SUPPLEMENTAL CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY FOR THE LONGBOAT SOLAR PROJECT, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangles: Barstow 7.5'
City and County: Barstow and Lenwood, San Bernardino County
Dates of Field Survey: March 23, 2015
Total acreage of lands Surveyed: 11 acres
Transmission Line Name(s): Remote 33kV
GIS Data (BAR fGDB): ☑ Yes; ☐ No
Key Words: Remote 33kV, Negative Results, Barstow, Lenwood

Cultural Resources Identified in Project Area: 0
Previously Recorded Resources in Project Area: 0
Resources Eligible for National/State Register: 0
Resources Recommended as Eligible for NRHP/CRHR: 0
Resources Recommended as Not Eligible for NRHP/CRHR: 0
GIS Data Provided: ☑ Yes; ☐ No
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A supplemental Phase I cultural resources assessment was conducted for the proposed Longboat Solar Project (Project). This document is designed to supplement the previously prepared Cultural and Paleontological Assessment as well as the Cultural Resource Phase I and Extended Phase I reports completed for EDF Renewable Energy on behalf of Longboat Solar, LLC. (Gust et al. 2014; Valasik et al. 2014). The purpose of this document is to identify potential adverse impacts to cultural resources resulting from construction within the modified scope of the proposed Longboat Solar Project.

The supplemental Phase I concerns a portion of the EDF Renewable Energy 20 MW solar photovoltaic generating facility located near the City of Barstow and the community of Lenwood in San Bernardino County, California that will interconnect the Project to the existing to the Southern California Edison (SCE) electrical system (Appendix A, Figure 1). The interconnection portion of the Project consists of approximately two miles of re-conductoring of a portion of the Remote 33 kV circuit and pole replacements located near the corner of Lenwood Road and Community Boulevard in unincorporated San Bernardino County.

The portion of the API under investigation in this report is located within existing SCE right-of-way and included a 100 ft. (30 m.) buffer around the existing transmission line and the paved road. Erica Hatch (Cogstone Resource Management) conducted an intensive pedestrian survey on March 23, 2015, consisting of five meter transects running on an east to west axis (see Appendix A, Figure 2). There were 11 total acres surveyed including four portions of the 234.47-acre API not previously surveyed (Gust et al. 2014).

A search for archeological and historical records was completed by Cogstone on August 7, 2014 at the San Bernardino Archaeological Information Center (Gust et al. 2014). The record search covered a one-mile radius around the Project boundaries. The results of these studies indicate that 17 cultural resources were previously identified and documented within a one-mile radius of the Project. These resources include five prehistoric sites, seven prehistoric isolates, a multicomponent site, and four historical built environment resources. None of these resources were located within the API for the modified scope.

A sacred lands record search was requested by Cogstone staff from the Native American Heritage Commission on August 1, 2014. The Commission responded on September 4, 2014 that there were no known cultural resources within a half mile and recommended contacting seven Native American individuals or tribes. Cogstone mailed a letter to each contact on September 9, 2014 requesting any information on heritage resources (Gust et al. 2014). No responses were received as of the date of this report.

No cultural resources were identified within the supplemental API, thus no further cultural resources work is recommended at this time. If the scope of work changes, however, further cultural assessments will be necessary. In the event that cultural resources are encountered during any future earth disturbing activities, all work must halt at that location until the resources can be properly evaluated by a qualified archaeologist.
INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF STUDY

The purpose of this document is to identify potentially adverse impacts to cultural resources resulting from the proposed interconnection between the Project and the existing Southern California Edison (SCE) electrical system. The proposed site is situated in the unincorporated Desert Region of San Bernardino County, near the City of Barstow and the community of Lenwood (Appendix A, Figure 1). This study was requested to fulfill requirements for the County of San Bernardino to meet their responsibilities as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This document is designed to supplement the previously prepared Cultural and Paleontological Assessment as well as the Cultural Resource Phase I and Extended Phase I reports completed for EDF Renewable Energy on behalf of Longboat Solar, LLC. (Gust et al. 2014; Valasik et al. 2014).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Longboat Solar Project consists of a solar energy facility that would generate up to 20 megawatts (MW) of alternative current electricity using single axis tracker solar photovoltaic (PV) technology within an approximately 234.47-acre portion of 345 acres of previously disturbed agricultural lands. The Project will interconnect to the electrical grid via a line tap on the existing SCE Remote 33kV transmission line located along Community Boulevard. At this point, the power generated from the Project changes ownership from the Project developer to SCE. SCE will undertake distribution line upgrades, repairs and modifications along the 33kV line to SCE’s Barstow Substation located in the City of Barstow approximately 4.5 miles east of the Project site. SCE’s upgrade work may consist of up to 11 pole replacements, re-conductoring of up to 2900 feet of electrical line and several minor substation upgrades.

