



# RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

*Carolyn Syms Luna*  
Director

1:30 P.M.

AUGUST 23, 2012

## AGENDA

RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
**DIRECTOR'S HEARING**  
Blythe City Hall, Multi-Purpose Room  
235 N. Broadway  
Blythe, CA 92225

If you wish to speak, please complete a "SPEAKER IDENTIFICATION FORM" and give it to the Planning Director. The purpose of the scoping session is to allow interested parties to express their concerns. Please do not repeat information already given. If you have no additional information, but wish to be on record, simply give your name and address and state that you agree with the previous speaker(s).

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if any accommodations are needed, please contact Mary Stark at (951) 955-7436 or E-mail at [mcstark@rctlma.org](mailto:mcstark@rctlma.org). Request should be made at least 48 hours or as soon as possible prior to the scheduled meeting.

1.0 CONSENT CALENDAR:

1.1 **None**

2.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS: 1:30 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter.

- 2.1 **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 3684 / PUBLIC USE PERMIT NO. 916 / ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT NO. 532.** The Palo Verde Mesa Solar Project is located approximately five miles northwest of Blythe city center and bounded on the north by McCoy Wash, on the east by agricultural lands, on the west by U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-managed public lands, and on the south by the Blythe Airport and other private lands that include agricultural and utility uses. The proposed project consists of the construction and operation of a 486 megawatt solar photovoltaic (PV) power plant and transmission line on approximately 3,400 acres. The proposed project would consist of a solar array field utilizing single-axis solar PV trackers and panels with a combined maximum height of eight and a half feet. Supporting facilities on-site would include two electrical substations, one operation and maintenance building, inverters, transformers, and associated switchgear. Since most of the site has nearly level to gently sloping topography, no mass grading would be required, and the natural drainage patterns of the site would not be significantly altered. The Project site would be secured 24 hours per day by on-site private security personnel or remote services with motion-detection cameras. An equestrian-wire, wildlife-friendly and drainage-compatible security fence that meets the National Electrical Safety Code would be placed around the perimeter of the site. The proposed lighting for the site would be consistent with County building code. A 14.7-mile-long 230 kilovolt transmission line would connect the proposed project's northwestern substation with the approved Colorado River Substation, located west of the project site. The solar array field would be located entirely within the County of Riverside's jurisdiction. The transmission line would be located on County of Riverside jurisdiction,

with the exception of approximately 1.7 miles (20.6 acres) within the City of Blythe and approximately 4.0 miles (48 acres) within land managed by the BLM. A Development Agreement between the County of Riverside and the applicant would be established, setting forth the rights and responsibilities of each party with respect to project development and operation. APN's: 821-090-018; 821-020-007; 821-020-019 through 821-020-029; 821-050-004; 821-050-012 through 821-050-029; 821-060-001 through 821-060-003; 821-060-006; 821-080-043 through 821-080-047; 821-080-050; 821-090-011 through 821-090-017; 821-100-034 (Solar Field). APN's 821-112-030; 821-112-042 through 821-112-044; 821-112-048; 824-090-024; 824-102-015; 863-030-006 through 863-030-010; 863-030-013 through 863-030-017; 863-040-015; 863-040-020 through 863-040-021; 863-050-004; 863-050-008; 879-080-013 through 879-080-014; 879-080-032; 879-090-048 through 879-090-049; 879-080-022; 879-080-024; 879-080-027; 879-090-033 through 879-090-035; 824-102-020; 824-102-026; 824-110-036; 824-102-023; 824-102-027; 824-110-037; 824-102-024; 824-110-035; 824-110-038 (Transmission Line). The scoping session is to allow the Planning Director and the public an opportunity to identify issues that should be addressed in the Environmental Impact Report. The scoping session is not a public hearing on the merits of the project, nor will the Planning Director be taking an action on the project. Project Planner, Jay Olivas at (951) 955-1195 or Email [jolivas@rctlma.org](mailto:jolivas@rctlma.org).

### Staff Report 2.1

#### 3.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS: