



**NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT EIR  
AND SCOPING MEETING**

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**DATE:** May 13, 2015

**To:** Responsible Agencies and Interested Parties

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Scoping Meeting

**PROJECT TITLE:** LUCERNE VALLEY SOLAR ONE PROJECT

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), the County of San Bernardino (“County”) must conduct a review of the environmental impacts of the Lucerne Valley Solar One Project (“Project”). Implementation of the Project will require discretionary approvals from state and local agencies, and therefore the Project is subject to the environmental review requirements of CEQA. As the lead agency under CEQA, and due to the involvement of potentially significant impacts to the environment, the County is therefore issuing this Notice of Preparation (“Notice”) of an Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) for the Project.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Lucerne Valley Solar One, LLC (Applicant) plans to construct and operate a 20 megawatt (MW) alternating current (ac) photovoltaic (PV) solar electric power generating facility (Project) to serve a portion of the electrical load requirements of California. The Project will be developed on an approximately 190-acre portion of 310 acres (total of 9 parcels) and will connect with an existing Southern California Edison (SCE) 33-kilovolt (kV) electrical distribution line in an existing transmission corridor that runs directly adjacent to the site along Camp Rock Road. See figures 1, 2, & 3 for project location and preliminary site design.

The Project is designed to have a useful life of up to 30 years, although the life span may be extended by upgrades and refurbishments. In the event that the Project is decommissioned, the facility would be removed and the site prepared for subsequent land use in compliance with the County’s Development Code 84.29.070.

**EIR SCOPE**

An Initial Study addressing the potential environmental impact associated with the Project has been prepared. This Initial Study was prepared in compliance with CEQA of 1970 (as amended), codified in California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq., and the CEQA Guidelines, codified in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 et seq. The purpose of an Initial Study is to provide a preliminary analysis of a Project to determine whether a negative declaration, a mitigated negative declaration, or an environmental impact report should be prepared. Since the County Land Use Services Department, as the CEQA lead agency, identified the need for a DEIR, an Initial Study was prepared to refine the scope of the DEIR, identify resource areas that will be eliminated from further analysis, and to solicit public input on the scope of the DEIR.

The Initial Study is available to view or download at <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/Planning/Environmental/Desert.aspx>. The lead agency has initially identified the following environmental considerations as potentially significant effects of the project:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biology
- Cultural Resources
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Utilities/Service Systems
- Traffic/Circulation

The EIR will assess the effects of the Project on the environment, identify potentially significant impacts, identify feasible mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate potentially significant environmental impacts, and discuss potentially feasible alternatives to the Project that may accomplish basic project objectives while lessening or eliminating any potentially significant project impacts.

## **RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES**

A responsible agency means a public agency other than the lead agency, which has permitting authority or approval power over some aspect of the overall project. Other agencies responsible for the protection of natural resources with interest in the proposed project may include the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) and the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board. The agencies mentioned are not meant to be an all-inclusive list and other agencies may have responsibility over some aspect of the project.

This Notice provides a description of the Project and solicits comments from responsible agencies, trustee agencies, federal, state and local agencies, and other interested parties on the scope and content of the environmental document to be prepared to analyze the environmental impacts of the Project. Comments received in response to this Notice will be reviewed and considered by the lead agency in determining the scope of the EIR. Due to time limits, as defined by CEQA, your response should be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than thirty (30) days after publication of this notice. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to you or to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the Project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the Project.

Comments and questions should be directed to

County of San Bernardino  
Land Use Services Department  
Tracy Creason, Senior Planner  
15900 Smoke Tree Street, Suite 131  
Hesperia, CA 92345 ( Phone: 760) 995-8143  
Email: [Tracy.Creason@lus.sbcounty.gov](mailto:Tracy.Creason@lus.sbcounty.gov)

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

## OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

The NOP and Initial Study are available for public review on the County's website:  
<http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/Planning/Environmental/Desert.aspx>

Additionally, copies of the NOP and Initial Study are available for public review at the following locations:

Lucerne Valley Janice Horst Branch Library  
33103 Old Woman Springs Rd.  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-408

San Bernardino County High Desert  
Government Center  
15900 Smoke Tree Street, Suite 131  
Hesperia, CA 92345

San Bernardino County Government Center  
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 2nd Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0187

We would like to hear what you think. If you have any comments regarding the Project, please send your written comments to the County of San Bernardino Land Use Services Department at the address or e-mail above before 5:00 p.m. on June 13, 2015.

### PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING:

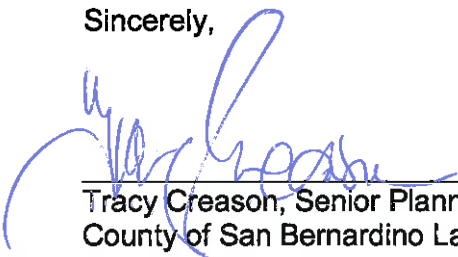
The CEQA process encourages comments and questions from the public throughout the planning process. Consistent with Section 21083.9 of the CEQA statute, a Public Scoping Meeting will be held to solicit public comments on the scope and content of the EIR. The Public Scoping Meeting will be held on:

**Date:** June 4, 2015

**Time:** 6:00 to 9:00pm.

**Place:** Lucerne Valley Community Center at 33187 Highway 247 East, Lucerne Valley, CA 92356. (See Figure 4)

Sincerely,



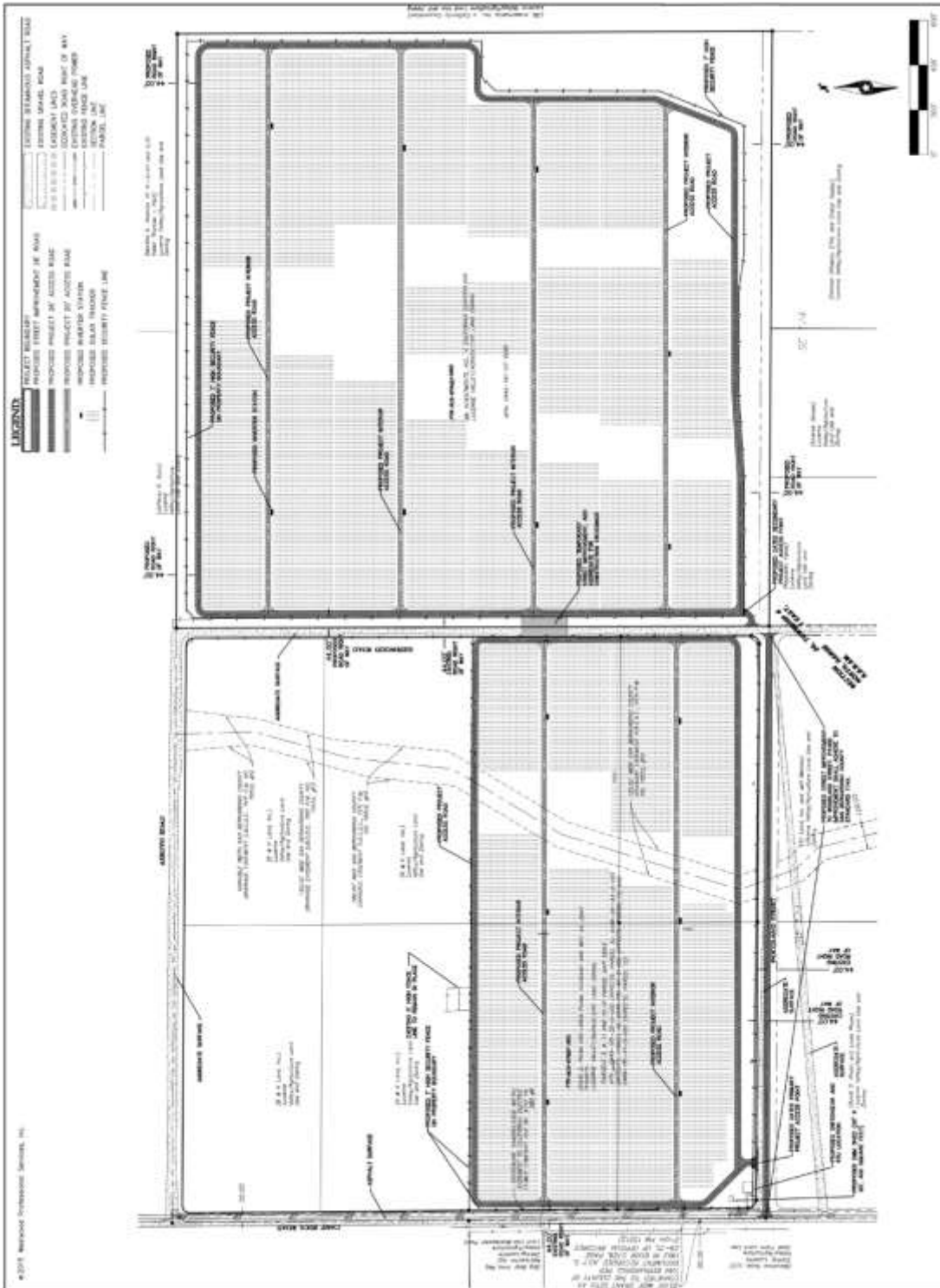
Tracy Creason, Senior Planner  
County of San Bernardino Land Use Services Department



Figure 1 - Regional Setting Map



Figure 2 – Proposed Project Vicinity/Location Map



**Figure 3- Proposed Project Site Plan**  
Notice of Preparation  
LV Solar One Project



**Figure 4 – Scoping Meeting Location Map**