The portion of the API under investigation consists of an approximately two-mile portion of the Remote 33kV circuit that lies .38 of mile west and adjacent to the proposed Longboat Solar Facility parcel located in an unincorporated portion of San Bernardino County, approximately 1.6 miles north of the community of Lenwood and immediately northwest of the City of Barstow (Figure 3). The API is located within an existing SCE right-of-way along the west side of Lenwood Road and on the south side of Community Boulevard and is depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute Barstow quadrangle. Since portions of the API were previously surveyed by Cogstone from October 20 through October 23, 2014, four portions of the API not previously surveyed were surveyed for this report (Gust et al 2014).
REGULATORY SETTING

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT OF 1970

CEQA states that: It is the policy of the state that public agencies should not approve projects as proposed if there are feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available which would substantially lessen the significant environmental effects of such projects, and that the procedures required are intended to assist public agencies in systematically identifying both the significant effects of proposed projects and the feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures which will avoid or substantially lessen such significant effects.

CEQA Guidelines state that CEQA is intended to: Prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment by requiring changes in projects through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures when the governmental agency finds the changes to be feasible.

CALIFORNIA REGISTER OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES AND SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

The State Historical Resources Commission has designed this program for use by state and local agencies, private groups and citizens to identify, evaluate, register and protect California's historical resources. The Register is the authoritative guide to the state's significant historical and archeological resources.

The California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) program encourages public recognition and protection of resources of architectural, historical, archeological and cultural significance, identifies historical resources for state and local planning purposes, determines eligibility for state historic preservation grant funding and affords certain protections under the California Environmental Quality Act.

To be eligible for listing in the California Register, a cultural resource must meet at least one of the following criteria:

1) Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States
2) Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history
3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values
4) Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation

In addition to having significance, resources must have integrity for the period of significance. The period of significance is the date or span of time within which significant events transpired, or significant individuals made their important contributions. Integrity is the authenticity of a historical resource’s physical identity as evidenced by the survival of characteristics or historic fabric that existed during the resource’s period of significance. Alterations to a resource or changes in its use over time may have historical, cultural, or architectural significance.
resources must retain enough of their historic character or appearance to be recognizable as historical resources and to convey the reasons for their significance. A resource that has lost its historic character or appearance may still have sufficient integrity for the California Register, if, under Criterion 4, it maintains the potential to yield significant scientific or historical information or specific data.

**SENATE BILL 18**

Senate Bill (SB) 18 (*California Government Code, §65352.3*) incorporates the protection of California traditional tribal cultural places into land use planning for cities, counties, and agencies by establishing responsibilities for local governments to contact, refer plans to, and consult with California Native American tribes as part of the adoption or amendment of any general or specific plan proposed on or after March 1, 2005.

**HUMAN REMAINS**

Section 7050.5 of the *California Health and Safety Code* provides for the disposition of accidentally discovered human remains. Section 7050.5 states that if human remains are found, no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County Coroner has determined the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains.

Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code (PRC) states that, if remains are determined by the Coroner to be of Native American origin, the Coroner must notify the Native American heritage Commission within 24 hours which, in turn, must identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descended from the deceased Native American. The descendants shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The designated Native American representative would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.

**SETTING**

**PREHISTORIC SETTING**

The Mojave Desert cultural chronology divides the cultural sequence into seven cultural complexes: Paleo-Indian, Lake Mojave, Pinto, Deadman Lake, Gypsum, Rose Spring and Late Prehistoric. The cultural complexes denote specific archaeological manifestations that existed during and across temporal periods (Sutton et al. 2007) (Table 1). The timeframes in the table and text are adjusted for modern calibration curves for radiocarbon dates.

