

To:
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710
Contact: Amanda Canepa
Phone: (805) 746-0721



Lead Agency:
Kern County
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301
Contact: Ronelle Candia
Phone: (661) 862-8997

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21108

State Clearinghouse Number: 2021020513

Project Title: Aratina 2 Solar Project (Amendment No. 1 to Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-KER-53288-R4)

Project Location: The Project will occur at three different work areas in streams over a 1,059-acre solar development area, west and south of the community of Desert Lake and north and south of State Route 58 between Gephart Road and Boron Avenue, in Kern County.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-KER-53288-R4, pursuant to section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code.

The Project includes activities related to the construction of a utility-scale photovoltaic solar generation facility over 1,059 acres. Activities included in the larger PV solar facility development that will intersect Project streams include the construction of security fences, access roads, PV arrays, operations and maintenance buildings, substations, and energy storage systems. Amendment No. 1 is being issued to acknowledge that 45 MG 8me, LLC (Permittee) is pursuing incidental take authorization for Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) under the incidental take permit (ITP) (No. 2081-2024-038-04) for the Project. All other elements of the Agreement remain unchanged.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the above-described project on 1/28/2026 and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. CDFW considered the environmental impact report prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The final environmental impact report prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the Lead Agency.

DocuSigned by:
A blue ink signature of Julie A. Vance, written over a white background.

Signature

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Date: 1/28/2026

Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____