead and/or underground line(s); refer to *Figure 2, Project Site Boundaries*, which shows the transmission line alignment. If aboveground, the overhead lines would be mounted on monopoles up to 150 feet in height. A franchise and/or encroachment agreement with Kern County along affected County roadways may ultimately be required for portions of the transmission line.

Alternatively, the proposed project could transmit its power to the SCE Kramer Substation located to the east in San Bernardino County, via an overhead and/or underground transmission line located within an Edwards Air Force Base utility corridor. The alignment of the transmission line being considered is illustrated in *Figure 2, Project Site Boundaries*.

### *Site Access and Security*

The project would be accessed from various area roadways. Construction traffic would access the project site from Gephart Road, Borax Road, Boron Avenue, and/or 20 Mule Team Road. No improvements to existing off-site roadways would be required to provide construction (or permanent) access to the sites.

The perimeter of each of the 5 sites would be enclosed within a chain link fence with barbed wire measuring up to 8 feet in height (from finished grade). An intrusion alarm system comprised of sensor cables would be integrated into the perimeter fence. Additionally, the project may include security measures such as barbed wire, low voltage fencing with warning reflective signage, controlled access points, security alarms, security camera systems, sensor lights, or security guard vehicle patrols to deter trespassing and/or unauthorized activities that could interfere with project operations.

Controlled access gates would be maintained at the main entrances to Sites 1-5. Project access would be provided to off-site emergency response teams (i.e., fire department) that would respond in the event of an "after-hours" emergency. Enclosure gates would be manually operated with a key provided in an identified key box location.

For each of the sites, interior roadway alignments would be finalized once placement of the solar panels is determined and would be influenced by topographical, biological, or cultural resource determinations, or other site conditions. Where on-site access roads may cross streambed areas under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, crossings would be designed to minimize or avoid any impacts to such jurisdictional resources and in compliance with California Fish and Game Code requirements, including authorization through a Streambed Alteration Agreement as appropriate.



### *Stormwater Management*

At this preliminary stage of site design, it has not been determined whether on-site stormwater management facilities, such as detention ponds, would be necessary. This will be determined through further hydrological analysis and if required, these facilities will be described and addressed in the EIR.

### *Water Storage Tank(s)*

One or more above-ground water storage tanks with a total capacity of up to 50,000 gallons (greater if required by Fire Department regulations) may be placed on-site near the O&M building(s). The storage tank(s) near the O&M building(s) would have the appropriate fire department connections to be used for fire suppression purposes.

### *Project Site Lighting*

Proposed nighttime lighting on-site would be minimal and is anticipated to be installed at the access gates, substation(s), O&M building(s), and inverters to allow for access and emergency maintenance. Nighttime lighting would provide O&M personnel with illumination for both normal and emergency operating conditions. The minimum illumination needed to ensure worker safety and security on-site would be provided. All nighttime lighting installed would be shielded and directed downward to minimize the potential for glare or spillover onto adjacent properties as required by Kern County Ordinance (Chapter 19.81) - Outdoor Lighting-Dark Skies requirements. Additionally, motion-sensitive cameras would be installed within the solar fields in proximity to the inverters for purposes of security.

### Construction Activities

The construction period for the proposed project from site preparation through construction and testing is expected to commence as early as 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2021 and would extend for approximately 12 to 18 months.

Construction of the proposed project would include the following activities:

- Site preparation
- Access and internal circulation roads
- Grading and earthwork
- Panel installation
- Concrete foundations
- Structural steel work
- Electrical/instrumentation work
- Collector line installation
- Stormwater management facilities
- Architecture and landscaping





### *Schedule and Workforce*

Construction traffic would access the project site from Gephart Road, Borax Road, Boron Avenue, and/or 20 Mule Team Road. It is estimated that up to 1,000 workers per day (during peak construction periods) would be required during construction of the proposed project. Employees would have the option to drive their own automobiles to the project site; alternatively, a shuttle service may be provided from one or more locations that are yet to be determined. It is anticipated that, due to the size of the project site, parking for all employee vehicles could be accommodated on-site if a shuttle service is not provided. Construction worker parking areas would be located within each active construction site.

Heavy construction is expected to occur between 6:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Additional hours may be necessary to make up schedule deficiencies or to complete critical construction activities. Some activities may continue 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Low level noise activities may potentially occur between the hours of 10:00 pm and 7:00 am. Nighttime activities could potentially include, but are not limited to, refueling equipment, staging material for the following day's construction activities, quality assurance/control, and commissioning.

Construction materials and supplies would be delivered to the project site by truck. It is anticipated that all such materials and supplies would be stored on-site for each of the five sites, respectively, and within proximity to the area where work would be undertaken. For work along the gen-tie routes, it is anticipated that adequate land areas within the affected easements or rights-of-way would be available to accommodate staging/laydown areas during the construction phase and that off-site lands would not be affected. Truck deliveries would normally occur during daylight hours. However, there would be offloading and/or transporting to the project site on weekends and during evening hours.

### *Site Preparation, Earthwork and Construction Control Measures*

The project site(s) would be cleared and graded as needed to allow for the installation of the solar arrays, energy storage facility, related infrastructure, access driveways, and temporary construction staging areas. Sediment and erosion controls would be installed in accordance with an approved Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Stabilized construction entrances and exits would also be installed at the project entrance driveways to ensure that potential for tracking of sediment onto adjacent public roadways is minimized.

Earthmoving activities are expected to be limited to the construction of the internal access roads, solar panel arrays, the O&M building(s), substations, energy storage systems, water storage tank and possibly water treatment systems, gen-tie lines, and for storm water protection or storage (detention) facilities. Final grading may include revegetation with low lying grass or applying earth-binding materials to disturbed areas.

Dust-minimizing techniques, such as maintaining natural vegetation where possible, use of mow-and-roll vegetation clearing, placement of wind control fencing, application of water, and/or application of dust suppressants would be implemented as needed. Project grading would be minimized to the extent feasible to reduce unnecessary soil movement that may result in dust generation. Earthworks scrapers, excavators, dozers, water trucks, paddlewheels, haul vehicles, and graders may all be used in site preparation. Access roads may be compacted, as required, to support construction and emergency vehicles. Certain access roads may also be surfaced with aggregate or decomposed granite in conformance with emergency access requirements. Any grading would be balanced on-site, with no need for the export or import of soils.



Additionally, on-site trenching for the placement of underground electrical and communication lines would occur.

Noise-generating construction activities would be limited to construction hours allowed by the County's noise ordinance. All stationary construction equipment that may result in excessive noise or vibration levels would be operated away from sensitive noise receptors to the extent feasible. Construction activities would occur such that maximum noise levels at affected sensitive noise receptors (i.e., rural residential uses) would not exceed the County's adopted noise threshold levels.

Applicable local, state, and federal requirements and best management practices (BMPs) would be implemented during the construction phase. Consistent with the County zoning ordinance and with guidelines provided in the California Stormwater Quality Association's Construction Best Management Practice Handbook, BMPs would be implemented, including preparation of a Stormwater Pollution and Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and a soil erosion and sedimentation control plan to reduce the potential for erosion and to minimize effects on stormwater quality. Stabilized construction entrances and exits would be installed at the entrances to each site to reduce the tracking of sediment onto adjacent public roadways.

Additionally, site preparation would occur in conformance with County BMPs and Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District rules for dust control.

### *Construction Water Use*

Water would be required during the construction phase for such activities as dust suppression, soil compaction, and grading. Water may also be used at points of ingress/egress to minimize the tracking of dirt off-site onto local roadways from construction vehicles. Water usage during construction, primarily for dust-suppression purposes, is not expected to exceed 410 acre-feet over the 12-18 month construction phase. Bottled water would be provided to the construction workers. Additionally, on-site restroom facilities for the construction workers would be provided by portable units to be serviced by licensed providers; no connection to a public sewer system is required for project construction, and therefore, water for such purposes is not required.

As noted above, it is anticipated that water would be obtained from on-site wells or delivered via truck or pipeline from an off-site source(s) within the project vicinity. If water is trucked into the site, it is anticipated that an available local water source would be selected to minimize truck trips/lengths in transporting water to/from the site.

### *Electrical Supply*

The method of temporary power for construction is expected to be provided by mobile diesel-driven generator sets, batteries, by temporary electrical service from a local provider, or a combination of all three methods.

## **Project Operation and Maintenance Activities**

Once the proposed project is constructed, maintenance would generally be limited to the following:

- Cleaning of PV panels
- Monitoring electricity generation



- Providing site security
- Facility maintenance – replacing or repairing inverters, wiring, and PV modules

### *Schedule and Workforce*

During the operational phase, the project would employ up to 25 full-time equivalent (FTE) personnel (or personnel hours totaling 25 FTE positions (i.e., an average of 1,000 personnel hours per week) who would commute to the site. Each Site could require an operational staff of up to five full-time employees who could be there at any time, for example, when urgent repairs or maintenance are required. As previously mentioned above, it is possible that the proposed project could share O&M, substation, and/or transmission facilities with each other, or with any future energy projects nearby. In such a scenario, the projects would share personnel, thereby potentially reducing the project's on-site staff.

The facility would operate seven days a week, 24 hours a day, generating electricity during normal daylight hours when the solar energy is available. Maintenance activities may occur seven days a week, 24 hours a day to ensure PV panel output when solar energy is available.

### *Water Usage*

Water demand for panel washing and O&M domestic use (sinks, lavatories, landscape irrigation, drinking) is not expected to exceed 60 acre-feet per year. It is estimated that the panels could be washed on average up to four times per year. Water is anticipated to be obtained from on-site wells or delivered via truck or pipeline from an off-site source(s) within the project vicinity. If water is trucked into the site, it is anticipated that an available local water source would be selected to minimize truck trips/lengths in transporting water to/from the site. A small water treatment system may also be installed at each of the Sites 1-5 to provide deionized water for panel washing if water is taken from on-site wells.

### *Electrical Supply*

Power for plant auxiliaries would be provided by the project's electrical generation or supplied by the local power provider. The proposed project would require power for the O&M facilities, electrical enclosures, tracker motors, associated structures, and for plant lighting and security.

