## **Monthly Progress Report**

## Riverside County Renewable Energy Planning Program



Wind turbine blade on the ground with person for scale in Weatherford, Oklahoma.

**Commission Agreement #:** REN-13-002

Monthly Progress Report #: 09 (Revised 10/8/15)
Period Covered: July 1 – August 31, 2015

Attached to Invoice #: N/A

**Project Manager:** Cindy A. Thielman-Braun

Telephone # / Email: (951) 955-8632 / cthielma@rctlma.org

Commission Agree. Manager: Cory Irish, MS - 18

Telephone # / Email: (916) 654-4739 / cory.irish@energy.ca.gov

## **Executive Summary**

For July and August 2015, work continues on the GIS analyses and GPA preparation for the project. RBF Consulting, a Michael Baker International Company, continues to analyze the GIS data for the Salton Sea and DRECP areas of the County, particular the proposals put out by BLM. Letters to utility providers throughout the Salton Sea and Coachella Valley region went out requesting data the County will use to develop land use and infrastructure plans. As a result active coordination with desert utility agencies has begun. The County also continues to participate in DRECP coordination at the State level, including a panel appearance by Juan Perez, TLMA Director, at the CEC IEPR meeting in Sacramento on August 3, 2015. Internal and external meetings and coordination on the work effort also remain ongoing.

## **Work Statement**

This section briefly addresses the status of the project's approved tasks in the Work Statement. Discussion is split into three sections focusing on completed activities, ongoing activities and, lastly, activities with no new progress to report. Each subtask item includes a report on its status, including discussion of any products due and whether or not the project is progressing according to schedule. Where applicable the discussion also covers any problems encountered, proposed changes contemplated and anticipated results for the upcoming quarter. Unless noted otherwise, each subtask remains on track in terms of budgeted funds and hours at this time and will continue to be produced monthly as per Work Statement and schedule.

## Agreement Activities Completed This Month

No new tasks were completed during July - August 2015. Altogether, as of the end of August, five of the project's 18 subtasks have been completed, as listed below. All other activities and work products produced in the past month were part of on-going efforts and are described in subsequent sections.

## Status of Ongoing Agreement Activities

The tasks listed below are ongoing and have had activity performed as indicated. Unless noted otherwise, each of these tasks will be reported on further in subsequent progress reports. Ongoing items will remain in this section unless concluded or there has been no activity during the reporting period. In such cases, the item will be discussed in the applicable other section instead.

## A. Task 1.4 – Monthly Progress Report

The eighth progress report was prepared for May-June 2015. Details of the report were submitted to the CEC electronically and by U.S. Postal Service. Accompanying this (ninth) progress report is Invoice #03, covering April 1 through June 30, 2015. All monthly progress reports are also posted online at the County's Renewable Energy Project website (http://planning.rctlma.org/Home/RiversideCountyeRED Program.aspx).

## B. Task 2.2 – Team Meetings

The eRED Project Manager (Cindy Thielman-Braun) met with several eRED team members either individually or in small groups throughout July- August 2015; mostly regarding County analysis of the Draft DRECP EIR/EIS. There were no formal agendas for these meetings. In addition, the County began meeting and working with the subconsultant on Salton Sea utilities work and DRECP area analyses. There were no formal agendas for these meetings.

## C. Task 3.1 – Assemble Existing eRED Data

This task has been initiated in association with the research and preparation the eRED Project Manager has performed in developing the initial project presentations (for example, for internal use, etc.). The eRED team has also begun researching and studying existing eRED data and related technical information providing background on the issues the County is facing.

## D. Task 3.2 – Develop eRED Opportunities and Constraints Criteria

Mapping and additional analysis of the draft DRECP EIR/EIS continued with the focus on BLM plans. Working with subconsultant (RBF Consultants, a Michael Baker International Company) ("MBI") to obtain necessary data from BLM and analyze it accordingly. This task remains ongoing.

## E. Task 3.3 – Identify Areas Suitable for Additional eRED Study

Similar to Task 3.2, this task also continues with the focus on County land use and conservation plans relative to BLM proposals (for both DRECP and CDCA). Mapping work with the subconsultant to analyze these areas has begun. In all, this work effort remains ongoing.

## F. Task 4.1 – Assemble Information/Data for Salton Sea eRED Study Region

Work on this subtask is ongoing. Work has begun with GIS staff and MBI is working to obtain relevant GIS data from agencies with land use or other management authority in the region (BLM, CVAG, USFWS, Tribes, etc.) and infrastructure data from utility agencies (e.g., Imperial Irrigation District, Coachella Valley Water District, Southern California Edison, etc.). Request letters seeking data on existing and planned infrastructure were sent out to over 50 utility providers serving the desert. See **Attachment A** for template of letter sent. Analysis of County land use, environmental and infrastructure data versus GIS data from these agencies remains ongoing. Additionally, the County has been in correspondence with BLM regarding the federal agency's proposed LUPA changes under the DRECP and related GIS data.

## G. Task 4.2 – Analyze Salton Sea eRED Opportunities and Constraints

Work on this subtask is ongoing on conjunction with the Task 4.1 effort described above.

## H. Task 4.3 – Develop Salton Sea eRED Study Region Policies and Plans

With the utility data coming in from the desert agencies and MBI on board, work on this subtask was begun. The information gathered through the Task 4.1 process is being used to identify areas where policies may be needed to streamline or facilitate renewable energy development. This task is now ongoing.

## I. Task 4.4 – Outreach and Coordination with Salton Sea Authority

No new meetings were held with the Salton Sea Authority in July – August 2015, although the Project Manager remained in email contact with the agency on coordination issues. This task remains ongoing.

## J. Task 4.5 – Technical Coordination with Utilities and Other Agencies in Salton Sea Region

As mentioned above, in August, the County sent out over 50 letters requesting utility data from desert area providers. See template letter under Attachment A. No specific meetings not already mentioned related to this task were held in July - August 2015. The County continued its email correspondence with BLM during this time in order to obtain GIS data related to BLM LUPA proposals. This task remains ongoing.

## K. Task 5.1 – Revise General Plan: Eastern Coachella Valley Area Plan

With the utility data coming in from the desert agencies, LUPA plans being firmed up by BLM and MBI on board, work on this subtask was begun in July — August 2015. Analysis of the existing policy areas and plans for the Eastern Coachella Valley Area Plan (ECVAP) were begun and are ongoing. The focus of this effort is to identify areas where new or revised policies may be needed to streamline or facilitate renewable energy development in the eastern part of the valley. This task is now ongoing.