**NATURAL ENVIRONMENT DURING PREHISTORIC TIMES**

The Mojave Desert is characterized by broad swaths of relatively unproductive habitat punctuated by resource patches of uncertain value unlike the rest of the Great Basin which shows strong vertical zoning in plant communities, more regular water sources and greater uniformity in spatial and temporal distribution of subsistence resources. As such, particular subregions can vary significantly across not only seasons but between years and longer intervals. Modern
climatic data suggest that period of reduced rainfall in one sector of the desert may have been balanced by enhanced conditions in another area.

During the Late Pleistocene (about 18,000 to 8,000 cal BC), conditions in the Mojave Desert were generally cool and wet. During the Early Holocene (about 8,000 to 6,000 years cal BC), conditions were somewhat cooler and moister than today. The Middle Holocene (about 6,000 to 3,000 years cal BC) witnessed a much warmer and drier climate than modern times. The climate became moderately cooler and wetter again during the Late Holocene (about 3,000 years cal BC to present), punctuated with periods of drought.

Short and long term trends in environmental productivity must have had strong influences on the mode and tempo of occupation strategies affecting local and regional land use patterns. To the extent that prehistoric populations could monitor the location and magnitude of storm tracks or precipitation levels, they must have been able to predict which habitats and resources would produce the highest net foraging returns. It is possible that large tracts of the desert were effectively abandoned or rarely visited during particular periods of time. In some cases, these climatic changes are thought to have been coincident with major technological or subsistence adjustments.

Table 1. Cultural Chronology for the Mojave Desert

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temporal Period</th>
<th>Cultural Complex</th>
<th>Years (calibrated years before Christ [cal BC] to calibrated years Anno Domini [cal AD])</th>
<th>Marker Artifacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pleistocene</td>
<td>Paleo-Indian</td>
<td>about 10,000–8,000 cal BC</td>
<td>Fluted points (Clovis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Holocene</td>
<td>Lake Mojave Complex</td>
<td>about 8,000–6,000 cal BC</td>
<td>Stemmed points (Lake Mojave and Silver Lake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Holocene</td>
<td>Pinto Complex</td>
<td>7,000–3,000 cal BC</td>
<td>Pinto Series points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deadman Lake Complex</td>
<td>7,000–3,000 cal BC</td>
<td>Contracting stemmed and leaf-shaped points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Holocene</td>
<td>Gypsum Complex</td>
<td>2,000 cal BC –cal AD 200</td>
<td>Gypsum and Elko Series points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rose Spring Complex</td>
<td>cal AD 200–1,100</td>
<td>Rose Spring and Eastgate Series points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Late Prehistoric Complex</td>
<td>cal AD 1,100–Historic Contact</td>
<td>Desert and Cottonwood Series points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PALEO-INDIAN
The Clovis Complex (about 10,000 and 8,000 cal BC; Table 1) is marked by characteristic fluted projectile points of the same name. Heavier concentrations of fluted points exist in the north and west than in other sectors of the Mojave. Due to the sparse evidence, the nature of Paleo-Indian
cultural systems remains poorly defined. Most likely, groups were highly mobile, living in small, temporary camps near former permanent water sources.

**Lake Mojave Complex**
The Lake Mojave Complex (about 8,000 and 6,000 cal BC; Table 1) is the only coherent pattern identified during the Early Holocene. This complex is characterized by Great Basin Stemmed series projectile points (Lake Mojave and Silver Lake) and abundant bifaces, as well as steep-edged unifaces, crescents, occasional cobble-core tools and ground stone implements. The presence of marine shell beads likewise implies wide spheres of interaction. Less frequent occurrences of ground stone tools with inconsistent and ephemeral wear patterns, suggest plant resources were a relatively minor part of the diet.

Fine-grained basalt and metavolcanics are the preferred material for bifaces/points, simple flaked tools and debitage. However, cryptocrystalline silicates (chert, jasper, chalcedony) are often the preferred material for formal flaked tools and cores/core tools. The Lake Mojave pattern appears to reflect a forager-like subsistence strategy, organized around relatively small social units utilizing rich resource patches in a host of environmental situations.