## **Project Features and Best Management Practices**

The following sections describe standard project features and best management practices that would be applied during construction and long-term operation of the project to maintain safety and minimize or avoid environmental impacts.

### *Waste and Hazardous Materials Management*

The proposed project would have minimal levels of materials on-site that have been defined as hazardous under 40 CFR, Part 261. The following materials are expected to be used during the construction, operation, and long-term maintenance of the proposed project:

- Insulating oil – used for electrical equipment
- Lubricating oil – used for maintenance vehicles



- Various solvents/detergents – equipment cleaning
- Gasoline – used for maintenance vehicles

Hazardous materials and wastes will be managed, used, handled, stored, and transported in accordance with applicable local and State regulations. All hazardous wastes will be maintained at quantities below the threshold requiring a Hazardous Material Management Program (HMMP) (one 55 gallon drum). Though not expected, should any on-site storage of hazardous materials exceed one 55-gallon drum, an HMMP would be prepared and implemented.

### *Spill Prevention and Containment*

Spill prevention and containment for construction and operation of the proposed project will adhere to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) guidance on Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC).

### *Wastewater/Septic System*

A standard on-site septic tank and leach field would be used at the O&M building(s) to dispose of sanitary wastewater from sinks and lavatories, designed to meet operation and maintenance guidelines required by Kern County laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards. If no O&M buildings are installed on-site, no septic systems would be installed.

### *Inert Solids*

Inert solid wastes resulting from construction activities may include recyclable items such as paper, cardboard, solid concrete and block, metals, wire, glass, type 1-4 plastics, drywall, wood, and lubricating oils. Non-recyclable items include insulation, other plastics, food waste, vinyl flooring and base, carpeting, paint containers, packing materials, and other construction wastes. A Construction Waste Management Plan will be prepared for review by the County. Consistent with local regulations and the California Green Building Code, the Plan would provide for diversion of a minimum of 50 percent of construction waste from landfills.

Chemical storage tanks (if any) would be designed and installed to meet applicable local and state regulations. Any wastes classified as hazardous such as solvents, degreasing agents, concrete curing compounds, paints, adhesives, chemicals, or chemical containers will be stored (in an approved storage facility/shed/structure) and disposed of as required by local and state regulations. Material quantities of hazardous wastes are not expected.

### *Health and Safety*

Safety precautions and emergency systems will be implemented as part of the design and construction of the proposed project to ensure safe and reliable operation. Administrative controls will include classroom and hands-on training in operating and maintenance procedures, general safety items, and a planned maintenance program. These will work with the system design and monitoring features to enhance safety and reliability.

The proposed project will have an Emergency Response Plan (ERP). The ERP will address potential emergencies including chemical releases, fires, and injuries. All employees will be provided with communication devices, cell phones, or walkie-talkies, to provide aid in the event of an emergency.



## *Decommissioning*

Solar equipment typically has a lifespan of over 30 years. The proposed project expects to sell the renewable energy produced by the project under the terms of a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with a utility or other power off taker. Upon completion of the PPA term, the project operator may, at its discretion, choose to enter into a subsequent PPA or decommission and remove the system and its components. Upon decommissioning, the solar facility could be converted to other uses in accordance with applicable land use regulations in effect at that time.

It is anticipated that, during project decommissioning, project structures that would not be needed for subsequent use would be removed from the project site. Above-ground equipment that may be removed would include module posts and support structures, on-site transmission poles that are not shared with third parties and the overhead collection system within the project site, inverters, substation(s), transformers, electrical wiring, equipment on the inverter pads, and related equipment and concrete pads.

Equipment would be de-energized prior to removal, salvaged (where possible), and shipped off-site to be recycled or disposed of at an appropriately licensed disposal facility. Once the solar modules are removed, the racks would be disassembled, and the structures supporting the racks would be removed. Site infrastructure would be removed, including fences, and concrete pads that may support the inverters, transformers and related equipment. The demolition debris and removed equipment may be cut or dismantled into pieces that can be safely lifted or carried by standard construction equipment. The fencing and gates would be removed, and all materials would be recycled to the extent practical. Project roads would be restored to their pre-construction condition unless they may be used for subsequent land use. The area would be thoroughly cleaned and all debris removed. Materials would be recycled to the extent feasible, with the remainder disposed of in landfills in compliance with all applicable laws.

## **1.5. Project Objectives**

The project proponent had defined the following objectives for the project:

- Construct and operate a solar energy facility of sufficient size and configuration to produce (up to) 530 MW of reliable electricity and 600 MW of energy storage in an economically feasible and commercially financeable manner that can be marketed to different power utility companies.
- To provide energy to the electric grid to meet increasing demand for in-state generation.
- Assist Kern County in promoting its role as the State's leading producer of renewable energy.
- Site and design the project in an environmentally responsible manner consistent with current Kern County guidelines.
- To promote economic development and bring living-wage jobs to the region throughout the life of the proposed project.
- Support California's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions consistent with the timeline established in 2006 under California Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, which requires the California Air Resources Board to reduce statewide emissions of GHGs to at least the 1990 emissions level by 2020. This timeline was updated in 2016 under SB 32, which requires that statewide GHG emissions are reduced to at least 40 percent below the statewide GHG emissions limit by 2030;



- Support California’s aggressive RPS Program consistent with the timeline established by SB 100 (De León, also known as the “California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: emissions of greenhouse gases”) as approved by the California Legislature and signed by Governor Brown in September 2018, which established a 50 percent RPS goal by December 31, 2026, 60 percent by December 31, 2030, and a goal that 100 percent of electric retail sales to end-use customers be provided by renewable energy and zero-carbon resources by 2045.

## 1.6. Proposed Discretionary Actions/Required Approvals

The anticipated approvals needed for the project include changes in zone classification, adoption of conditional use permits, and general plan amendments to the Circulation Element of the Kern County General Plan. Construction and operation of the proposed solar energy facility may require additional local, State, and Federal entitlements; as well as discretionary and ministerial actions and approvals including, but not limited to, below:

### *County of Kern*

- Consideration and certification of Final EIR
- Adoption of 15091 Findings of Fact and 15093 Statement of Overriding Considerations
- Adoption of proposed Mitigation Measure Monitoring Program
- Approval by the Kern County Board of Supervisors for proposed changes in zone classification
- Approval by the Kern County Board of Supervisors for proposed conditional use permits for the project site
- Approval by the Kern County Board of Supervisors for proposed General Plan Amendments to the Circulation Element
- Kern County grading and building permits
- Kern County encroachment permits
- Kern County Franchise Agreements
- Kern County public road(s) and easement(s) vacation(s) (if required)
- Kern County Fire Safety Plan

### *Other Responsible Agency Approvals*

- Edwards Air Force Base right-of-way under 10 U.S.C. 2668 (if required).
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Plan (if required).
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement or Incidental Take Permit or Habitat Conservation Plan (if required)





- State Water Resources Control Board – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit
- California Department of Transportation Right-of-Way Encroachment Permit, and Permit for Transport of Oversized Loads
- Eastern Kern County Air Pollution Control District Authority to Construct/Permit to Operate/Fugitive Dust Control Plan

The preceding discretionary actions/approvals are potentially required and do not necessarily represent a comprehensive list of all possible discretionary permits/approvals required. Other additional permits or approvals from responsible agencies may be required for the proposed project.

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## 2. Kern County Environmental Checklist Form

### 2.1. Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a “potentially significant impact” as indicated by the Kern County Environmental Checklist on the following pages.

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural and Forestry Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning               | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Services                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Traffic          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildfire                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

### 2.2. Determination

(To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- ☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☒ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect (a) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (b) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENT IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature:

Printed Name:

Ronelle Candia

Date:

February 26, 2021

Title:

Supervising Planner



### 3. Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. Negative Declaration: “Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less-than-Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measure and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, “Earlier Analyses,” may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration, Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a. Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures that were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.



8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a. The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b. The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to a less than significant level.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>I. Aesthetics</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. In nonurbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from public accessible vantage points) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) The aesthetic features of the existing visual environment in the project area are relatively uniform, with broad, dry, flat landscapes. The project site is generally surrounded by undeveloped desert land and rural residential dwellings. The rural community of Desert Lake is located north of Site 3 and east of Site 4 and consists predominantly of rural residential uses. Rural residential uses in the community of Boron, a census-designated place in Kern County, are also located northeast of Site 2. According to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) California Scenic Highway Mapping System, the closest eligible state scenic highway is State Route (SR) 58 between the communities of Mojave and Boron. The project site is located along the portion of SR 58 that is identified as an eligible scenic highway; the portion designated extends from approximately post mile 16 (just east of the community of Edison) to post mile 64.5 which includes the project vicinity along SR 58 (Caltrans 2020). Therefore, there is the potential that the proposed project would substantially change existing views from SR 58 and other public roads. This is considered a potentially significant impact to a scenic vista and will be evaluated in the EIR.
- (b) As described in (a), above, the closest eligible scenic highway is SR 58 between the communities of Mojave and Boron. The project site is located along the portion of SR 58 that is identified as an eligible scenic highway. Specifically, Sites 4 and 5 are located immediately adjacent to the north and south of SR 58, respectively. Therefore, the proposed changes in the landscape could result in significant impacts to views from SR 58. This is considered a potentially significant impact and will be evaluated in the EIR.



- (c) Refer to Response (a), above, for a description of the existing landscape character. There is a potential that the proposed project would substantially change views from SR 58 and other public roads located in the surrounding area. Views of the proposed project would also be experienced from the residences located in the Desert Lake rural community and in Boron. Placement of the PV solar panels and associated structures on the project site would alter the existing character of the area. Residents and travelers on adjacent roads would observe alterations to the existing landscape. Changes to the visual quality and character of the project site may be potentially significant and impacts will therefore be further evaluated in the EIR.
- (d) The project site is generally undeveloped desert land and does not generate a source of light or glare. The Desert Lake rural community is located north of Site 3 and east of Site 4 and consists predominantly of rural residential dwellings. Rural residential dwellings are also located northeast of Site 2 in Boron, a census-designated place in Kern County. The existing residences in the project vicinity generate a minimal to moderate amount of light, primarily from building or outdoor lighting. The PV modules are designed to absorb sunlight to maximize electrical output; therefore, they are not expected to create significant reflective surfaces or the potential for glint/glare during the day. The proposed solar facility lighting would be designed to provide the minimum illumination needed to achieve safety and security objectives and would be directed downward and shielded to focus any illumination on the desired areas only to minimize light trespass. All lighting at the proposed solar facility would be designed to meet Kern County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 19.81 - Outdoor Lighting - Dark Skies requirements. However, further analysis of the specific lighting proposed and the potential effects of light and glare from the proposed project will be provided in the EIR.