## L. Task 5.2 – Revise General Plan: Multipurpose Open Space Element

Likewise, work on this subtask has begun. The Multipurpose Open Space Element (MOSE) of the General Plan contains most of the renewable energy related policies in the Renewable Resources section. Analysis of existing renewable energy policies is underway and specific areas for expansion have been identified. Draft text is being prepared. This task is now ongoing.

## M. Task 5.3 – Revise General Plan: Rest of Document

Likewise, work on this subtask has begun. Areas within the Riverside County General Plan being considered for possible additions or revisions include the Land Use, Circulation and Administration Elements, as well as potentially additional Area Plans beyond the already identified ECVAP. Analysis of existing policies is underway and specific areas for expansion have been identified. Draft text is being prepared. This task is now ongoing.

## N. Task 6.3 – CEQA Consultations

Pursuant to Senate Bill 18 and Assembly Bill 52, consultation requests have been sent out to the California Native American Heritage Commission and responding Native American Tribes seeking information on the potential for traditional cultural resources or other Native American resources (i.e., archeological, historical or religious/sacred) within the portion of the desert upon which this grant

project is focusing. A response dated August 18, 2015, was received back from the State. See **Attachment B**. As of the end of August, one response has been received (from the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians). See **Attachment C**. Individual tribal consultations will be occurring over the next few months. This task is now ongoing.

## O. Task 7.1 - Develop and Publish Project Webpage

The eRED Project website remains up with content added to the site as it becomes available, e.g., copies of the monthly reports to the CEC, new maps ready for public viewing, public meeting information, etc. Information and data will continue to be added to the site as it is developed. This task remains ongoing.

## P. Task 7.2 - Public Agency and Stakeholder Coordination and Other Outreach Meetings

The summer months were a busy time for agency meetings and conferences. This is in addition to the extensive correspondence between the County and the utilities outlined under Task 4. Between July and August, a variety of meetings occurred, particularly several WebEx conference calls with the California Energy Commission. July 29, Ms. Thielman-Braun listened in (via WebEx) on the CEC's workshop on "Energizing California's Communities with Renewables: Recent Successes and Future Opportunities." Agenda attached, see **Attachment D.** An all-counties conference call was held the following day, July 30, 2015. For agenda and summary notes, see **Attachment E.** Another all-counties conference call was held on August 24, 2015. Agenda attached, see **Attachment F.** 

Lastly, the CEC held an IEPR (Integrated Energy Policy Report) workshop on August 3, 2015. The County Riverside was invited to participate. Juan Perez, the Director of the County Transportation and Land Management Agency attended the workshop in Sacramento and gave a presentation at the event. Project Manager, Cindy Thielman-Braun, attended by WebEx from Riverside. A great deal of information was provided that has proven very helpful to the ongoing project efforts; the State's Data Basin resource has been particularly helpful. A copy of the workshop agenda is attached as **Attachment G.** In all, this task remains ongoing.

## Tasks Not Yet Begun or With No Notable Changes

For this reporting period, no new work has been undertaken on the tasks listed below. In every case, unless noted otherwise, these tasks are those for which requisite prior actions are not yet complete. None of these tasks have any specific work product anticipated in the next three months (unless noted otherwise). Agendas and notes will continue to be forwarded for any meetings that do occur.

- A. Task 1.2 Critical Project Review (CPR) Meetings
- B. Task 1.3 Final Meeting
- C. Task 1.5 Final Report
- D. Task 5.4 Prepare General Plan Documents for Processing
- E. Task 6.1 CEQA Initial Study
- F. Task 6.2 Prepare Environmental Review Document

- G. Task 6.4 Prepare Final CEQA Documents for Processing
- H. Task 8.1 General Plan Amendment Initiation Process (GPIP) Processing
- I. Task 8.2 Planning Commission Processing
- J. Task 8.3 Board of Supervisors Processing
- K. Task 8.4 Final Documents (Post-Adoption Actions, if Applicable)

## Completed Tasks -- No Further Changes

The tasks below have been completed and were addressed under prior progress reports, as indicated. No further actions are planned or anticipated for these tasks.

- A. Task 1.1 CEC Kickoff Meeting (Completed July 22, 2014; see Progress Report #01.)
- B. Task 1.6 Required Permit Information (Completed July 31, 2014; see Progress Report #01.)
- C. Task 1.7 Obtain and Execute Subcontracts (Completed May 19, 2015; see Progress Report #8.)
- D. Task 2.1 Internal Kickoff Meeting (Completed June 29, 2015; see Progress Report #08.) (Note: This kickoff meeting was for the start of Salton Sea utility study effort with the subcontractor. As discussed previously, the initial County grant kickoff meeting was held prior to July 21, 2014, and therefore was never billed to Task 2.1.)
- E. Task 2.3 Issue RFP for Consultant Services (Completed May 19, 2015; see Progress Report #08.) (Issuance of the RFP soliciting bids occurred on September 15, 2014; the selection process concluded on May 19, 2015.

## Work Product / Deliverables

Products are "any tangible item specified in the Work Statement." As per the conditions of REN-13-002 Exhibit C, item 5 ("Products"), "Unless otherwise directed, draft copies of all products identified in the Work Statement shall be submitted to the Commission Agreement Manager for review and comment. The Recipient will submit an original and two copies of the final version of all products to the Commission Agreement Manager." Thus, in accordance with this directive, the following work products are submitted for this reporting period.

- A. Attachment A: Utility Letter Template, dated August 20, 2015. (Tasks 4.1 and 4.5)
- B. Attachment B: Letter from NAHC, re SB 18 Consultation, dated August 12, 2015. (Task 6.3)
- C. Attachment C: Letter from Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, dated August 7, 2015. (Task 6.3)
- D. Attachment D: Agenda, CEC "Energizing California's Communities with Renewables: Recent Successes and Future Opportunities," dated July 29, 2015. (Task 7.2)
- E. Attachment E: Agenda and Summary Notes, CEC County to County Conference Call re Renewable Energy Efforts, dated July 30, 2015. (Task 7.2)

- **F.** Attachment F: Agenda and Summary Notes, CEC County to County Conference Call re Local Government and CEC Conversations, dated July 30, 2015. (Task 7.2)
- G. Attachment G: Agenda, CEC IEPR Workshop, "Landscape-Scale Environmental Evaluations for Energy Infrastructure Planning and the Strategic Transmission Investment Plan," dated August 3, 2015. (Task 7.2)

## **Financial Status**

This section presents a table showing the billing status and a brief narrative addressing costs incurred todate in relation to the approved Budget. It also includes a discussion as to whether or not the project is progressing within the approved Budget, as well as identification of any proposed changes or adjustments being that may be considered.