**Pinto Complex**
The Pinto Complex, dating from about 7,000 to 3,000 cal BC, is widely represented throughout the Mojave Desert. Like Lake Mojave, Pinto complexes are characterized by extensive use of fine-grained basalt and metavolcanics rocks to produce bifacial and unifacial tools. The signature stemmed, indented-base Pinto series projectile points show high levels of blade reworking and appear to have been used as tips for thrusting spears rather than as darts.

Milling tools for processing plant foods are moderately abundant in nearly all known Pinto deposits and sometimes occur in high frequency. Faunal remains suggest there was an increase in the reliance on small animals during the Pinto Complex.

The presence of substantial cultural deposits suggests establishment of residential bases occupied for lengthy periods by multiple families. Access to plant resources may have determined the placement of these centralized sites, from which the occupants made logistical forays to collect other resources.

**Deadman Lake Complex**
The Deadman Lake Complex, dating from about 7,300 to 3,000 cal BC, consists of artifacts characterized by small-to-medium-size contracting stemmed or lozenge-shaped points, battered cobbles and core tools, milling implements, simple flake tools, and bifaces. Shell beads are from both the Sea of Cortez and the Pacific Coast.

Plant processing involved extensive crushing or pulping activities, as evidenced by the frequent presence of milling implements and battered cobbles. Faunal assemblages are dominated by small animals, similar to Pinto Complex sites. Subtle differences may indicate different populations utilized lower versus higher elevations in various seasons.
**Gypsum Complex**
The Gypsum Complex, dating between about 2,000 cal BC and about AD 200, is the earliest of the Late Holocene cultural complexes recognized in the Mojave Desert. A wide range of diagnostic medium-to-large dart points, such as corner-notched (Elko), concave base (Humboldt) and well-shouldered contracting-stemmed (Gypsum) forms, characterize the archaeology of this period. Manos and metates continued to be used, but mortars and pestles first appear in the archaeological record in Gypsum Complex sites.

Cultural materials include rock art (Coso petroglyphs), paint, and quartz crystals, which are indicative of ritual activities (Davis and Smith 1981; Warren and Crabtree 1986) and an increase in trade and social complexity. Faunal remains indicate small and medium-size animals were exploited (artiodactyls, lagomorphs, and rodents). Site locations indicate subsistence and settlement patterns may have been dependent on streamside settings, particularly during the earlier, wetter part of this period.

**Rose Spring Complex**
The Rose Spring Complex, dating from cal AD 200 to AD 1,100, represents the introduction of smaller projectile points utilized for bow and arrow technology in the Mojave Desert. The Rose Spring Complex includes Eastgate and Rose Spring series of projectile points. Typically these points are made of obsidian from the Coso Volcanic Field in Inyo County. Known sites in the western Mojave contain well-developed midden deposits, and in addition to the dramatic change in projectile point types, artifact assemblages typically include stone knives, drills, pipes, milling implements, bone awls, marine shell ornaments, and large quantities of obsidian. Faunal remains indicate a dependence on hunting of small-to-medium-size game, (lagomorphs and rodents). Early Rose Spring Complex sites typically lie adjacent to permanent water sources, including lakeshores and springs. During these climatic conditions, lake levels rose and juniper woodlands became more prominent. The large number of Rose Spring Complex village sites suggests there was a related population increase in this more productive ecological setting.

An unusually warmer and drier climatic period, known as the Medieval Climatic Anomaly (MCA), occurred during the Rose Spring Complex and lasted between about AD 800 to 1,350. The MCA coincides with a number of changes in culture in association with desiccation of lakes and other permanent water sources in the desert region. The large villages declined in number and size and settlement patterns shifted to more dispersed populations that could adapt to the decrease in resource availability. Also, instead of locating near-permanent water sources, sites became associated with ephemeral water sources.