	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>II. Agriculture and Forest Resources</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act Contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Result in the cancellation of an open space contract made pursuant to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 or Farmland Security Zone Contract for any parcel of 100 or more acres (Section 15205(b)(3) Public Resources Code)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### RESPONSES:

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in the Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.



- (a) According to the California Department of Conservation (CDC), California Important Farmland Finder Map, there are no agricultural lands designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance located within the project site. Sites 1, 2, 4, and 5 are designated as nonagricultural and natural vegetation (CDC 2019). The majority of Site 3 is designated as nonagricultural and natural vegetation, except for the southwest portion that is designated as vacant or disturbed land. There are no lands designated as important farmland located adjacent to or in the vicinity of the project site (CDC 2018). Therefore, construction and/or operation of the proposed project would not result in the conversion of designated Farmland to a nonagricultural use and there would be no impact. No further analysis in the EIR is not required.
- (b) The project site and surrounding area includes land that is currently zoned as A-1 (Limited Agriculture), M-1 (Light Industrial), and R-1 (Low-Density Residential). Zone changes are proposed to apply the A (Exclusive Agriculture) Zone District to the subject properties within Zone Maps 192, 208-5, 208-6, and 209-1, as detailed in *Table 1, Project Assessor Parcel Numbers, Existing Map Codes, Existing and Proposed Zoning, and Acreage*. According to the Kern County Zoning Ordinance, a commercial solar facility is a compatible use within the A and M-1 Zone Districts. The construction and operation of a solar energy generating facility on the site would require the approval of multiple Conditional Use Permits. The project site does not contain lands that are subject to Williamson Act contracts, either in active on in nonrenewal status. There are no lands under Williamson Act contracts adjacent to or in the vicinity of the project site. As such, there would be no impacts to Williamson Act lands. Nevertheless, this issue will be further evaluated in the EIR.
- (c) No lands affected by the proposed project are zoned as forest land or timberland, or for timberland production. Therefore, the project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause the rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned for timberland production. Therefore, there would be no impact and further analysis in the EIR is not required.
- (d) The project site is not situated on forest or timberland and is not located near any such areas that are currently under production. There is no land in the vicinity of the project site that is zoned as forest land, timberland, or lands zoned for timberland production. Therefore, there would be no impact related to the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No further analysis is warranted in the EIR.
- (e) As mentioned in response (a) above, the project site is not classified as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, and there are no active farmlands located in the project vicinity. The proposed project would not have direct or indirect impacts to the existing environment that would affect agricultural uses. The project site is not designated as forest land and forest land or timberlands do not occur in the project vicinity. Therefore, the project would not involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No further evaluation is required in the EIR.
- (f) The project site is not subject to an open space contract made pursuant to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 or the Farmland Security Zone Contract. As stated above, the project site is not under a Williamson Act Contract. The project would therefore not result in the cancellation of an open space contract made pursuant to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 or Farmland Security Zone Contract for any parcel of 100 or more acres (Section 15205(b)(3) Public Resources Code. No impact would occur, and no further evaluation is required in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>III. Air Quality</b>				
Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district shall be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard? Specifically, would implementation of the project exceed any of the following adopted thresholds:				
i. San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District:				
<u>Operational and Area Sources</u>				
Reactive organic gases (ROG): 10 tons per year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oxides of nitrogen (NO <sub>x</sub> ): 10 tons per year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Particulate matter (PM <sub>10</sub> ): 15 tons per year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Stationary Sources - as Determined by District Rules</u>				
Severe nonattainment: 25 tons per year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extreme nonattainment: 10 tons per year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District.				
<u>Operational and Area Sources</u>				
Reactive organic gases (ROG): 25 tons per year.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oxides of nitrogen (NO <sub>x</sub> ): 25 tons per year.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Particulate matter (PM <sub>10</sub> ): 15 tons per year.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Stationary Sources – as Determined by District Rules</u>				
25 tons per year.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**RESPONSES:**

- (a) The project site is located entirely within the jurisdiction of the Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (EKAPCD), in the Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB). The MDAB is designated as a nonattainment area for both the state and federal ozone standards and the state particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) standard. Project construction would generate emissions of reactive organic gases (ROG) and oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>), both of which are known as ozone precursors, and PM<sub>10</sub> that could result in significant impacts to air quality in the area.

EKAPCD's most recently adopted air quality management plan is its Ozone Air Quality Attainment Plan (AQAP) (EKAPCD 2017). As the proposed project would generate gaseous emissions of ozone precursors (along with PM<sub>10</sub>) during construction, the proposed project could potentially conflict with EKAPCD's Ozone AQAP or thresholds for emissions of other criteria pollutants. The fully built and operational project would not include any stationary sources of air pollutants and the regular employee commuting traffic would generate minor exhaust emissions. As such, no significant long-term air quality impacts are anticipated that could result in a conflict with the AQAP. Further analysis of the project's air quality impacts is warranted to determine whether the proposed project would conflict with or obstruct implementation of EKAPCD's applicable air quality plan for attainment and, if so, to determine the reasonable and feasible mitigation measures that could be imposed. These issues will be evaluated in the EIR.

- (b) The proposed project is not located within the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District and, therefore, its adopted thresholds do not apply. However, as noted in Response (a) above, the project is located within the MDAB, which is designated as a nonattainment area for the state and federal ozone standards and the state PM<sub>10</sub> standard. As such, the emissions of ozone precursors (ROG and NO<sub>x</sub>) and PM<sub>10</sub> during construction and operation of the project could result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of these criteria pollutants in the MDAB. Thus, the project's contribution to cumulative air quality impacts in the MDAB could be potentially significant. The project's contribution of construction and operational emissions to the MDAB will be analyzed in the EIR.
- (c) Sensitive receptors located in the project area consist predominantly of rural residential dwellings located at varying distances from the project site. The nearest sensitive receptors are rural residential dwellings in the unincorporated communities of Desert Lake and Boron. The sensitive receptors closest to the project site are the Desert Lake Apartments approximately 0.13 miles to the north of Site 3 across Twenty Mule Team Road. Single-family residences are located approximately 0.3 miles northeast of the northeastern corner of Site 2 along Ferguson Street in the community of Boron; Boron Park, a local park, is located approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the northeastern corner of Site 2. The closest school to the site is the West Boron Elementary School, located approximately 0.30 miles north of Site 3. Nearby sensitive receptors could be exposed to pollutant emissions during construction of the proposed project. The proposed project's construction-related activities would result in diesel exhaust emissions and dust (also known as PM<sub>10</sub>) that could adversely affect air quality for the nearest sensitive receptors.

Additionally, exposure to Valley Fever and COVID-19 concerns from fugitive dust generated during construction is a potentially significant impact. There is the potential that cocci spores could be stirred up during excavation, grading, and earth-moving activities, exposing construction workers and nearby sensitive receptors to these spores and thereby to the possibility of contracting Valley Fever and/or exacerbate health concerns related to COVID-19. Thus, impacts to sensitive receptors via



exposure to substantial pollutant concentrations are considered potentially significant and will be evaluated further in the EIR.

- (d) The project would not have any stationary sources or equipment located on-site that would generate objectionable odors. During construction activities, only short-term, temporary odors from vehicle exhaust and construction equipment engines would occur. However, these odors would be temporary and would be dispersed rapidly. Therefore, project impacts are expected to be less than significant; however, this issue will be further evaluated in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>IV. Biological Resources</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) The project site contains large areas of undeveloped desert land with native vegetation. There is a potential for candidate, sensitive, or special-status plants and wildlife species to be present on-site or in the project vicinity. The findings of field surveys conducted to determine the presence of candidate, sensitive, or special-status plant and animal species on-site and in the surrounding area will be included in the EIR. Impacts to biological resources and sensitive plant communities are considered potentially significant and will be analyzed in the EIR.





- (b) The project site is undeveloped and is dominated by desert vegetation. Field surveys for riparian and other sensitive natural communities will be completed for the proposed project, and the results will be incorporated into the EIR. Impacts to riparian or other sensitive natural communities are therefore considered potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the EIR.
- (c) Potential federal or state-protected water-based resources such as streams and washes could be present on the project site and might be impacted by project construction activities. A determination as to whether the project site contains features considered under federal or state jurisdiction will be conducted as part of the EIR. Impacts to protected wetlands would be considered potentially significant. Further analysis will be included in the EIR.
- (d) The project site and surrounding area may be used for migration or dispersal by some wildlife species. Project construction and operation could also remove foraging habitat. This impact is potentially significant and will be further evaluated in the EIR.
- (e) Joshua trees (*Yucca brevifolia*) are protected under the California Desert Native Plants Act (CDNPA) and California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and have been documented within the project site both through review of available databases and via on-site surveys conducted for the proposed project by the project's consulting biologist. Implementation of the proposed project has the potential to impact Joshua trees; therefore, this impact is potentially significant and will be further evaluated in the EIR.
- (f) As stated above, as currently designed, the project is considered to be consistent with the Land Use, Open Space, and Conservation Element of the Kern County General Plan. The project site is located within the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) planning area, which means that the area is expected to support fewer sensitive status species than areas identified with conservation potential and is therefore more likely to be appropriate for renewable energy development. However, the DRECP at this time only applies to federal public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management and is not an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) or Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP). The proposed project would be located on private land and therefore is not subject to the DRECP. There are no other adopted conservation plans for protection of biological resources governing the project area. No impact would occur as the proposed project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan. No further analysis in the EIR is warranted.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>V. Cultural Resources</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) and (b) The project site consists of undeveloped desert land. Development of the proposed project would require ground disturbance for grading, installation of the solar arrays, gen-tie line, and placement of underground electrical and communications lines. The proposed project could potentially impact historical or cultural resources, including resources that are undiscovered or that may be buried underground. A cultural resources survey will be conducted for the proposed project as part of the EIR, to determine presence or potential presence of archaeological and historical resources and identify potential impacts to historical and/or archaeological cultural resources and to formulate avoidance or mitigation measures, if applicable.
- (c) There is no evidence that the project site is located within an area likely to contain human remains, and discovery of human remains during project earthmoving activities is not anticipated. Therefore, impacts to human remains are anticipated to be less than significant. Nonetheless, this issue will be further evaluated in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>VI. Energy</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) Construction of the proposed project would involve on-site energy demand and consumption related to use of oil in the form of gasoline and diesel fuel for construction worker vehicle trips, hauling and materials delivery truck trips, and operation of off-road construction equipment. In addition, diesel-fueled portable generators may be necessary to provide additional electricity demands for temporary on-site lighting, welding, and for supplying energy to areas of the sites where energy supply cannot be met via a hookup to the existing electricity grid.

Following implementation of the proposed project, energy would switch from consumption to production. Energy use associated with operation of the proposed project would be typical of a solar facility. Operation and maintenance facilities associated with the project would require electricity for interior and exterior building lighting, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), electronic equipment, machinery, appliances, security systems, etc. Maintenance activities during operations, such as landscape maintenance, could involve the use of electric or gas-powered equipment. In addition to on-site energy use, the proposed project would result in transportation energy use associated with employee vehicle trips generated by the proposed project. Further analysis of the project's energy use will be conducted to determine if there could be wasteful or inefficient energy consumption.

- (b) Following implementation of the proposed project, energy would switch from consumption to production. Operation of the proposed project would lead to an overall increase in the County's Renewable Portfolio and would align with the stated General Plan policy to encourage the development of renewable energy within Kern County. Impacts are considered to be less than significant. However, further analysis is warranted to provide a broader assessment of the project's beneficial effects in terms of implementing important State and County objectives for renewable energy, and this topic will be discussed and analyzed in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>VII. Geology and Soils</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems in areas where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**RESPONSES:**

- (a)(i) According to the preliminary geotechnical study prepared for the project, the project site is not located within a currently mapped Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Fault Zone (Stantec 2019a). The nearest active major fault is the Helendale-South Lockhart fault, located approximately 9.2 miles northeast of the project site. Impacts related to surface fault ruptures, therefore, are not anticipated. In addition, construction of the project would be subject to all applicable ordinances of the Kern County Building Code (Chapter 17.08), include standards related to seismic hazards. Kern County has adopted the California Building Standards Code (CBC), which imposes substantially the same requirements as the International Building Code (IBC). Adherence to applicable building code standards would mitigate any potential impacts associated with the project. Impacts would be less than significant; however, further analysis in the EIR is warranted.
- (a)(ii) Due to the location of active faults in the general region, strong seismic ground shaking could occur at the project site, resulting in damage to above and below ground structures and other site improvements, if not properly designed to withstand strong ground shaking. Construction of the proposed project would be subject to all applicable ordinances of the Kern County Building Code (Chapter 17.08). Kern County has adopted the CBC which imposes substantially the same requirements for design to resist strong ground motions as the IBC. Adherence to applicable regulations would minimize the potential impacts associated with the proposed project. Although potential impacts are anticipated to be less than significant, further analysis in the EIR is warranted.
- (a)(iii) Seismically induced liquefaction occurs when loose, water-saturated sediments of relatively low density are subjected to cyclic shaking that causes soils to lose strength or stiffness because of increased pore water pressure. Liquefaction generally occurs when the depth to groundwater is less than 50 feet. Based on review of available groundwater data in the site vicinity, groundwater in the site vicinity is expected to be more than 160 feet below ground surface (Stantec 2019a). Thus, the potential for liquefaction at the surface is low. Furthermore, the project is not located within a current, mapped California Liquefaction Hazard Zone (Stantec 2018). Structures constructed as part of the project would be required by state law to be constructed in accordance with all applicable IBC and CBC earthquake construction standards, including those relating to soil characteristics. Nonetheless, the potential for substantial adverse effects to the project due to seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, will be examined in the EIR. A geotechnical investigation will be conducted to determine the subsurface conditions and relevant soil properties at the project site.
- (a)(iv) The project site is located in a relatively flat-lying plain, where landslides are not likely. Impacts related to landslides are not anticipated to occur or pose a hazard to the project or surrounding area. Further analysis of this issue is not warranted in the EIR.
- (b) Minimal grading and/or excavation would be required for solar panel array and some building foundations at the site, and some trenching would be required for the installation of underground cables and circuits. Project construction would have the potential to result in erosion, sedimentation, and discharge of construction debris from the site. Clearing of vegetation and grading activities, for example, could lead to exposed or stockpiled soils susceptible to peak storm water runoff flows and wind forces. The compaction of soils by heavy equipment may minimally reduce the infiltration capacity of soils (exposed during construction) and increase runoff and erosion potential. The presence of large amounts of raw materials for construction, including aggregate base course material, may lead to storm water runoff contamination. The project proponent would be required to obtain coverage under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction



General Permit (CGP), because the proposed project would disturb greater than one acre of land. In order to conform to the requirements of the CGP, a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) would need to be prepared that outlines specific best management practices (BMPs) to prevent construction pollutants, including eroded soils (such as topsoil), from moving off-site. Impacts are anticipated to be less than significant with implementation of the above requirements. However, this issue will be further evaluated in the EIR.

- (c) A geotechnical investigation of the project site is to be conducted to determine the physical characteristics of the underlying soils and geologic formations and to identify any unstable conditions that could be exacerbated by proposed construction activities. The results of these investigations will be provided in the EIR.
- (d) Expansive soils are fine-grained soils (generally high plasticity clays) that can undergo a significant increase in volume with an increase in water content and a significant decrease in volume with a decrease in water content. Changes in the water content of a highly expansive soil can result in severe distress to structures constructed on or against the soil. A geotechnical investigation will be conducted to determine the subsurface conditions and relevant soil properties at the project site, including potentially expansive soil conditions. The proposed project would be designed to comply with applicable building codes and structural improvement requirements to withstand the effects of expansive soils. Impacts are anticipated to be less than significant; nonetheless, this issue will be further evaluated in the EIR.
- (e) The project could include one or more O&M facilities that would include restrooms for on-site employees, that would generate wastewater that would require disposal. It is anticipated that a septic tank and associated disposal fields would be installed at each of the O&M facilities. Analysis of the soil characteristics for proposed septic tank/leach fields will be conducted to determine if such facilities are feasible and this analysis will be presented in the EIR.
- (f) Kern County is rich in paleontological resources. If sensitive paleontological formations are located underground on the project site, ground disturbance could result in impacts to paleontological resources. A paleontological study will be conducted to determine the underlying formations and potential for fossil discoveries throughout the project site. This analysis will be provided in the EIR to identify potential impacts and to formulate avoidance or mitigation measures, if applicable.





	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
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## VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Would the project:

- |    |   |                                     |                          |                          |                          |
|----|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. | Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. | Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### RESPONSES:

- (a) Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions emitted by human activity are implicated in global climate change or global warming. The principal GHGs are CO<sub>2</sub>, methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), NO<sub>x</sub>, ozone, water vapor, and fluorinated gases. The temporary construction activities associated with the proposed project, which would involve operation of heavy off-road equipment, on-road trucks (for deliveries and hauling), and construction worker commute trips, would generate GHGs through exhaust emissions. However, as a solar facility, the proposed project is expected to displace traditional sources of electricity production that involves combustion energy sources (e.g., burning coal, fuel oil, or natural gas). As such, the provision of solar energy by the proposed project would produce GHG-free electricity that is anticipated to offset GHGs that would otherwise be generated by traditional fuel combustion sources of electricity. The project's GHG emissions generated during construction of the project and the potential GHG offsets resulting from operation of the project will be quantified in the EIR. Potential for significant environmental impacts will be examined through the project's consistency with GHG reduction plans, programs or regulations, as outlined in the next response.
- (b) California has passed several bills and the governor has signed at least three executive orders regarding GHGs. Assembly Bill (AB) 32 (the Global Warming Solutions Act) was passed by the California legislature on August 31, 2006 and requires the state's global warming emissions to be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020. The reduction will be accomplished through an enforceable statewide cap on GHG emissions that was phased in starting in 2012.

In 2002, California established its Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) Program, with the goal of increasing the percentage of renewable energy in the state's electricity mix to 20 percent renewable energy by 2017. In 2006, under SB 107, the RPS Program codified the 20 percent goal. The RPS Program requires electric utilities and providers to increase procurement from eligible renewable energy resources by at least one percent of their retail sales annually until they reach 20 percent by 2017. On November 17, 2008, the governor signed Executive Order S-14-08, requiring California utilities to reach the 33 percent renewable goal by 2020. In 2015, SB 350 was enacted to increase the RPS to 50 percent and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2030 and to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.



The proposed project is intended to: (1) reduce importation of power from fossil fuel power plants and (2) contribute to a reduction in GHGs associated with energy consumption by residential and business consumers. Heavy equipment operation, truck deliveries, and construction worker commute trips associated with construction of the proposed project would temporarily generate GHGs; however, operation of the project would offset GHGs generated by traditional fuel combustion sources of electricity. The project's potential GHG impacts and the potential GHG offsets resulting from operation of the project will be examined in the EIR, with respect to the objectives of statewide programs to reduce GHGs associated with energy generation.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Emit hazardous emissions or involve handling hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located within the adopted Kern County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Expose people or structures, directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Would implementation of the project generate vectors (flies, mosquitoes, rodents, etc.) or have a component that includes agricultural waste?				
Specifically, would the project exceed the following qualitative threshold:				
The presence of domestic flies, mosquitoes, cockroaches, rodents, and/or any other vectors associated with the project is significant when the applicable enforcement agency determines that any of the vectors:				



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
i. Occur as immature stages and adults in numbers considerably in excess of those found in the surrounding environment; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Are associated with design, layout, and management of project operations; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Disseminate widely from the property; and	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Cause detrimental effects on the public health or well-being of the majority of the surrounding population.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### RESPONSES:

- (a) Wastes to be generated during construction of the proposed project would be non-hazardous, and would consist of cardboard, wood pallets, copper wire, scrap steel, common trash, and wood wire spools. Although field equipment used during construction activities could contain various hazardous materials (i.e., hydraulic oil, diesel fuel, grease, lubricants, solvents, adhesives, paints, etc.), these materials are not considered to be acutely hazardous and would be used in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and all applicable regulations. In addition, hazardous fuels and lubricants used on field equipment would be subject to a Construction Waste Management Plan and, if required, a Spill Prevention, Containment and Countermeasure Plan.