## Invoice History To Date

Invoice	Period	Date	Amount	Amount	Amount	Status
Number	Covered	Submitted	Invoiced	Retained*	Paid*	
Invoice #01	7/21/14 – 12/31/14	4/6/15	\$57,100.21	(\$5,710.02)	\$51,390.19	PAID
Invoice #02	1/1/15 – 3/31/15	5/1/15	\$18,441.48	(\$1,844.15)	\$16,597.33	PAID
Invoice #03	4/1/15 - 6/30/15	PENDING	\$36,122.62	(\$3,612.26)		PENDING
Totals			\$111.664.31	(\$11.166.43)	\$67.987.52	

<sup>\*</sup>Per grant agreement, 10% retained from each invoice to be applied towards final payment.

Invoice #3 will complete the billing for fiscal 2014. It will be submitted with the next Progress Report. Overall, the year-end total billing is less than 20% of the contract total. This billing percentage is low compared to the roughly 50% elapsed time. The main reason for this is the County is billing at an actual rate that is much lower than our originally anticipated standard billable rate (because of contract specifications). When examining the work completed by billed hours, the rate rises to 36%, reflecting a more accurate view of work completed. The main reason this rate is still tracking low is because the subcontractor was not brought on board till spring of 2015. Further, the County has not yet received an invoice for the subcontractor's work (for which the budget allots up to \$150,000 of the grant agreement total). Thus, the above totals also do not reflect the subcontractor's work. Ideally, the County would assign more staff to this project, however, because of current workloads no extra staff are available at this time. Should staffing availability change, the County will contact the CEC with any proposed staff revisions.

In regards to staff working on the grant project, this invoice includes two staff members not previously listed: two Principal Deputy County Counsel – Marsha Victor and Karin Watts-Bazan. The hours billed by these two lawyers was for legal review of the contract and associated documents for the hiring of the subconsultant retained to work on this grant. The billing rates used for these two lawyers adhere to the

County Counsel (i.e., Tiffany North) rate previously established under our grant agreement. The work performed by these attorneys falls under the scope of work outlined for County Counsel in the grant agreement. Further, the total hours and dollar amount billed for these staff are counted as a part of the total hours and dollar amount budgeted for County Counsel in our grant agreement. In other words, the work by these attorneys falls within the existing grant agreement budget for both rates and hours.

At present there are no issues outstanding (in either the Work Statement or the Budget) that might necessitate amendment of the Agreement. No budget changes or alterations are requested at this time.

## **Additional Information**

These items address any information in the Work Statement or Special Conditions not already covered in one of the above sections. Ministerial types of project information are also addressed, as well as the outlook for any significant future changes (i.e., amendments) and any issues not addressed elsewhere.

#### **Amendments**

Item 8 ("Amendments") of Exhibit C, Terms and Conditions of Non-Federally Funded Grants, of the Agreement notes that, "Changes to the Work Statement, changes to specific line items in the budget, or both, may be made under certain conditions." At present, there are no issues outstanding (neither in the Work Statement nor Budget) that would necessitate the proposal of an amendment to the Agreement other than, potentially, whatever changes may be necessary to clarify invoicing procedures, as noted above. Should any other issue arise with the potential to lead to an amendment request, the County will contact the CEC immediately.

## Legal Notice

No product or report produced as a result of work funded by this program shall be represented to be endorsed by the California Energy Commission and all such products or reports shall include the following statement:

"This document was prepared as a result of work sponsored by the California Energy Commission. It does not necessarily represent the views of the Energy Commission, its employees, or the State of California. The Energy Commission, the State of California, its employees, contractors, and subcontractors make no warranty, express or implied, and assume no legal liability for the information in this document; nor does any party represent that the use of this information will not infringe upon privately owned rights."

## **Attachment A:**

Utility Letter Template, dated August 20, 2015. (Tasks 4.1 and 4.5)

REN-13-002 September 28, 2015



# COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

## TRANSPORTATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY



## **Transportation Department**

August 11, 2015

«FIRST» «LAST» «COMPANY\_NA» «ADDRESS\_1» «ADDRESS\_2» «ADDRESS\_3» «CITY», «STATE» «ZIP»

RE: Request for Utility Location Information: Salton Sea Renewable Energy Study Area and Connecting Region, (see map), Riverside County. Project No. RCEC5001

Dear «Mr Ms» «LAST»:

The County of Riverside Transportation and Planning Departments are preparing a geodatabase on utility and infrastructure services, both existing/as-built and planned, in the Salton Sea region. The resultant database will be used in-house to allow the County to identify utility-related opportunities and constraints affecting land use and roadway network plans. This will allow the County to better plan land use and renewable energy development in the region.

We have enclosed area maps showing the limits of the improvement area of interest. Please provide any overhead and underground facility maps or as-built plans, inventory maps or other documentation of the location of your facilities within the study area within 30 days of receiving this letter. CAD, GIS and/or PDF files would be very helpful and are preferable, if available.

Please note: If your agency's service area falls outside the Study Area shown, only regional data is being requested from your agency to flesh out regional connectivity and infrastructure for the eastern half of Riverside County. Utility conflicts exist quite often and accurate information is essential. With the precise location of your facilities provided, it may be possible in the design of future land use, roadway and infrastructure projects to eliminate the need for your agency to relocate any of your facilities.

 $3525\ 14^{\rm TH}$  Street · Riverside, CA 92501 · (951) 955-6800 P.O. Box 1090 · Riverside, CA 92502-1090 · FAX (951) 955-3164

Salton Sea Renewable Energy Study Area, Riverside County. LTR # 1 sent 8/11/2015 Project # RCEC5001 Page 2 of 4

By participating in this valuable program, you will not only be helping potential projects within your jurisdiction, but will also be assisting the County in assembling a comprehensive source of information in a consistent GIS format. The resultant enhancements to the County's database will help streamline the plan review process, reduce the time spent by agency staff researching and answering questions, and facilitate better-informed long-range planning by the County.

For future County projects, the County's engineer will show your company's facilities on the County's improvement plans and the plans will be submitted to you for review after further development. Action by your company, if necessary, will be requested with transmittal at that time.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this project, please do not hesitate to call me at (951) 955-8632 or email me at <a href="mailto:cthielma@rctlma.org">cthielma@rctlma.org</a>. For technical (GIS/CAD) questions please contact Jim McPherson (of RBF, whom we've contracted to assemble this GIS data into our County database) at (949) 990-4108. Additionally, any CAD or GIS files should be emailed to Jim at <a href="mailto:JMcPherson@mbakerintl.com">JMcPherson@mbakerintl.com</a> or may be uploaded directly by FTP (contact Jim for specifics).

Sincerely,

Cindy A. Thielman-Braun Renewable Energy Grant Project Manager Planning Department, TLMA County of Riverside

Attachments: 1. Requested Data List

2. Map of Salton Sea Study Area

cc: Khalid Nasim, Engineering Division Manager, Transportation Dept. Richard Fairhurst, Senior Engineer, Transportation Dept. Project Utility file

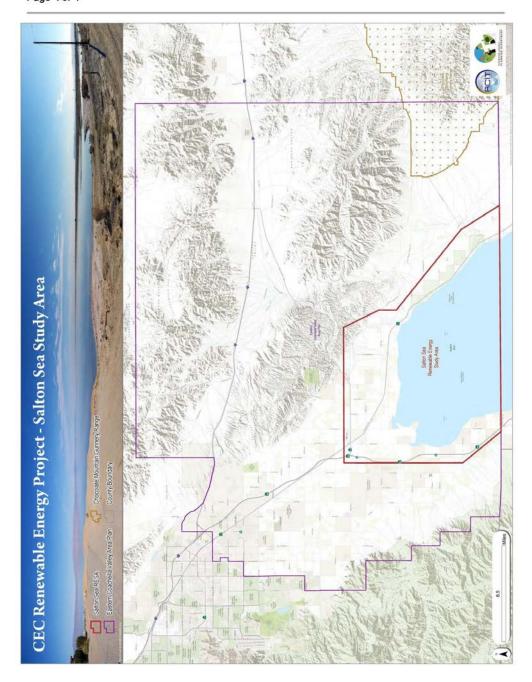
Salton Sea Renewable Energy Study Area, Riverside County. LTR # 1 sent 8/11/2015 Project # RCEC5001 Page 3 of 4

## **Requested Data:**

Please note — while the detailed engineering data requested below is for the Salton Sea Study Area within Riverside County as shown on the attached map, please also include any relevant regional connectivity data that may be related to serving the area, even if outside the Study Area or outside Riverside County, if applicable.

- 1. Existing, As-Built or Planned Infrastructure (GIS data, planimetric data and CAD files)
  - a. Electrical transmission lines and equipment (transformers, substations, etc.)
  - b. Natural gas lines
  - c. Water lines (potable, recycles, etc.) and equipment (pumps, reservoirs, etc.)
  - d. Wastewater lines and equipment (pumping stations, etc.)
  - e. Any other lines (J-6, brine, etc.)
  - f. Any other facilities related to utility delivery
  - g. Treatment facilities
  - Solar or other commercial energy production facilities (if applicable)
  - i. Distributed generation (PV) solar facilities, if available
- 2. Easements associated with any of the above (if available) or buffer zones (if applicable)
- Facility System data (pipes and appurtenances for sewer, water, recycled water) within Salton Sea focus study area
- 4. Schematics or other plans (where engineering or CAD level not available)
- Reports and studies related to utility plans (capital improvement plans, long-range plans, etc.), resource provision (e.g., supply development studies, projections, etc.), or other such service plans
- 6. Spatial data any available other information, such as:
  - a. Topographic data
  - b. Grading maps
  - c. Soils, subsidence, fault maps, etc.
  - d. Existing land usage data (aerials, land use plans, etc.)
  - e. Hydrology or drainage maps

Salton Sea Renewable Energy Study Area, Riverside County. LTR # 1 sent 8/11/2015 Project # RCEC5001 Page 4 of 4



## **Attachment B:**

Letter from NAHC, re SB 18 Consultation, dated August 12, 2015. (Task 6.3)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Edmund G. Brown Jr. Governor

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

1550 Harbor Blvd., ROOM 100 West SACRAMENTO, CA 95691 (918) 373-3710 Fax (916) 373-5471



August 12, 2015

Cindy A. Thielman-Braun Riverside County Planning Department 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor P.O. Box 1409 Riverside, CA 92502-1409

Faxed to: (951) 955-1811 Number of Pages: 5

RE: SB 18 Consultation, GPA 1153 (Renewable Energy), Riverside County.

Dear Ms. Thielman-Braun,

Government Code §65352.3 requires local governments to consult with California Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purpose of protecting, and/or mitigating impacts to cultural places in creating or amending general plans, including specific plans. Attached is a consultation list of tribes with traditional lands or cultural places located within the boundaries of the above project.

As a part of consultation, the NAHC recommends that local governments conduct record searches through the NAHC and California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) to determine if any cultural places are located within the area(s) affected by the proposed action. A Sacred Lands File search was not completed. Local governments should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS are not exhaustive, and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a cultural place. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a cultural place.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our consultation list contains current information.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: Katy.Sanchez@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely.

Katy Sanchez

Katy Janones

Associate Government Program Analyst

08/12/2015 11:06 FAX 916 657 5390

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Serrano

Luiseno

Cahuilla

Cahuilla

Chemehuevi

## Native American Tribal Consultation List **Hiverside County** GPA 1153 (Renewable Energy) August 11, 2015

al\_on Band of Mission Indians Joug Welmas, Chairperson 14-245 Indio Springs Parkway Cahuilla

, CA 92203 ndio

760) 342-2593

Highland (909) 864-8933

Los Coyotes Band of Mission Indians

Ray Chapparosa, Chairman

P.O. Box 189

Warner Springs , CA c92086

Cahuilla

Los\_coyotes@ymail.com

Luiseno

Cahuilla

(951) 654-2765

P.O. Box 1160

P.O. Box 487

San Jacinto

Pala Band of Mission Indians Shasta Gaughen, PhD, THPO

PMB 50, 35008 Pala-Ternecula Rd. Luiseno . CA 92059 Cupeno

sgaughen@palatribe.com

(760) 891-3515

(760) 397-0300

Thermal

Pauma & Yuima Reservation Randall Majel, Chairperson

P.O. Box 369

Pauma Valley , CA 92061

(760) 742-1289 ext 317

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

Soboba Band of Mission Indians

carrieg@soboba-nsn.gov

Mary Resvaloso, Chairperson

mresvaloso@torresmartinez.

. CA 92346

Rosemary Morillo, Chairperson; Attn: Carrie Garcia

, CA 92581

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

, CA 92274

Lynn Valbuena, Chairwoman

26569 Community Center

Darrell Mike, Chairperson 46-200 Harrison Place

. CA 92236 Coachella Chemehuevi

Ithomas@29palmsbomi-nsi.

(760) 863-2444

Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians

Joseph Hamilton, Chairman

P.O. Box 391670 , CA 92539

Anza admin@ramonatribe.com

(951) 763-4105

Chemehuevi Reservation Edward Smith, Chairperson

P.O. Box 1976

, CA 92363 Chemehuevi chair1cit@yahoo.com

(760) 858-4301

this jiet is current only as of the dete of this document Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 or the Health and Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is applicable only for consultation with Native American tribes under Government Code Sections 55352.3 and 85362.4 et seq.