**Late Prehistoric Complex**
After approximately cal AD 1,100, the environment continued to deteriorate, populations declined, new technologies were introduced, and a number of separate cultural complexes emerged that represented the prehistoric aspects of known ethnographic groups. Late Prehistoric occupation sites represent a variety of types including a few major villages with associated cemeteries, special purpose sites, and seasonal sites. Artifacts characteristic of this period in the Mojave Desert include buffware and brownware ceramics, Desert and Cottonwood series projectile points, shell and steatite beads, slate pendants, incised stones, and a variety of milling tools. Late Prehistoric milling implements included unshaped manos, milling stones, mortars,
and pestles. Faunal remains indicate a dependence on hunting of small-to-medium-size game, (lagomorphs, deer, rodents, and reptiles).

During the later Rose Spring Complex, obsidian tool manufacture declined and use of cryptocrystalline silicates such as chert increased. Some artifacts, such as steatite containers, shell fishhooks, shell beads, other ornamental items, asphalt adhesive, perforated stones and bone tools, were traded from the coast to the interior. The assemblages from numerous sites found along the Mojave River suggest this was an increasingly important trade route, which was later noted during the historic era (Warren 1984).

**ETHNOGRAPHY**

By the Late Prehistoric period, the Project was home to affiliated peoples known as the Vanyume (or Desert Serrano) and the Mountain Serrano (Bean and Smith 1978). Boundaries between these affiliate clans, if they existed, are poorly understood (Earle 1990).

As with most desert tribes, settlements were near sources of water. The prehistoric residents were gatherers and hunters. Plant and animal resources in the desert were utilized for food and materials. Seasonal travel to exploit particular resources such as nuts in the foothills was common. Willow frames with tule hatching were used for houses and ramadas. Houses were used mostly for sleeping with most activities taking place outdoors under the ramada. Village sweathouses were typical. Religion and technology paralleled that of the closely-related tribes like the Cahuilla. Modern Vanyume and Serrano live on the Morongo or San Manuel Indian Reservations and in other southern California communities (Bean and Smith 1978).

**HISTORIC SETTING**

The first known Spanish explorer to enter the area that would become San Bernardino County was Friar Francisco Garcés, traveling from the Colorado River in 1776 (Hoover et al. 2002). Garcés traveled as far as the Pacific Coast along an ancient trade route, known as the Mojave Trail, and he named the Mojave River Arroyo de los Mártires (River of the Martyrs). The river was later named Rio de las Animas (River of Souls) by Friar Joaquín Pasqual Nuez who accompanied the 1819 expedition of Lt. Gabriel Moraga. The San Bernardino Valley was named in 1810 by the Franciscan missionary Francisco Dumetz, who led a party from the San Gabriel Mission into the valley in observance of the Feast of Saint Bernardine of Siena.

During the Mexican Period, trappers and explorers from the eastern United States journeyed westward. Jedediah Strong Smith was among these early American adventurers. He traveled through the Project vicinity in 1826 and 1827 on what became known as the “Old Spanish Trail” and nicknamed the Mojave River the “Inconstant River” because it frequently disappeared beneath the surface. The Old Spanish Trail was named by Captain John C. Frémont in 1844. The trail followed routes established by Native Americans that connected perennial water sources and crossed the northern portion of the Project study area. Later, the Old Spanish Trail became known as the Mormon Road, from its use by missionary groups of the Mormon Church migrating south to establish a settlement in San Bernardino from their home in Salt Lake City.
(Bancroft 1863). In the 1850s and 1860s, the Eastern and Western Mojave Desert was home to ranchers raising beef and sheep; gold, silver, lead, and borax miners; and small settlements of homesteaders and merchants.

Not long after California joined the Union in 1850, the U.S. Congress directed the United States Army to send teams of skilled land surveyors to investigate potential railroad routes not only to connect the east to the west, but other routes as well. For two years, from 1853 to 1854, Lieutenant Robert Stockton Williamson of the United States Army Corps of Topographical Engineers and his team surveyed all the potential wagon road and railroad routes on the Pacific Coast between the Columbia River and San Diego (United States War Department).

After the Central Pacific Railroad and Union Pacific Railroad collaborated to construct a transcontinental line to connect the east to the west in 1869, the newly formed Southern Pacific Railroad ran a line from its terminal in Lathrop (south of Sacramento), through the Tehachapi Mountains east to Barstow, and then south through the Cajon Pass to their switching station in Colton, San Bernardino County. The Southern Pacific Railroad connected northern and southern California in 1876.