The fully operating project would not involve the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials as defined by the Hazardous Materials Transportation Uniform Safety Act. During construction, the proposed project would include the transport of general construction materials (i.e., concrete, wood, metal, fuel, etc.) as well as materials necessary to construct the proposed PV arrays. Project-related infrastructure would not emit hazardous materials, or be constructed of acutely hazardous materials or substances, that could adversely impact the public or on-site workers.

The proposed project would be subject to all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to the use of hazardous materials on-site and would be subject to review by the Kern County Environmental Health Services Division. Through the review process, the project would be required to submit a complete list of all materials used on-site, how the materials would be transported and stored, and in what form they would be used to maintain safety and prevent possible environmental contamination or worker exposure. During construction of the proposed project, Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all applicable materials present at the site would be made readily available to on-site personnel. During construction of the facilities, non-hazardous construction debris would be generated and disposed of in approved facilities. During construction of the facility, human waste would be managed using portable toilets located at reasonably accessible on-site locations.

The PV panels may include solid materials that are considered to be hazardous, such as cadmium telluride. The project would use the manufacturer's collection and recycling program to ensure the



proper collection and recycling of PV panels, as needed. Solar panels are in a solid and non-leachable state; broken PV panels would be quickly replaced, which would avoid a potential source of pollution to storm water. Dust palliative and herbicides, if used, may be transported to and stored at the project site. These materials would be stored in appropriate containers that would prevent their accidental release at the site.

SR 14 and SR 58 are designated routes for the transport of hazardous materials. These roadways are equipped to handle the transport of hazardous materials and both SR 14 and SR 58 would provide regional access to the project.

Impacts resulting from the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials during construction and operation of the proposed project will be evaluated further in the EIR.

- (b) Construction and operation of the proposed project may include the accidental release of storage materials, such as cleaning fluids and petroleum products including lubricants, fuels, and solvents. Electrical transformer equipment that would be installed as part of the proposed project may include various hazardous substances, including polychlorinated biphenyls. The toxicity and potential release of these materials would depend on the quantity, type of storage container, safety protocols used on the site, location and/or proximity to schools and residences, frequency and duration of spills or storage leaks, and the reactivity of hazardous substances with other materials. In addition, the proposed project could also include an Energy Storage Systems (ESS). The ESS would be composed of battery storage modules placed in multiple prefabricated enclosures or containers near the on-site substation(s). Potential hazards associated with ESS include increased potential for electrical shock and chemical release associated with the batteries used.

The proposed project would be subject to all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to the use of hazardous materials on-site and would be subject to review by the Kern County Environmental Health Services Division. Through the review process, the project proponent would be required to submit a complete list of all materials used on-site, how the materials would be transported and stored, and in what form they would be used. This would be recorded to maintain safety and prevent possible environmental contamination or worker exposure. This would include submission of MSDS for all applicable materials present at the site, and the MSDS would be made readily available to on-site personnel. It is anticipated that adherence to regulations and standard protocols during the storage, transportation, and usage of any hazardous materials would avoid significant impacts; nonetheless, potential impacts will be evaluated in the EIR.

- (c) West Boron Elementary School is located approximately 0.30 miles north of Site 3. The proposed project is a solar energy generation facility that involves using photovoltaic solar panels to generate electricity. Further evaluation of the operational characteristics will be provided in the EIR, to determine whether the project could potentially result in hazards at the nearest school site from emissions or handling of hazardous substances and wastes.
- (d) Based on a review of the Cortese List Data Resources, one hazardous materials site is located on Site 3. The Edwards Air Force Base - 7 - AOC 371 (ID DOD100133200) site is identified on the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker database as a military cleanup site. As of April 6, 2010, the site has a cleanup status of "Open – Inactive" (Geotracker 2020). Additionally, based on the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) prepared by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. in July 2019 for the project site, several recognized environmental conditions (RECs) were identified on or near the project site (Stantec 2019b). These include the Boron Sanitary Landfill, located



between project Sites 1 and 2; a former shooting range identified within Site 1; and a historical target site (Site PB-9) formerly used by Edwards Air Force Base, along the southern boundary of Site 2. A Phase II ESA was subsequently prepared in July 2020 to further investigate these RECs (Stantec 2020). Soil vapor probing found a lack of methane on the project site, thereby indicating that methane has not encroached from the Boron Landfill onto the subject property. Additionally, all detected concentrations of metals (i.e., copper, lead, and nickel) in soils at the shooting range were within typical California regional background ranges and below commercial-use screening criteria. Therefore, no further investigation is recommended for these sites (Stantec 2020). Multiple areas of discarded debris were observed throughout the property, including debris within the small-arms shooting range. It is recommended that such materials within the property boundaries be removed prior to development. The historical target site was used by Edwards Air Force Base and was located along the southern project boundary. As this site is considered a Historical REC (HREC), the Phase II ESA recommended that this HREC be further evaluated by an authorized unexploded ordinance (UXO) firm and that a certified UXO company be present during the development of this portion of the project site (Stantec 2020). No further evaluation of the historical target site was therefore performed with the Phase II ESA. Impacts from hazardous materials sites are considered to be potentially significant and will be further analyzed in the EIR.

- (e) The Kern County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) covers operations at the Edwards Air Force Base, which borders the project site to the west and south. The nearest public airport to the project site is the California City Municipal Airport located approximately 18 miles northwest of the project site. The project site is not located within any safety or noise zones for the California City Municipal Airport. Due to the nature of the proposed land use, impacts from air traffic hazards or excessive aircraft noise are not anticipated to occur for people residing or working in the project area with respect to the project's proximity to an airport. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no further analysis is warranted in the EIR.
- (f) The project site is located in an area with several alternative roadways allowing access in the event of an emergency. As required by routine and standard construction specifications administered by Kern County, access would be maintained throughout construction, and appropriate detours would be provided in the event of potential road closures. Therefore, no significant impacts related to impairment of the implementation of or physical interference with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan would occur during construction.

The small size of the operational work force would not generate significant traffic volumes during an emergency evacuation scenario that could complicate area-wide emergency evacuation efforts. Driveways built to connect to existing local roads for direct site access would not affect designated emergency evacuation routes, as these are small local streets and the driveways would not conflict with potential evacuation routes for surrounding land uses. Proposed amendments to the County General Plan Circulation Element to remove section and mid-section line road reservations would not affect any existing roadways or any existing or planned evacuation routes. Although impacts are anticipated to be less than significant, further analysis of this issue will be discussed in the EIR.

- (g) According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire), Kern County Fire Hazards Severity Zone Maps for the Local Responsible Areas, the project site is classified as Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Moderate (CalFire 2018). Moderate zones are typically wildland supporting areas of low fire frequency and relatively modest fire behavior. The proposed project would comply with all applicable wildland fire management plans and policies established by CalFire



and the Kern County Fire Department. Accordingly, the project is not expected to expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. Although impacts are anticipated to be less than significant, further analysis of this issue will be discussed in the EIR.

- (h) Project-related facilities would not result in features or conditions that could potentially provide habitat for vectors such as mosquitoes, flies, cockroaches, or rodents. During construction and operation, workers would generate small quantities of solid waste (i.e., trash, food containers, etc.) that would be stored in enclosed containers, then transported to and disposed of at approved disposal facilities. Construction and operation of the proposed solar arrays and associated facilities would not produce uncontrolled wastes that could support vectors and would not generate any standing water or other features that would attract nuisance pests or vectors. Therefore, impacts are considered to be negligible and further analysis is not required.





	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>X. Hydrology and Water Quality</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i. result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. impede or redirect flood flows?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. In flood hazard, tsunami, seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) Construction of the project would be subject to County, State, and Federal Water quality regulations. The project site is within the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) jurisdiction. Project construction activities have the potential to result in erosion, sedimentation, and discharge of construction debris, and could result in the discharge of wastewater and runoff at the project site. If not properly managed, this wastewater could violate the water quality standards or



waste discharge requirements of the RWQCB, or otherwise degrade surface or ground water quality. It is anticipated that appropriate best management practices (BMPs) and compliance with applicable regulations, including the NPDES Construction General Permit, would reduce potential water quality impacts to a less than significant level. Soil stabilization measures would be used to prevent soil erosion caused by storm water runoff. The proposed project contractor(s) would apply for coverage under the state's General Construction Permit for stormwater discharges from construction activities and would prepare a SWPPP that would include implementation of BMP erosion-control measures to control stormwater runoff. Site-specific BMPs would be designed by the contractor in compliance with regulations and permit conditions. Additionally, further review is required to determine the post-construction water quality measures that would be implemented in compliance with RWQCB standards. A comprehensive hydrology and water quality impact analysis will be prepared, and the findings will be further analyzed in the EIR.