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## Native American Tribal Consultation List **Riverside County** GPA 1153 (Renewable Energy) August 11, 2015

Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians ort wojave Indian Tribe

John Marcus, Chairman imothy Williams, Chairperson

Cahuilla P.O. Box 391820 Mojave 300 Merriman Ave

CA 92539 Anza . CA 92363 **leedles** 

(951) 659-2700 760) 629-4591

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Aciachemen Nation Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians

Mary Ann Green, Chairperson

Chairperson Cahuilla P.O. Box 846 32161 Avenida Los Amigos Juaneno

. CA 92236 Coachella San Juan Capistrano , CA 92675

(760) 398-4722 (949) 293-8522 (760) 369-7161Fax

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation Colorado River Indian Tribe

San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians

Luiseno

Tribal Council

Teresa Romero, Chairwoman Dennis Patch, Chairman

31411-A La Matanza Street Juaneno Mojave 26600 Mojave Road

San Juan Capistrano , CA 92675 , AZ 85344 Chemehuevi Parker tromero@juaneno.com crit.museum@yahoo.com (949) 488-3484

(9^^\ 669-9211Tribal Office (530) 354-5876 Cell (9 , 669-8970 ext 21

Rincon Band of Mission Indians Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Nation Bo Mazzetti, Chairperson Keeny Escalanti, Sr., President

Luiseno 1 West Tribal Road Quechan P.O.Box 1899

Valley Center , CA 92082 , AZ 85366 Yuma bomazzetti@aol.com qitpres@quechantribe.com (760) 749-1051 (760) 572-0213

Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians

Anthony Morales, Chairperson

1889 Sunset Drive Gabrielino Tongva P.O. Box 693

. CA 92081 Vista . CA 91778 San Gabriel

cjmojado@slrmissionindians.org GTTribalcouncil@aol.com (760) 724-8505

(626) 483-3564 Cell

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is applicable only for consultation with Native American tribes under Government Code Sections 65352.3 and 65362.4 at seq.

08/12/2015 11:06 FAX 916 657 5390

Cahuilla

Luiseno

NAHC

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## Native American Tribal Consultation List **Riverside County** GPA 1153 (Renewable Energy) August 11, 2015

Igua Jallente Band of Cahuilla Indians

leff Grubbe, Chairperson

401 Dinah Shore Drive

'alm Springs , CA 92262

reogoz@aguacaliente-nsn.gov

760) 325-3400

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians THPO Patricia Garcia, Tribal Historic Perservation Officer Cahuilla

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Palm Springs . CA 92264 ptuck@augacaliente-nsn.gov

(760) 699-6907

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

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This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is applicable only for consultation with Native American tribes under Government Code Sections 65352.3 and 65352.4 et seq.

## **Attachment C:**

Letter from Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, dated August 7, 2015. (Task 6.3)

## RINCON BAND OF LUISEÑO INDIANS

Culture Committee

1 W. Tribal Road - Valley Center, California 92982 - (760) 297-2621 or (760) 297-2622 & Fax: (760) 749-8901



August 7, 2015

Heather Thomson Riverside County Planning Department 4080 Lemon Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Riverside, CA 92502 RECEIVED Planning Dept. AUG 1 8 2015

Re: General Plan Amendment No. 1153

Dear Ms. Thomson:

This letter is written on behalf of Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians. We have received your notification regarding the General Plan Amendment No. 1153 and we thank you for the SB18/AB52 continued consultation notification. The location you have identified is within the Territory of the Luiseño people.

Embedded in the Luiseño Territory are Rincon's history, culture and identity. The project is within the Territory of the Luiseño people but, is not within Rincon's Historic Boundaries. We do not have any additional information regarding this project but, we defer you to the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians or Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians who are closer to your project area.

Please contact the Native American Heritage Commission and they will assist with a referral to other tribes in the project area.

Thank you for the opportunity to protect and preserve our cultural assets.

Sincerely,

Jim McPherson Manager

Rincon Cultural Resources Department

mwa

Bo Mazzetti Tribal Chairman Stephanie Spencer Vice Chairwoman Steve Stallings Council Member Laurie E. Gonzalez Council Member Alfonso Kolb Council Member

## **Attachment D:**

Agenda, CEC – "Energizing California's Communities with Renewables: Recent Successes and Future Opportunities," dated July 29, 2015. (Task 7.2)

#### **AGENDA**

## **Energizing California's Communities with Renewables: Recent** Successes and Future Opportunities



Wednesday, July 29, 2015 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Art Rosenfeld Hearing Room California Energy Commission 1516 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95814

- 9:30 9:40 Welcome and Introductions Chair Weisenmiller, Commissioner Hochschild, Commissioner
- 9:40 9:50 Importance of Community Scale Renewable Energy Michael Sokol, California Energy Commission
- 9:50 10:00 Department of Energy (DOE) Community Scale Renewable Energy Steve Lindenberg
- 10:00 12:00 Session 1 Planning for Community Renewable Energy Development

These projects developed tools and methodologies to formulate community specific renewable energy development plans. This session will leverage recent successes and highlight opportunities to streamline future planning activities.

- Development of Community Integrated Renewable Energy Assessment Tools
  - o Cal Broomhead, San Francisco Department of Environment
- Exploring Renewable Energy Development in San Luis Obispo
  - o Paul Fenn, Local Power Inc. (via WebEx)
  - Assessment of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Davis o Mitch Sears, City of Davis
- Planning for Bioenergy and Advanced Energy Upgrades in Plumas County
  - o Jonathan Kusel, Sierra Institute for Community and Environment
- Panel Discussion Moderated by Michael Sokol, California Energy Commission
- 12:00 12:15 Public Questions and Answers on Session 1
- 12:15 1:30 Lunch Break
- 1:30 3:30 Session 2 Demonstrating Pathways to Renewable-Based Communities

These projects demonstrated integrated suites of technologies to enable utilization of local renewable energy resources. This session will identify technical and regulatory barriers, knowledge gaps, and lessons learned from prior projects to advise future demonstrations.

