County of San Bernardino

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT



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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County of San Bernardino has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which is being distributed for public review pursuant to the California Public Resources Code and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. The County of San Bernardino is the Lead Agency for the project per CEQA requirements.

Date:

March 15, 2019

Project Title:

Daggett Solar Power Facility (State Clearinghouse No. 2018041007)

To:

Responsible Agencies and Interested Parties

Subject:

Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

Project Location:

The project site is located in unincorporated San Bernardino County. The project site is generally bounded by the town of Daggett approximately 0.5 miles to the west; the Mojave River, Yermo, and Interstate 15 to the north; Barstow-Daggett Airport, Route 66, and Interstate 40 to the south; and Newberry Springs and Mojave Valley to the east in San Bernardino County (see attached Exhibit 1: Project Location).

Project Description: Daggett Solar Power 1, LLC (Applicant), a subsidiary of Clearway Energy, LLC, seeks to obtain County of San Bernardino approval of six Conditional Use Permits to construct and operate a solar energy generation and storage facility. The project would also include security fencing for all phases, a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system, telecommunications equipment and an operations and maintenance building to be constructed with the first phase. The project would produce up to 650 megawatts (MW) of power and include up to 450 MW of battery storage capacity on approximately 3,500 acres of land. The project would utilize existing electrical transmission infrastructure adjacent to the Coolwater Generating Station to deliver renewable energy to the electric grid. Off-site access to the project site would be via existing or proposed right-of-way dedications of varying widths (as required by the County).

Project construction would occur in three phases. While construction of each phase could occur individually, the Environmental Impact Report prepared for the project conservatively assumes that construction of two phases would overlap. It is anticipated that construction of Phases 1 and 2 would take 27 months (together a 400 MW facility) and Phase 3 would take 19 months (a 250 MW facility). The phases would share certain facilities such as the project substations and gen-tie line. Each phase would have its own on-site substation which may also include a battery energy storage system. From the on-site substations, each phase would include a segment of the overhead gen-tie line, which would connect the project to the existing Southern California Edison-owned 115-kilovolt (kV) and 230-kV Coolwater substations, which are adjacent to the retired Coolwater Generating Station. At full build-out, the gen-tie line would be one transmission line serving all phases of the project.

Significant Environmental Impacts: Based on the analysis in the Draft EIR, all potentially significant environmental impacts can be mitigated to less than significant with the exception of (direct and cumulative) impacts on air quality from project construction activities, and (indirect and cumulative) impacts on hydrology and water quality relative to groundwater supplies. Such impacts are considered significant and unavoidable even with mitigation measures incorporated where feasible.

Government Code Section 65962.5 Disclosure: The Department of Toxic Substances Control EnviroStor database indicates no evidence of existing hazardous materials sites on the project site.

Document Reviewing Locations: The Draft EIR can be accessed on the County of San Bernardino Land Use Services website at: http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/Planning/Environmental/Desert.aspx
Copies of the Draft EIR are available for review at the following locations during regular business hours:

- San Bernardino County Government Center, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, First Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415
- San Bernardino County High Desert Government Center, 15900 Smoke Tree Street, Suite 1331, Hesperia, CA 92345
- San Bernardino County Library Barstow Branch, 304 E. Buena Vista Street, Barstow, CA 92311; (760) 256-4850; Library Hours: Monday Wednesday 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This branch is closed Friday and Sunday.
- Daggett Community Services District, 35277 Afton Street, Daggett, CA 92327

Public Comment Period: The Draft EIR and its technical studies are available for the CEQA-required 45-day public review and comment period from **March 15, 2019 to April 29, 2019**.

Written comments on the Draft EIR and technical studies must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, **April 29, 2019**. Please submit comments to:

County of San Bernardino, Land Use Services Department Tom Nievez, Contract Planner 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, First Floor San Bernardino, CA 92415

Phone: (909) 387-5036 | Email: Tom.Nievez@lus.sbcounty.gov

Please include the name, phone number, and address of the contact person in your response.

Sincerely,

Tom Nievez, Contract Planner

DAGGETT SOLAR POWER FACILITY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Project Location

MOJAVE VALLEY MOJAVE VALLEY rry ——Freeway —— Railroad —Eligible for State Scenic Highway — Designation LECEND Project Site Boundary Comments of Millary Millary BLI Wilderness City Sunray Solar Project 12/19/2018 JN M:Widels/166360/GIS/MXD/2-01 HDR Project Location.mxd

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Michael Baker