- (b) During construction, potable water would be brought to the site for drinking and domestic needs. Non-potable water usage during construction, primarily for dust-suppression purposes, is not expected to exceed 410 acre-feet over the 12-18 month construction phase. During construction, potable water would be provided for drinking and domestic needs for construction workers. Water demand for panel washing and O&M domestic use is not expected to exceed 60 acre-feet per year. Water is anticipated to be obtained from on-site wells or delivered via truck or pipeline from an off-site source(s). A water supply assessment will be completed for the EIR to analyze potential impacts to groundwater resources.
- (c)(i) Construction of the concrete pads for the switchyard, inverters, transformers, O&M building(s), etc., as well as foundational supports for panel installation, soil compaction, and any grading may alter the existing drainage pattern of the project site. A hydrologic study will be prepared for the project in accordance with Kern County requirements, and potentially significant impacts to existing drainage patterns and flooding conditions on the project site will be analyzed in the EIR.
- (c)(ii) Construction and operational activities associated with the proposed project would alter existing drainage conditions and create impervious surfaces that would have the potential to result in an increase in the rate or amount of surface runoff during storm events. A hydrologic study will be prepared for the project in accordance with Kern County requirements, and potentially significant impacts will be analyzed in the EIR.
- (c)(iii) During construction and following installation of the solar arrays, the majority of the site would remain as pervious surfaces. The design of the solar arrays is such that storm water infiltration would occur similar to existing conditions. No discharges to or alterations of any municipal stormwater drainage systems are proposed. Similarly, no component of the project would generate a substantial source of polluted runoff. The construction period SWPPP and the operational period Water Quality Management Plan would ensure the proper control and treatment, if necessary, of any storm water prior to discharge. With adherence to site-specific BMPs, potential pollutants would be minimized to the extent practicable; nonetheless, this impact will be further discussed in the EIR.
- (c)(iv) The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) delineates flood hazard areas on its Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). According to the FIRMs for the project area, the project is partially located in a 100-year flood area (Zones A and AH, 1% annual chance of flooding) and partially located in a 500-year flood area (Zone X, 0.2 % annual chance of flooding); refer to *Figure 6, FEMA Floodplain Map*. The major source of flooding in this area is the Twenty Mule Team Creek. The



majority of Site 5 and the westernmost portion of Site 4 are located within the 100-year floodplain of the Twenty Mule Team Creek. The 100-year floodplain of an unnamed creek crosses Site 2. The remaining portion of Site 4 is located within the 500-year floodplain. The proposed project would be reviewed by the Kern County Public Works Department-Floodplain for adherence to all floodplain management standards. Further analysis is required to identify appropriate mitigation/design measures to reduce potentially significant impacts from potential flooding and this analysis will be provided in the EIR.

- (d) The project is not located near an ocean or enclosed body of water, and therefore would not be subject to inundation by seiche or tsunami. Mudflows are a type of mass wasting or landslide, where earth and surface materials are rapidly transported downhill under the force of gravity, and are often triggered by heavy rainfall and soil that is not able to sufficiently drain or absorb water and the super-saturation results in soil and rock materials to become unstable and slide away. Due to the relatively flat topography of the project and surrounding area, the potential to be inundated by mudflow is considered remote.

As discussed above, the majority of Site 5 and the westernmost portion of Site 4 are located within the 100-year floodplain of the Twenty Mule Team Creek; refer to *Figure 6, FEMA Floodplain Map* Figure . The 100-year floodplain of an unnamed creek crosses Site 2 and the remaining portion of Site 4 is located within the 500-year floodplain. The project would be reviewed by the Kern County Public Works Department for adherence to all applicable floodplain management standards. Because of the potential for flood hazards to occur, and related risk of release of pollutants due to project inundation, further analysis of this is required in the EIR.

- (e) The project site is located within the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin, which is an adjudicated basin, with all water rights having been previously prescribed. Ongoing management of this basin is governed by the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). As such, all water usage for the project will conform to existing adjudication plans. A water supply assessment will be completed for the project to analyze potential impacts to groundwater resources, including any potential conflicts with the IRWMP. This impact will be further analyzed in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XI. Land Use and Planning</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) The project site is located on undeveloped desert land. The Desert Lake rural community is located immediately north of Site 3 and east of Site 4 and consists predominantly of rural residential dwellings. Rural residential dwellings are also located northeast of Site 2 in Boron, a census-designated place in Kern County. The proposed project would not physically encroach into or physically divide or restrict access to the Desert Lake rural community or Boron. No new roadways or other linear elements that would have the potential to restrict existing access or movement within the local community are proposed. The proposed project would not physically divide an established community and impacts are considered to be less than significant. Therefore, no further analysis in the EIR is warranted.
- (b) The project site is located entirely within the Kern County General Plan area. As shown on *Figure 7, Existing General Plan and Specific Plan Land Use Designations*, the project site consists of 22 parcels designated by the Kern County General Plan as Map Code 7.1 (Light Industrial); 7.3 (Heavy Industrial); 8.3 (Extensive Agriculture, Minimum 20 Acre Parcel Size); 8.5 (Resource Management, Minimum 20 Acre Parcel Size), and 8.5/2.5 (Resource Management, Minimum 20 Acre Parcel Size/Flood Hazard). No change to the existing land use designations is required or proposed with project implementation, and therefore, the project would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan or policy for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect in this regard.

As shown on *Figure 8, Existing Zoning*, the project site has a zone classification of A-1 (Limited Agriculture), M-1 (Light Industrial), and R-1 (Low-Density Residential). The project proponent is requesting a change in zone classifications for the project site from A-1 (Limited Agriculture and R-1 (Low-Density Residential) to A (Exclusive Agriculture) within Zone Maps 192, 208-5, 208-6, and 209-1 (refer to *Figure 9, Proposed Zoning*). No changes to the M-1 zone classification area in Zone Map 209-2 are proposed. According to Kern County Zoning Ordinance Chapters 19.12.030G and 19.36.30G, solar energy electrical facilities are permitted within the A and M-1 zone districts with the approval of a CUP.

The project proponent is requesting CUPs to allow for the construction and operation of a solar facility and battery energy storage system (refer to *Figure 5, Proposed CUP Boundaries*). Additionally, the project proponent is requesting multiple CUPs to allow flexibility in the



construction and operation of the proposed project. With approval of the zone change classification and CUPs, the proposed solar project would be an allowable use within the A and M-1 zone districts. At the end of the project's operational term, the project proponent would determine whether the project site should be decommissioned and deconstructed or if it would seek an extension of its CUPs. If any portion of the project site is decommissioned, it would be converted to other uses in accordance with the applicable land use regulations in effect at that time.

The project proponent is also requesting amendments to the Circulation Element of the Kern County General Plan to remove various section and midsection line road reservations; refer to *Figure 10, Proposed Circulation Element Amendments*.

With approval of the requested CUPs, zone change classifications, General Plan Amendment, the proposed project is not anticipated to have the potential to conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. However, further assessment will be provided in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XII. Mineral Resources</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) The project site is not designated as a mineral recovery area or within a designated mineral and petroleum resource site by the Kern County General Plan, nor is it identified as a mineral resource zone by the State Department of Conservation – Geologic Energy Management (CalGEM) Division. Construction and operation of the proposed project would not interfere with mineral extraction and processing and would not have significant impacts on future mineral development. Therefore, there would be no impact and no further analysis is warranted in the EIR.
- (b) As mentioned previously, the project site is not located within a designated mineral and petroleum resource site within the Kern County General Plan. The project site is not located within the County's NR (Natural Resources) or PE (Petroleum Extraction) zoned districts. Therefore, the installation of the solar facilities would not preclude future mineral resource development nor would it result in the loss of a locally important mineral resource recover site. There would be no impact and no further analysis is warranted in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XIII. Noise</b>				
Would the project result in:				
a. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in a local general plan or noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or Kern County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### RESPONSES:

- (a) Land uses determined to be “sensitive” to noise as defined by the Kern County General Plan include residential areas, schools, convalescent and acute care hospitals, parks, and recreational areas, and churches. The Kern County General Plan Noise Element sets a 65 dBA (A-weighted decibels) Day Night noise level (Ldn) limit on exterior noise levels for stationary sources (i.e., non-transportation) at sensitive receptors. The nearest sensitive receptors are rural residential dwellings in the unincorporated communities of Desert Lake and Boron. The sensitive receptors closest to the project site are the Desert Lake Apartments approximately 0.13 miles to the north of Site 3 across Twenty Mule Team Road. Single-family residences are located approximately 0.3 miles northeast of the northeastern corner of Site 2 along Ferguson Street in the community of Boron; Boron Park, a local park, is located approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the northeastern corner of Site 2. The closest school to the site is the West Boron Elementary School, located approximately 0.30 miles north of Site 3. Noise associated with construction and project operations has the potential to affect these nearby sensitive receptors.

Noise generated by the proposed project would occur primarily during the construction phase; whereas as the long-term operation of the solar facility would be relatively quiet, since. no substantial noise-generating equipment would be located at the project site during operations and there would be minor traffic generating by on-site employees, who would work mainly indoors, within the potential O & M building(s). The project proponent would be required to adhere to the provisions set forth in the Kern County Ordinance Code Section 8.36.020 with respect to permitted days and hours



of construction. Potential noise impacts during project construction or operations will be further analyzed in the EIR.

- (b) Groundborne vibration and groundborne noise could originate from the operation of heavy off-road equipment and heavy-duty trucks delivering materials and machinery during the construction phase of the project. Erection of the solar arrays would include support structures that may potentially need to be driven into the soil using pneumatic techniques, which could generate groundborne noise that could be audible to sensitive receptors in the area. Further analysis of groundborne noise impacts during construction will be provided in the EIR. Given the substantial distances from the project site to the nearest homes or other land uses in the area, groundborne vibration impacts during construction are not anticipated. Operation of the proposed project is anticipated to emit minimal groundborne noise or vibration because the operational project would not involve any activities or machinery that would induce ground vibrations or noise. Nonetheless, further analysis of groundborne vibration and groundborne noise during project operations will be included in the EIR.
- (c) Heavy equipment use during construction would cause a temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels. Temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise levels caused by construction activities could be reduced with the incorporation of mitigation measures. Project-related construction noise levels will be quantified and evaluated in the EIR.

Operation of the project would generate very little noise. The solar facility would use limited staff during operation. Traffic on the access road for the solar facility would be routine access and maintenance activities and would primarily consist of personal vehicles. Nevertheless, a noise analysis will be included in the EIR to determine the project's consistency with the applicable provisions of the Kern County General Plan Noise Element and Kern County Zoning Ordinance. Thus, further analysis of ambient noise levels and the project's potential impact on those levels will be included in the EIR.