Renewable Energy in Humboldt County: From Planning to Demonstration and Beyond

- o Matthew Marshall, Redwood Coast Energy Authority
- Demonstrating Holistic Integration of Distributed Energy Resources
  - o Brendan Shaffer, UC Irvine
- Piloting Strategies to Achieve Net-Zero Campus Goals
  - o Gerardo Diaz, UC Merced
- Hierarchical Microgrid to Maintain Critical Loads at Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base
  - o Michael Firenze, CleanSpark
- Panel Discussion Moderated by Prab Sethi, California Energy Commission

3:30 - 3:45 Public Questions and Answers on Session 2

3:45 - 4:45 Session 3 - Moving Forward Under EPIC and Engaging Community Diversity

· Discussion with Previous Panelists and Public

4:45 - 5:00 Closing Comments

## **Attachment E:**

Agenda and Summary Notes, CEC — County to County Conference Call re Renewable Energy Efforts, dated July 30, 2015. (Task 7.2)

## Summary Notes: County to County Call re: Renewable Energy Efforts

July 30, 2015, 3:00-5:00

Apologies for any name omissions or misspellings

#### Agenda

- 1. Introductions & Suggested Changes to the Agenda (5 mins)
- 2. Updates from Counties on Renewable Energy Planning Efforts (30 mins)
- Renewable Energy Challenges and Opportunities for Cost Recovery –Lorelei Oviatt/County-led Discussion (30 mins)
- 4. Information Repository/Clearinghouse Terry Watt (5 mins)
- 5. CEC Workshops Terry Watt (20 mins)
  - Integrated Energy Policy Report Workshop August 3, 2015 re: Landscape Scale Enviro Evals and Strategic Investment Plan Agenda attached
    - Highlight of Presentations for Renewable Energy Planning Grant Panel Susie Tae, Juan Perez, Andy Horne, Cathreen Richards, Tom Hudson, James Caruso
    - Highlight of Presentations for Landscape Scale Planning Panel: Tim Snellings, Lorelei Oviatt
  - B. Staff Workshop re: Community Scale Renewable Energy Research and Development Projects – July 29, 2015. Agenda attached
- 6. San Joaquin Valley Solar Least Conflict Lands Project Update Terry Watt (15 mins)
- 7. Follow up Items/ Next Call (5 mins)

Butte: Tim Snellings; Placeworks

Imperial: Andy Horne, Richard Cabanilla, Patricia Valenzuela

Inyo: Cathreen Richards and Josh Hart

Kern: Lorelei Oviatt

Los Angeles: Susie Tae, Joseph Decruyenaere, Max Thelander

Placer: Michael Johnson

Riverside: Juan Perez, Cindy Thielman-Braun, Tiffany North

San Bernardino: Tom Hudson and Karen Watkins

San Luis Obispo: James Caruso

CEC: Karen Douglas, Le-Quyen, Jen, Lori Sinsley, Jim Bartridge, Mike Sokol, Scott Flint

Gov Ofc: Terry Watt

## 1. Agenda Item #2: Planning efforts

#### A. Andy Horne, Imperial

- Renewable Energy Conservation Planning Grant (RECPG) Phase 1- update geothermal/alternative energy & transmission element (now the renewable energy & transmission element).
  - Been working on it for 2 years. Went to County Planning Commission on July 22; unanimously approved sending element to BOS. The BOS will hear it on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Retained geothermal overlay, added renewable energy overlay such as solar who
    want to locate in Imperial. 18,000 acres of actively farmed ag land that has been
    converted or approved for development of solar. Created a lot of concern in ag

- community. 35,000 acres of land that would be in the renewable energy overlay which would be adequate; also worked with IID to identify transmission sources.
- Plan will eliminate or reduce conflicts (like ag conflict) and will allow continued renewable energy development to meet state goals.
- RECPG Phase 2 Conservation and Open Space Element (Richard).
  - Draft element and baseline environmental inventory report. Architectural, biological, etc., and prepared a draft CEQA doc, too.
  - Internally reviewing and will be looking for environmental review committee on October 29<sup>th</sup> for tribal consultation.
  - Working with CDFW and USFWS staffers on third party monitoring and quarterly teleconferencing on construction and operational activities.
  - Scientific studies in DRECP Gateway will be a great resource for their County (Imperial).

#### B. Tim Snellings, Butte

- Butte County Solar Overlay. Funded by grant from Strategic Growth Council. Working with Placeworks
- PowerButte which includes Pace Program, climate action, community choice aggregation.
- Aim is to identify thousands of acres of least conflict land suitable for solar projects vision, goals, and objective stage; have not engaged the public yet.
- Butte County Solar Overlay went to Planning Commission on 7/30, goes to BOS on August 25<sup>th</sup>, and then begin technical studies after that.
- Goal is to avoid prime, unique ag lands. Study 100,000 acres to start and then identify what is
  easiest to connect to the Grid. Project level EIR for all lands in renewable energy zones and goal
  is that will allow an administrative permit.

#### C. Susan Tae, Los Angeles

- Renewable Energy Ordinance went to BOS on July 14<sup>th</sup>; BOS approved it with a prohibition of
  utility scale wind. The prohibition is being worked into the final ordinance, which will hopefully
  be approved soon.
  - Most concerns from Antelope Valley residents and enviro folks re: relationship with RE locations and SEA.
- Antelope Valley Area Plan includes DRECP –tried to balance growth and protecting environment.
  - BOS recommended changing the boundaries of the SEA reduced in economic development areas. Plan was formally adopted on June 16 and Plan's ordinances went into effect on July 16, 2015.
  - Lawsuit has been filed on this Plan from CBD. Changes the Board directed re: boundaries of SEAs within Economic Areas were not adequately analyzed in EIR.

#### D. James Caruso, San Luis Obispo

- North eastern part of county was identified as best for solar as well as for ag (vineyard).
- At landscape level, most of larger parcels were in Williamson Act contracts. Queried how other counties addressed issue:
  - Lorelei (Kern): Kern County excluded utility scale solar development on ag land. Water
    movement was big issue— water is a factor, can't farm without water. Lost water =
    cancellation of Williamson Act for that land; farmer proved that they could move that
    water to more beneficial needs = cancellation of Williamson Act for that land. For all

else, said no for utility scale. On-site DG for ag/farming operations is considered compatible and no need to cancel contract. BOS not interested in swapping out Williamson Act lands for solar easement because of solar property tax exemption. If land has been farmed 5 of last 10 years, they need to mitigate 1:1 with ag easement.

— Andy (Imperial): Imperial County had about 140,000 acres; stopped doing Williamson Act five years ago when the subvention payments stopped. Still valid but in termination mode – in next 3-4 years all will be gone (expire after 9 years). Have allowed land owners to cancel their Williamson Act contracts with certain findings. If someone wants to convert ag to solar project have been allowing conversion – 3,000-5,000 acre range done.

#### E. Tom Hudson, San Bernardino

- Have completed RECPG Phase 1 of work that includes the ends and guiding principles of broad support for renewable energy. RECPG Phase 2 – benefits, costs, who pays, and what tools are working best. Still trying to learn from what everyone else has done and have a strong renewable energy program in County.
- Strong group of individuals opposing renewable energy in the County. They are well organized, informed, and have been successful in limiting new renewable energy development. The one area of renewable energy finding significant support in the County is the community choice aggregators.

