

## California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

### NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

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**TO: Santa Clara County  
Clerk-Recorder's Office  
110 West Tasman Drive, First Floor  
San Jose, CA 95134**

**FROM: Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
375 Beale Street, Suite 600  
San Francisco, CA 94105**

**SUBJECT: FILING OF NOTICE OF DETERMINATION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21152(a) AND CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15094.**

**PROJECT TITLE: Laurelwood Data Center (MECP1 Santa Clara 1, LLC), (Land Use Permit Number #PLN2019-13742, State Clearinghouse #2019089107)- Issuance of Authority to Construct for Emergency Backup Diesel Generators, sources S-1 through S-21. (Air District Application #32142).**

**Public Agency Approving Project (Lead Agency):** California Department of Energy (CEC), Lisa Worrall, CEQA Lead Project Manager, 1516 Ninth Street, Sacramento CA 95814. Telephone: (916) 654-4545; Email: Lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov

**Public Agency (Responsible Agency) Approving Project (Issuance of Authority to Construct):** Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District), 375 Beale St, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105. Contact Person: Sadegh Sadeghipour, Air Quality Engineer, Telephone: (415) 749-4672; Email: ssadeghipour@baaqmd.gov

**Project Applicant and Entity Carrying Out Project:** MECP1 Santa Clara 1, LLC.

**Project Applicant Mailing Address:** 999 17th Street, Suite 200, Denver, CO 80202.

**Project Applicant Contact Person:** Garrison Beall, Commercial Director - Construction, EdgeCore Digital Infrastructure, 999 17th Street, Suite 200, Denver, CO 80202. Telephone: (910) 622-4206; Email: Garrison.Beall@edgecore.com.

**Project Location:** 2201 Laurelwood Road, Santa Clara, Santa Clara County, CA 95054. Nearest Cross Street: San Tomas Junction.

**Date of Approval by Lead Agency:** February 4, 2020.

**Date of Approval at Issue by Responsible Agency:** August 28, 2024.

#### **Project Description:**

MECP1 Santa Clara 1, LLC submitted an application on or about March 5, 2019 to the California Energy Commission for a small powerplant exemption for the proposed Laurelwood Data Center Project in Santa Clara, California. The Applicant proposed to build fifty six 3.0-megawatt (MW) emergency standby diesel generators (Backup Generators) as part of an uninterruptible power supply to the Laurelwood Data Center (Data Center) during interruptions of the electrical supply. The Applicant also proposed to construct a new substation for Silicon Valley Power (SVP).

The Application was submitted to the CEC pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 25541. Section 25541 allows the CEC to exempt thermal powerplants with a generating capacity of up to 100 MW from its exclusive permitting authority under the Warren-Alquist State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Act (Warren-Alquist Act) to approve or deny, applications for the construction and operation of thermal powerplants that will generate 50 MW or more of electricity. This exemption is referred to as a Small Power Plant Exemption (SPPE).

It was found that the Backup Generators constitute the thermal powerplant at issue, they have a combined generating capacity of 99 MW, and no substantial adverse impact on the environment or energy resources will result from the construction or operation of the Backup Generators or the Data Center.

The first phase of the project includes the installation of six 4,309-bhp and fifteen 5,051-bhp, a total of twenty-one, emergency backup power generators to support data storage equipment. The proposed 21-standby generators will be located along the southeast side of LDC Building 1, in a stacked configuration. The upper-deck generators will discharge directly out of the aftertreatment system exhaust, whereas the lower-deck generators will discharge from a combined exhaust/radiator duct, terminating above the upper enclosure.

**Notice of Determination:**

The Air District has issued an Authority to Construct for the twenty-one new emergency backup generators pursuant to District Regulation 2-1-301. In issuing the Authority to Construct, the Air District has reviewed and considered the environmental effects of the entire project as discussed in the CEC’s Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and supporting analyses. Based on this review, the Air District has determined that with the mitigation measures imposed by the CEC, there will be no significant environmental impacts. As the project will not have any significant impacts, the Air District has not imposed any mitigation measures (beyond the conditions the Air District has imposed to ensure compliance with air quality regulations) and has therefore not adopted a mitigation monitoring plan or program.

**Availability of Documents for Public Review:**

The CEC’s MND is available for public review at the CEC’s Docket Unit at 1516 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 or online at: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=19-SPPE-01>. The Air District record of project approval is available for review at the Air District office at 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA, 94105 (Air District Permit Application #32142). State Clearinghouse Number 2016032036 (Docket #19-SPPE-01).



Pamela J. Leong  
Director of Engineering  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District

August 29, 2024  
Date