



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW OF AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE CHIQUITO BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE FACILITY PROJECT

An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) has been prepared by the City of Wildomar for the proposed Chiquito Battery Energy Storage Facility Project (PA No. 22-0026). The IS/MND and technical appendices will be available for public review/comment beginning on **Wednesday, October 4, 2023**. All files can be downloaded from the City of Wildomar Environmental Documents Center webpage at the following web address: <https://www.cityofwildomar.org/212/Environmental-Documents-Center>.

The applicant is proposing to construct a new 80-megawatt (MW) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project, which would be capable of meeting a 4-hour duration, on a vacant lot located north of the intersection of Clinton Keith Road and Grand Avenue (Assessor's Parcel Numbers 380-150-019 and -020). The project proposes to interconnect to the existing Southern California Edison (SCE) 115 kilovolt (kV) Tenaja Substation located directly to the south. The proposed project would store and deliver electricity to the grid through a Generatory Interconnection Agreement (GIA) with SCE. The proposed project includes the following applications for consideration by the Wildomar Planning Commission:

- **CEQA/Mitigated Negative Declaration**: In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15070, the proposed project will require the preparation of an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP).
- **Conditional Use Permit (CUP)**: The proposed project requires a CUP to be reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission.
- **Plot Plan (PP)**: The proposed project will require approval of a Plot Plan to develop the 80-megawatt (MW) Battery Energy Storage System project on the 2.83-acre site. The project must be consistent with the City's commercial design standards and guidelines.

The IS/MND identifies impacts that require mitigation in the following topic areas: Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Tribal Cultural Resources, and Wildfire. Significant and unavoidable impacts and cumulatively considerable impacts have not been identified in any of the environmental issue areas. The project is not located on any hazardous materials sites enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code.

In accordance with Sections 15072(a) and (b) of the CEQA Guidelines, this public notice is posted to officially notify the public, public agencies, and responsible and trustee agencies that the required 30-day public review/comment period will commence on **Wednesday, October 4, 2023, and conclude on Thursday, November 2, 2023**. Any written comments (via email or letter) on the IS/MND must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on November 2, 2023. Written comments may be mailed to Matthew C. Bassi, Community Development Director, City of Wildomar Community Development Department, 23873 Clinton Keith Road, Suite 110, Wildomar, CA 92595. Email comments can be sent to mbassi@cityofwildomar.org. The Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled to review the IS/MND and proposed development project at their regular meeting of December 6, 2023.

Posted: October 4, 2023