- (d) The Kern County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) covers operations at the Edwards Air Force Base, which borders the project site to the west and south. The nearest public airport to the project site is the California City Municipal Airport located approximately 18 miles northwest of the project site. The project site is not located within any safety or noise zones for the California City Municipal Airport. Noise from occasional aircraft flyovers would not have a significant effect on the small workforce on-site, who would normally be working indoors, except when outdoor maintenance or repair activities are required. The proposed solar farm would not generate any impacts that could worsen the levels of aircraft noise. Impacts would be less than significant and no further analysis of this issue is warranted in the EIR.





	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
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## XIV. Population and Housing

Would the project:

- |    |  |                          |                          |                          |                                     |
|----|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. | Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b. | Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

### RESPONSES:

- (a) Although the proposed project would provide new employment consistent with the adopted Kern County General Plan goals, plans, and policies, long-term employment opportunities would be minimal. Each site could require an operational staff of up to five full-time employees.

It is estimated that up to 1,000 workers per day would be required during peak construction periods for the proposed project. The entire construction process is anticipated to take 12 to 18 months, and therefore, project-generated workers would only be in the local area on a temporary basis. Construction workers are expected to travel to the site from various local communities and locations throughout Southern California, and few, if any workers expected to relocate to the surrounding area because of these temporary jobs. If temporary housing should be necessary, it is expected that accommodations (i.e., extended stay hotels, apartments, RV parks, homes for rent or sale) would be available in the nearby cities and communities of Boron, Mojave, California City, Rosamond, Tehachapi, or Lancaster. Therefore, the project is not anticipated to directly or indirectly induce the development of any new housing or businesses within the local communities. During the operational phase, the project (Sites 1 to 5) would require up to 25 full-time equivalent (FTE) personnel (or personnel hours totaling 25 FTE positions, i.e., an average of 1,000 personnel hours per week), who would commute to the site. Due to the small number of full-time employees, it is anticipated that the local housing stock would be adequate to accommodate operations personnel should they relocate to the area, without requiring the need for the construction of new housing. The project would not directly or indirectly induce substantial unplanned population growth and further analysis in the EIR is not warranted.

- (b) The project site is currently undeveloped and does not contain any existing housing units. The proposed project would therefore not displace any existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No further evaluation of this issue is required in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XV. Public Services</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or to other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i. Fire protection?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Police protection?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv. Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v. Other public facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a)(i) **Fire Protection.** The Kern County Fire Department provides fire suppression and emergency medical services to the project area. The project site would be served by Fire Station #17, located at 26965 Cote Street in Boron. Adherence to all applicable regulations would reduce wildfire ignitions and prevent the spread of wildfires. However, construction and operation activities may result in increased demand for firefighting services in the area. Therefore, the potential impact on fire services from construction and operation of the project is considered potentially significant and will be further evaluated in the EIR.
- (a)(ii) **Police Protection.** Law enforcement and public safety services in the project area are provided by the Kern County Sheriff's Department. The project site would be served by the Boron Substation at 26949 Cote Street. Although the potential is low, the proposed project may attract vandals or thieves that would require response from the Sheriff's Department. On-site security measures (i.e., on-site monitoring equipment, gated access, motion sensor lighting) would be provided and access to the project site during construction and operation would be restricted, thereby minimizing the need for local Sheriff surveillance. Nonetheless, project impacts on local sheriff services could potentially result in an increased demand for law enforcement services that could result in an environmental impact. This issue will be evaluated in the EIR.
- (a)(iii) **Schools.** During project construction, a relatively large number of construction workers would be required. It is expected that most of these workers would live in the broader region and commute to the project site from surrounding communities where their children are already enrolled in school



and where their contribution to local taxes, including funds for schools, is assessed locally. The proposed project would not require employees or their children to relocate to the project area. Therefore, substantial temporary increases in population that would adversely affect local school populations are not expected. Likewise, the operational workforce is small (approximately 25 full-time positions) and not expected to generate a permanent increase in population that would impact school populations. Therefore, no significant impacts to schools are anticipated to occur and further analysis is not warranted in the EIR.

- (a)(iv) **Parks.** The population increase that would be experienced during the construction phase of the proposed project would be temporary and limited to construction workers at the project site. Such conditions would not result in a substantial new demand for parks or recreational facilities. The number of employees required for project operations would be minimal and they would not likely frequent any public parks during, before, or after their work shifts. The up to 25 full-time equivalent employees would not result in construction of numerous new housing units that could significantly increase the local population and related demand for public parkland. Therefore, no significant impacts to parks are anticipated to occur, and further analysis of this issue is not warranted in the EIR.
- (a)(v) **Other Public Facilities.** Implementation of the proposed project may have impacts on the ability of the county to provide adequate county-wide comprehensive public facility services. Unlike other businesses in California, large scale solar has an exclusion from property taxes on their equipment. This property tax exclusion results in the project not providing the revenue needed to provide services and facilities for both the project and the communities that prevent decline of the physical neighborhoods in unincorporated Kern County. This is a direct impact from the project structure and the land if built with another type of land use would produce property tax revenue to provide necessary services and facilities and prevent physical decline of homes and businesses due to vacancy and inability for response for all services, including code enforcement to law enforcement, fire, roads and health and safety issues such as elderly care and child protection services. The cumulative impacts of this active solar tax exclusion over the life of the over 36,000 acres of projects has resulted in a loss to the General Fund over the last 10 years of over \$103 million and deepened the on-going fiscal emergency of the county. Public policies in the Kern County General Plan and Mojave Specific Plan require development to address economic deficiencies in public services and facilities costs. Therefore, the proposed project's impacts on public facilities are potentially significant and will be evaluated in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVI. Recreation</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) It is estimated that up to 1,000 workers per day during peak construction periods would be required on-site during construction of the proposed project. These workers would not have time to visit any local parks or recreation facilities during the workday. Further, few workers are expected to relocate to this area temporarily while the construction is underway and there would be little or no impact on local recreational resources after work hours. Operation of the project would require employees for maintenance and monitoring activities, but they would likely be drawn from the local labor force and would commute from their existing permanent residences to the project site during those times. However, even if the maintenance/monitoring employees were hired from out of the area and relocated to eastern Kern County, the addition of any such families to the project area would not result in a substantial increase in the number of users at local parks or recreational facilities. As a result, there would not be a detectable increase in the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities, and therefore, no deterioration of any such facilities would occur with project implementation. Impacts would not occur, and further analysis is not warranted in the EIR.
- (b) The proposed project does not include or require the construction of new or expansion of existing recreational facilities, and there are no recreational facilities on the project site that would be affected. No impact would result and no further analysis in the EIR is warranted.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVII. Transportation and Traffic</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3 subdivision (b)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### RESPONSES:

- (a) The project proponent is requesting a General Plan Amendment to amend the Circulation Element of the Kern County General Plan to remove sections and midsection line road reservations. This would have no effect on the performance of the roadway network, since there are no existing roadways along any of these sections and midsection line road reservations, and these road reservations are not required to support any planned/approved future land uses. As such, these General Plan Amendments would not conflict with any County plans or programs pertaining to roadway performance.

There are no dedicated pedestrian or bicycle facilities in the immediate vicinity of the project site or along the surrounding roadways. Due to the rural nature of the project area, pedestrian and bicycle traffic is limited. The project is not located along an existing bus route and few bus stops exist on the roadways likely to be used during construction and operation. The project would not house residents or employees, and therefore, would not have characteristics that would influence alternative means of transportation.

It is estimated that up to 1,000 workers per day (during peak construction periods) would be required during construction of the proposed project. An undetermined volume of large truck trips would also be generated, with varying numbers depending on the phase of construction. Further analysis in the EIR is required to determine whether construction traffic could disrupt normal traffic flows or otherwise conflict with the County's roadway performance policies and programs.

During the operational phase, each Site could require up to five full-time employees who would commute to and from the site. With a total of 25 employees, this would result in approximately 63 vehicle trips per day, with an average of 2.5 trips per day per employee. It is anticipated that employees would drive themselves to/from the project site on a daily basis using local roadways and state highways that can readily accommodate such minor volumes of vehicle traffic. Ongoing



maintenance and periodic repair are also anticipated to produce negligible traffic impacts and would not conflict with any County plans or programs pertaining to roadway performance. These potential impacts on the local roadway system from construction related vehicle trips and project's operational traffic on the area roadway system will be further evaluated in the EIR.

- (b) CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b) was adopted in December 2018 by the California Natural Resources Agency. These revisions to the CEQA Guidelines criteria for determining the significance of transportation impacts are primarily focused on projects within transit priority areas, and shifts the focus from driver delay to reduction of vehicular greenhouse gas emissions through creation of multimodal networks, and creation of a mix of land uses that can facilitate fewer and shorter vehicle trips. Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) is a measure of the total number of miles driven for various purposes and is sometimes expressed as an average per trip or per person. Construction traffic would be temporary and would not permanently affect VMT characteristics in this part of Kern County or elsewhere. Long-term, operational traffic would be limited, with a small work force of approximately 25 full-time equivalent employees. It is not known where the employees would live or how long their commuting trips would be. According to technical guidance issued by the Office of Planning and Research, projects generating less than 110 or fewer daily vehicle trips may be presumed to have a less than significant impact involving VMT. Further analysis of the operational VMT characteristics of the project is required to determine whether the project is considered a "low-VMT" project due to small daily traffic volumes alone, or whether more extensive analysis is warranted. An assessment of the project's VMT characteristics will be provided in the EIR, to ensure consistency with state and local guidance.
- (c) The project proposes access from existing roads that currently provide access to the various parcels affected. During construction, especially during peak periods of heavy truck traffic and peak levels of construction workers, there is a potential for conflicts between construction traffic and normal traffic flows, especially at intersections where queuing could occur. This requires further analysis in the EIR.

No new roadway design or features (i.e., sharp curves, dangerous intersections, or other hazardous features) would be required that could result in transportation-related hazards or safety concerns. All new driveways connecting to existing adjacent streets must be designed in accordance with the County's street standards that assure safe ingress/egress. The project buildings and other structures would be set back from adjacent access roadways as required by the Kern County Zoning Ordinance. Given these considerations, significant impacts related to increased hazards are not anticipated to occur; however, additional analysis will be included in the EIR.