#### 2. Agenda Item #3: What are the benefits to the counties? Are there ways to make this more beneficial to counties?

#### A. Lorelei Oviatt, Kern County, discussion item

- Biggest disincentive to solar development (55,000 acres of built solar in Kern) is exemption from property tax re-assessment. In 2008/2014, legislature authorized, and then re-authorized, exceptions for property tax re-assessment for solar projects (to 2025). However, in 2014, the reauthorization language also included commercial scale solar in the property tax exception before it was only rooftop solar. A county can only re-assess if 100% of project is sold to a new owner; so if 99% of the project is sold but 1% retained by original owner, can't reassess. In reality, have 55,000 acres of land that are paying the same as if it was dirt.
- Commercial scale does not compensate counties and cities. Solar industries use county services

   roads, sheriff, and fire.
- Options for Addressing:
  - Legislative fix to phase out exemption before 2025
  - Legislative fix of new assessment lower than normal but more than nothing.
  - Legislative fix to require that ownership transfer must be reported in explicit detail to county tax assessor. 100 MW solar project= \$300 million or more in property tax. Wind brings \$40 million in property tax to Kern County.
  - Have placed an annual payment for public impact mitigation through EIR process. Kern County negotiated a per square foot panel payment paid in April. Imposed in EIR as a mitigation fee for public services (fire, sheriff, coroner, emergency services), and composed on capital improvements. For some, they will take a discount to get a lump sum goes to those departments, not general fund. Works to about \$1 million/year across all of them (20 projects). Generates about \$1 million a year. Riverside County gets \$150/acre per year. Could leave it as is or have a legislative fix mandating projects must offset public impact or provide payment in lieu for public services

- Sales tax on all projects.
  - County get sales tax on panels—\$32 million over the course of major projects.
     First Solar mixed their panels and do not pay.
- Benefit is jobs
- A \$/acre approach or generation has not worked for Kern County.
- Without CEQA exemption for projects, will need to do EIR. Can do EIR faster but can't do any faster than state of CA allows.
- Kern County is 150 MW away from 10,000 MW wind, solar, geothermal, rooftop, behind the
  meter, cities, school district, and water districts. Board encouraging evaluation of a change of
  approach. Potentially interested in a change related to the property tax exemption for solar.
- B. Andy Horne, Imperial Imperial County requires that project developers guarantee the sales tax and if there is shortfall they pay the difference. Also require heavy mitigation for projects, mitigation dollars for fire \$100/acre during construction, \$20 during operation and a public benefit program has a per acre fee.
  - Would be in favor of removing exemption and make all projects taxable but think solar industry
    would oppose. Need to determine how to capture existing projects if can. Will be tough to
    get any legislative action.
  - Nevada and Arizona have tax exemptions at 50% level, not 100%.
  - Major issue in DRECP, will be an issue in San Joaquin Valley Solar effort, too.
  - Solar is more competitive than wind larger profit margin- and get a 1-2% bump every year.
  - If want to get to 50% renewables, will need to change the model.
  - Projects are zero baseline Kern County assessor has different approach and invited Imperial County assessor to contact Kern County assessor.
- C. Tiffany North, Riverside Industry not happy when their fee proposal was first initiated.
  - Sales and use tax has been the most beneficial to the county.
  - Are clear w/ developers that they should list Riverside County as the building site.
  - Annual payment is \$150/acre/year and if the project is in development agree for conditions of
    development. Offered certainty tied to permit term (30 years). Asked for financials of industry
    to audit if sales and use tax fees have been paid correctly and have found missing tax and
    received. Unfortunately the sales and use tax is only during construction. Would love to see a
    leg fix on the property tax exemption.
  - Have fast tracked projects so they go straight to board and impact fees certainty. The annual
    and sales/use tax are no longer parts of the conversations.
- 3. Agenda Item #5a IEPR Workshop
  - Kern Presentation focuses on landscape scale planning and transmission
  - Butte Presentation emphasizes openness of communication process with the public
- 4. Agenda Item #5b Community Scale workshops CEC workshop on July 29. In the past CEC has funded projects that focus on helping communities overcome technical issues to installing community scale solar. Workshops will feature info on some funded projects, discuss lessons learned, and solicit stakeholder feedback on what support is needed. Some past projects have been located in San Francisco, Davis, and Sierra. Next steps will be regional workshops across the state Oakland, Sept 17; Fresno, Sept 23; San Bernardino, Sept 29; Lynwood, Sept 30; San Diego and

Redwoods still to be planned. Solicitation will go out the end of this year/beginning of next to work together to publicize workshops.

## 5. Agenda Item #6 - SJV Solar (short update by Terry Watt)

Goal: To identify land areas in the San Joaquin Valley that are suitable for solar energy development and have least conflict with lands that support other resources, including agricultural lands, conservation lands, sensitive species and species habitats, and local agency land use designations.

Objective: Use best available data and information to Identify and map the set of least-conflict lands for solar through the work of five stakeholder work groups – the Agriculture Work Group, the Solar Industry Work Group, the Conservation Work Group, the Counties Work Group, and the Transmission Work Group. State and Federal agencies act as advisors to the process.

Process: Stakeholder work groups will work both independently and together to develop their respective inputs to a San Joaquin "Least-Conflict" lands map for solar energy, using the tools and collaborative features available on Data Basin, a series of work group WebEx meetings and several large stakeholder "convenings". Select state and local agencies will provide technical assistance for the work groups and overall for the stakeholder exercise. The work groups data and work products will be hosted on the Data Basin web platform, which is operated by the Biological Conservation Institute (CBI). Terry Watt, representing the Governor's Office and Jim Strittholt of CBI will facilitate the various meetings.

#### Products:

- Map Least-Conflict Lands for Solar Energy in the San Joaquin Valley, assembled by the stakeholder work groups and CBI
- Final Project Report documenting:
  - Stakeholder process
  - o Criteria, data and map inputs used by each work group
  - Methods for science based models developed by CBI
  - Methods for assembling the final least conflict map
- San Joaquin Valley Gateway on Data Basin containing
  - Data and tools
  - Least-Conflict Lands for Solar Energy in the San Joaquin Valley Map
  - Stakeholder work group data and inputs
  - Final Project Report
  - Transmission constraints and opps
  - Opportunities and ideas for incentives for Least Conflict areas

## Comments from Group:

 Lorelei (Kern County): Need to be sensitive to property privacy issues and making planning decision for other people's property.