In 1883, the Atchison Topeka, & Santa Fe Railway was building a line from Atchison, Kansas westward to Albuquerque, New Mexico, crossing Arizona at Needles, California, where it would merge its tracks with the California Southern Railroad at Barstow. The Atchison Topeka, & Santa Fe Railway built its line from Needles to Cadiz, through Amboy, Bagdad, Newberry to Barstow, on land that had been granted to the railroads by the U.S. Government. The San Bernardino Atchison Topeka, & Santa Fe Railway depot began operations in 1886, and was the largest ATSF rail yard west of Topeka.

PROJECT HISTORY

The project vicinity was very lightly settled until late in the 19th century. In 1905 the Southern Pacific (later the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe) Railroad purchased a portion of the Project property. The railroad extends along the eastern border of the Project. By 1957 a pipeline and several reservoirs were built within the Project property. A majority of the Project appears to have historically been used for farming with several residences in the vicinity.

METHODS

CULTURAL RESOURCES RECORDS SEARCH

A one-mile radius records search for archeological and historical records was completed by Cogstone on August 7, 2014 at the San Bernardino Archaeological Information Center (SBAIC) for the Longboat Solar Field, which included the API currently under investigation (Gust et al. 2014; Valasik et al. 2014).
CONSULTATION WITH THE NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

A Sacred Lands record search was requested by Cogstone staff from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on August 1, 2014 for the Project, which included the API currently under investigation.

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY

Fieldwork consisted of an intensive pedestrian survey on March 23, 2015 and was conducted by Erica Hatch. Transects were spaced five meters apart and walked in a zigzag pattern on an east to west axis. Overview photos of the API were taken to show the current physical condition of the area (Appendix A, Figures 3-7). Documentation of the fieldwork utilized a handheld global positioning system (GPS) receiver using the North American Datum 83 (NAD 83), written forms, hand-drawn field sketch maps, and photographs.

RECORD SEARCH RESULTS

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Based on the previous records search, a total of 22 cultural resources investigations have been completed within a one-mile radius of the current API. Seventeen previously documented cultural resources were also identified with a one-mile radius of the API. Resources included five prehistoric sites, seven prehistoric isolates, a multi-component site, and four historical built environmental resources. One of the historic built environments was previously determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). One previously conducted cultural resources survey covered portions of the current API (Gust et al 2014). One previously identified prehistoric site (P-36-002294) was previously identified as within the API. Originally identified in 1949, P-36-002294 was reported to consist of lithic debitage, mano fragments, pottery sherds, and fire-affected rock. Updates to the site record in 2003 and 2007 stated that the original site boundary was no longer correct due to extensive agricultural activities. Through additional survey and testing work by Cogstone, it was determined that the site boundary no longer continues into the current API (Valasik et al 2014).

RESULTS OF THE NAHC SACRED LANDS SEARCH

The NAHC responded on September 4, 2014 that there were no known cultural resources within a half mile of the Project. The NAHC did recommend contacting seven Native American individuals or tribes indigenous to the surrounding area (see Gust et al 2014: Appendix C). Cogstone mailed a letter to each contact on September 9, 2014 requesting any information on heritage resources. No responses have been received as of the date of this report.

CULTURAL SURVEY RESULTS

The areas surveyed within the API were relatively flat and covered with silty clayey medium to coarse-grained sand with pebbles and granules. The API had been graded by previous construction activities associated with the Remote 33 kV transmission line and neighboring roadways (Appendix B, Figures 8-11).
No new cultural resources were identified within the API. This is likely due to the extensive disturbance that has occurred from road construction and agricultural activities. As mentioned above, one previously recorded prehistoric site (P-36-002294) was re-identified within the vicinity of the Longboat Solar Project area, but it does not fall within the current API.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

As there were no cultural resources identified within the current API, no further cultural resources work is recommended at this time. If the scope of work changes however, further cultural review will be necessary. In the event that cultural resources are encountered during any future earth disturbing activities, all work must halt at that location until the resources can be properly evaluated by a qualified specialist. Further, if human remains are unearthed during excavation, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states “there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county in which the human remains are discovered... [has made the appropriate assessment, and] …recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative, in the manner provided in Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code”.

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