- (d) The project site and vicinity are accessible via a number of existing roads, with alternative access roads allowing easy access in the event of an emergency. Emergency vehicle access must be maintained at all times throughout construction activities, in accordance with the County's routine/standard construction specifications. County building inspectors would conduct periodic site inspections to confirm there are adequate provisions in place to maintain emergency access for fire, emergency medical and Sheriff response units. Further, construction activities would not be permitted to impede emergency access to any local roadways or surrounding properties. Construction period impacts are considered less than significant but will be further analyzed in the EIR.



Operations of the project would not affect emergency access as the number of daily trips would have a minimal effect on traffic volumes and overrides of project site access gates for emergency access to the facility would be installed. Although no significant operational impacts related to emergency access are anticipated to occur, further analysis of this issue will be provided in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVIII. Tribal Cultural Resources</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register or historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. A resource determined by the lead agency in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

(ai,aii) As there are known archaeological resources associated with Native American tribes in the project area, there is the potential for tribal cultural resources to also exist either on-site or on surrounding lands (Rincon 2019). Therefore, the proposed project has the potential to impact tribal cultural resources during site clearance and earthmoving activities. All tribes with possible cultural affiliation and interest within the project area will be notified pursuant to the requirements of Assembly Bill 52, and consultation with the potentially affected tribes will occur, as appropriate, between the County and the tribes. Further evaluation in the EIR is warranted to identify potential impacts to tribal cultural resources and to formulate avoidance or mitigation measures, if applicable.





	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XIX. Utilities and Service Systems</b>				
Would the project:				
a. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) **Wastewater Facilities.** The project would generate a minimal volume of wastewater during construction. During construction activities, wastewater would be contained within portable toilet facilities and disposed of off-site at an approved facility. During operations, wastewater generated by the project would be disposed of on-site by septic system(s) at each of the O&M building(s). Soil suitability for a septic tank leach field and any related environmental impacts will be addressed in the response to the topic of Geology and Soils, Threshold (e). The proposed project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded municipal wastewater facilities, and no connection to a public wastewater system is required or proposed. Impacts would be less than significant in this regard; however, further analysis in the EIR will be provided.

**Storm Water Facilities.** The proposed project does not require expanded or new storm drainage facilities because the proposed solar facility would not generate a significant increase in the amount of impervious surfaces that would increase runoff during storm events. Water from solar panel



washing and from dust suppression activities would continue to percolate through the ground, as a majority of the surfaces within the project site would remain pervious. These activities would not substantially increase the amount of storm water runoff from the site. The proposed project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded storm water facilities, and no connection to a publicly maintained storm water system is required or proposed. Any storm drainage/detention facilities that may be required would be minor in scale and located within the project site. Potential impacts from such facilities will be addressed in the response to the topic of Hydrology and Water Quality, Threshold (c). Impacts are considered to be less than significant; however, further analysis in the EIR will be provided.

**Water Facilities.** The proposed project is not anticipated to result in a significant increase in water demand/use; however, water will be needed for solar panel washing and dust suppression. Water is anticipated to be obtained from on-site wells or delivered via truck or pipeline from an off-site source(s). An on-site water treatment system may be required. Potential impacts to groundwater resources resulting from on-site well production will be addressed in the response to the topic of Hydrology and Water Quality, Threshold (b). Therefore, the proposed project may require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water facilities. Impacts would be potentially significant and further analysis in the EIR is warranted.

**Power, Natural Gas, and Telecommunication Facilities.** The proposed project would involve construction of a PV solar facility that would generate electrical energy that would be transmitted via new overhead or underground lines to the regional electrical energy supply grid. Analyses of various environmental effects associated with construction and operation of these facilities will be provided throughout the EIR, with respect to numerous topics. There may be on-site telecommunications facilities to facilitate collection and transmission of meteorological data and data regarding performance of the solar arrays. Impacts associated with construction of the telecommunications and transmission line facilities will be evaluated in the EIR. The proposed project would not use natural gas. The proposed project would not otherwise generate the demand for or require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded off-site electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities that would in turn, result in a significant impact to the environment. Impacts are considered to be less than significant; however, further analysis in the EIR will be provided.

- (b) Water demand for panel washing and O&M domestic use is not expected to exceed 60 acre-feet per year. Water usage during construction, primarily for dust-suppression purposes, is not expected to exceed 410 acre-feet over the 12-18 month construction phase. Water is anticipated to be obtained from on-site wells, or delivered via truck or pipeline from an off-site source(s). A water supply assessment will be completed for the project to analyze potential water sources and potential impacts to water supplies. This potentially significant impact will be addressed further in the EIR.
- (c) As stated above, portable toilets would provide for wastewater disposal during project construction and no connection to a public system for wastewater treatment would be required. Due to the limited number of employees for project operations, the project would not generate a substantial amount of wastewater. The proposed project would include construction of an on-site septic system to serve each of the O&M facilities. All wastewater disposal for project operations would be handled on-site. Therefore, the project would not adversely affect any existing wastewater treatment facilities. Impacts would be less than significant and further analysis of this issue is not warranted in the EIR.



- (d) The proposed project is not expected to generate a significant amount of solid wastes because of the small number of workers and the absence of activities that would generate wastes on an ongoing basis. Materials brought to the project site would be used to construct facilities, and few residual waste materials are expected. Non-hazardous construction refuse and solid waste would be either collected and recycled per the Construction Waste Management Plan or disposed of at a local Class III landfill, while any hazardous waste generated during construction would be disposed of at an approved off-site location. The closest Class III municipal landfill is the Boron Sanitary Landfill, which is located between Sites 1 and 2. Solid waste from the site would therefore be transported to this landfill for disposal. The Boron sanitary landfill has a remaining capacity of 191,380 cubic yards, with an anticipated closure date of 2048 (CalRecycle 2020). Therefore, the landfill has capacity to accommodate solid waste generated by project construction and operation.

It is not anticipated that the amount of solid waste generated by the proposed project would exceed the capacity of local landfills needed to accommodate the waste. Impacts are anticipated to be less than significant and no further analysis in the EIR is warranted.

- (e) The proposed project would generate solid waste during construction, operation, and decommissioning, thus requiring the consideration of waste reduction and recycling measures. The 1989 California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) requires Kern County to attain specific waste diversion goals. In addition, the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991, as amended, requires expanded or new development projects to incorporate storage areas for recycling bins into the proposed project design. The proposed project would be required to comply with the 1989 California Integrated Waste Management Act and the 1991 California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991. Further analysis of the pertinent solid waste reduction and management regulations applicable to this project will be included in the EIR.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XX. Wildfire</b>				
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) According to the Fire Hazard Severity Zones map published by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire), the project site is not located within or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones. The project site is classified as Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Moderate; thus, the potential for wildfire on the project site exists, but is not considered high (CalFire 2007). The site is located in a rural, sparsely developed area with limited population. The project site is not identified for any purpose in an adopted emergency evacuation plan to address wildfires or other types of emergencies. There are multiple existing local roadways adjacent to the project sites that lead to primary emergency evacuation routes, such as SR 58. In compliance with applicable Fire Code and Building Code requirements, construction and maintenance/operations managers and personnel would be trained in fire prevention and emergency response. Fire suppression equipment specific to construction would be maintained on the project site. Additionally, project construction and maintenance/operations would comply with applicable existing codes and ordinances related to the maintenance of mechanical equipment, handling and storage of flammable materials, and cleanup of spills of flammable materials. Therefore, the project would not conflict with the implementation of, or physical interference with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan and impacts would be less than significant. Nevertheless, further analysis will be conducted in the EIR.



- (b) Slope and wind can influence the rate at which wildfire spreads. Given the project site's generally flat topography, the proposed project is not anticipated to expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire due to sloping topography. Further analysis of prevailing winds is required to determine if there are periodic high winds that could influence the spreading and velocity of wildfires. Adherence to applicable regulations would reduce wildfire ignitions and prevent the spread of wildfires. The project proponent/operator would be required to develop and implement a Fire Safety Plan that contains notification procedures and emergency fire precautions consistent with the 2019 California Fire Code and Kern County Fire Code for use during construction, operation and decommissioning. However, as the project would have the potential to expose occupants (i.e., at the O&M facilities) to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of wildfire due to prevailing winds or other factors, further analysis will be conducted in the EIR.
- (c) The proposed project involves the development of a solar energy generation and storage facility. The proposed project would include the construction of power transmission lines, inverters, roads, and an energy storage facility. Due to the presence of electrical equipment on site, the proposed project has the potential to exacerbate wildfire risk and will be further evaluated in the EIR.
- (d) The project site is not considered to be a high risk area for landslides as it is relatively flat; therefore, there would be no impacts involving landslides or other slope failures, or other drainage changes that would expose people or structures to significant risks in a post-wildfire burned landscape condition. No further analysis is warranted in the EIR relative to this issue.



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XXI. Mandatory Findings of Significance</b>				
a. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Does the project have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESPONSES:**

- (a) The EIR’s biological, cultural, and tribal cultural resources sections will discuss specific project impacts on plants and wildlife including avian species and impacts to cultural and tribal cultural resources. The document will also evaluate the project’s contribution to cumulative biological, cultural and tribal cultural resources impacts and propose mitigation that will reduce the impacts to less than significant levels, where feasible.
- (b) The project has the potential to contribute to cumulatively significant aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, tribal cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, traffic, and wildfire impacts. Such impacts could occur during the construction phases and/or as a result of the fully built and operational project. The EIR will evaluate the project’s contribution to cumulative impacts in these and other areas.
- (c) The proposed project would not result in the long-term air pollutant emissions or noise sources that would adversely affect nearby sensitive receptors. The solar farm would not include any kinds of industrial processes or equipment that would generate hazardous substances or wastes that would



threaten the well-being of people on- or off-site. However, short-term construction activities could result in temporary increases in pollutant concentrations and potentially significant off-site noise impacts. Pollutants of primary concern commonly associated with construction-related activities include toxic air contaminants gaseous emissions of criteria pollutants, and fugitive dust. Within the project area, the potential for increased occurrences of Valley Fever and exacerbated health issues related to COVID-19 is also of concern. Human health impacts from the short-term cumulative contribution to air quality impacts from project construction will be further evaluated in the EIR.



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