## **Attachment F:**

Agenda and Summary Notes, CEC — County to County Conference Call re Local Government and CEC Conversations, dated July 30, 2015. (Task 7.2)

## **Local Government and CEC Conversations**

August 24, 2015, 3:00-4:30

Conference call: 877-668-0450; Participant Code: 2345203

## <u>Agenda</u>

- 1. Introductions & Suggested Changes to the Agenda (5 mins)
- 2. Quick Reports (5 mins each)
  - A. County Renewable Energy and Conservation Planning Efforts
  - B. IEPR workshop recap Karen Douglas
  - C. RETI 2.0 Karen Douglas
  - D. Suggestions for Improving Cost Recovery of Renewable Energy
  - E. Information Repository -- Terry Watt or Lori Sinsley
    - 1. Project information at state, regional, county and local levels and maps
    - 2. Tribal Consultation and AB 52
    - 3. Impacts and mitigation "best practices"
    - 4. Approaches to least conflict habitat; agricultural; other land-based factors facility siting; solar "zones" or development areas (County Planning Directors handbook, other resources)
    - 5. Transmission Planning (RETI 2.0 process)
    - 6. Cost recovery approaches
    - 7. Benefits
    - 8. Other?
  - F. San Joaquin Valley Solar Least Conflict Lands Project Update Terry Watt
- 3. Proposed approach to future county calls/meetings -- monthly calls and quarterly meetings (5 mins)
- 4. Follow up Items/Topics for future calls (5 mins)

## **Attachment G:**

Agenda, CEC – IEPR Workshop, "Landscape-Scale Environmental Evaluations for Energy Infrastructure Planning and the Strategic Transmission Investment Plan," dated August 3, 2015. (Task 7.2)



# California Energy Commission Integrated Energy Policy Report Commissioner Workshop

# Landscape-Scale Environmental Evaluations for Energy Infrastructure Planning and the Strategic Transmission Investment Plan

# August 3, 2015 - 10:00 a.m. Arthur Rosenfeld Room (Hearing Room A) 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814

#### Introduction (10:00 - 10:05)

Heather Raitt, IEPR Program Manager

## Opening Comments (10:05 - 10:20)

Commissioner Andrew McAllister, California Energy Commission
Commissioner Karen Douglas, California Energy Commission
Commissioner Janea Scott, California Energy Commission
Ken Alex, Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Research and Senior Advisor to the Governor
President Michael Picker, California Public Utilities Commission
Jim Kenna, State Director California, Bureau of Land Management

## Session 1: Agency Introductions and Updates (10:20 - 10:50)

Moderator: Al Alvarado, Program Manager, California Energy Commission

#### Presentations

- Overview of Energy Commission Activities in Renewable Energy Planning and Technical Support for Planning Processes – Roger Johnson, Deputy Director, Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division, California Energy Commission
- Status of California Public Utilities Commission Activities on Track 2B of the Renewable Portfolio Standard Proceeding and the Development of Longer Term Scenarios for 2030 and 2050 in the Long Term Procurement Planning – Paul Douglas, Supervisor – Renewable Procurement and Market Design, California Public Utilities Commission
- California Independent System Operator Use of Environmental Information in Transmission Planning and Technical Support for Planning Processes – Jeff Billinton, Manager of Regional Transmission North, California Independent System Operator

## Session 2: Energy Commission Staff Presentations (10:50-11:30)

 Strategic Transmission Planning and Corridors – Judy Grau, Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division, California Energy Commission

 Decision Support Tools for Long Term Renewable Energy Planning – Scott Flint, Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division, California Energy Commission; Pat Lineback, Region 8 Fish and Wildlife Coordinator, United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and Armand Gonzales, Special Advisor, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

#### Lunch (11:30 - 12:30)

# Session 3: Landscape-Scale Planning Efforts for Renewable Energy, Land Use, Conservation (12:30-1:45)

Moderator: Terry Watt, Governor's Liaison

#### **Presentations**

- San Joaquin Valley Solar, James Strittholt, President, Executive Director of Conservation Biology Institute
- Kern County, Lorelei Oviatt, Director, Planning Department
- Apple Valley's Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan, Heidi Brannon, Chief of Staff, Solution Strategies International
- Butte County, Tim Snellings, Director, Development Services Department
- Western Electricity Coordinating Council Environmental Risk Metrics for Transmission Planning, Carl Zichella, Director of Western Transmission, Natural Resources Defense Council

## Break (1:45-2:00)

## Session 4: Renewable Energy Planning Grants (2:00 - 3:30)

Moderator: Lori Sinsley, Special Advisor, California Energy Commission

- Imperial County, Andy Horne, Deputy County Executive Officer, Natural Resources Development
- Inyo County, Cathreen Richards, Senior Planner
- Los Angeles County, Susan Tae, Supervising Regional Planner, Community Studies North, Department of Regional Planning
- Riverside County, Juan C. Perez, Director, Transportation and Land Management Agency
- San Bernardino County, Tom Hudson, Director, Land Use Services, via WebEx
- San Luis Obispo County, James Caruso, Senior Planner, Department of Planning and Building

## Session 5: Public Comments (3:30)

## **Commissioner Closing Remarks**

## Adjourn

# Landscape-Scale Environmental Evaluations for Energy Infrastructure Planning and the Strategic Transmission Investment Plan

## **Workshop Discussion Questions**

- 1. Various landscape-scale planning efforts are underway throughout California and the West, although sometimes for different purposes. What are the benefits of this kind of planning and how can it be used to help meet State and local renewable energy, greenhouse gas, planning and environmental policy goals?
- 2. How can information developed in landscape-scale planning efforts be used to inform decision makers of the most appropriate areas to develop renewable energy generation and transmission?
- 3. How can web-based information tools make this information available to stakeholders and the public? What tools are available and how can they best be used? What has worked? What are the lessons learned?
- **4.** How can different energy agencies best work together to connect environmental information and local government information with existing energy infrastructure, planning and permitting processes? How should this information be considered and influence these processes?

# Questions Regarding Right Sizing Transmission To be addressed in Written Comments after the Workshop

- 1. Is right-sizing a transmission qualitative (policy) issue or a quantitative (metric-based) issue?
- 2. What criteria should be used to assess right-sizing opportunities?
- 3. Is right-sizing only appropriate for areas that have been studied in depth for maximum possible renewable build-out, such as DRECP?
- **4.** Given that new policy targets are considered for long-term renewable generation and GHG emission reduction targets, how should right-sizing transmission proposals be considered in a long-term planning evaluation?
  - a. Should a specific time frame be applied to the evaluation (10, 15, 20 years)?
- 5. What is the appropriate way to analyze the costs vs. benefits of a potential right-sizing project?
  - a. What are the costs of building a future right-sizing opportunity into a project (for example, build a 230 kV transmission line to 500 kV specifications or a single-circuit line with double-circuit towers?)
  - b. How do we evaluate whether or not the increase in cost is worth the risk?