

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2024020124

Project Title: Valley Clean Infrastructure Plan (VCIP)

Lead Agency: Westlands Water District

Contact Name: Russ Freeman, Deputy General Counsel

Email: rfreeman@wwd.ca.gov Phone Number: 559-224-1523

Project Location: Western Fresno County Portion of Westlands W.D. Service Area Fresno
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The Project is located in the Fresno County portion of the District on the westside of the San Joaquin Valley. The Valley Clean Infrastructure Plan (VCIP) provides a blueprint for the development of clean energy facilities and supporting infrastructure with an overall generating and delivery capacity of up to 21,000 MW on approximately 136,000 acres of repurposed farmland. The VCIP consists of the following two main Plan elements: "Energy Resource Plan" and an "Infrastructure Plan," as briefly described below.

ENERGY RESOURCE PLAN. The VCIP Energy Resource Plan is a master plan for clean energy development in the form of: 1) solar photovoltaic (PV) generating facilities, and 2) battery energy storage systems (BESS), both of which would be developed within defined "Development Focus Areas" (DFAs) consisting of District-owned land and private lands of participating landowners located within the Fresno County portion of the Westlands Water District service area. It is anticipated that the DFAs would be built out over a 10-year period. (Continued)

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN. The VCIP Infrastructure Plan includes the following supporting elements for conveyance of solar generation to the state's electricity load centers: 1) gen-tie lines, 2) collection substations, and 3) connector transmission lines. In addition, transmission lines outside the VCIP Plan Area would deliver the VCIP renewable generation to metropolitan load centers. These outside transmission lines are described in the PEIR at a conceptual level with potential impacts discussed in the PEIR for informational purposes only.

SIGNIFICANT ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: The Draft PEIR identifies significant impacts under the following California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental issue areas: aesthetics, agricultural resources; air quality; biological resources; cultural and tribal cultural resources; paleontological resources; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; noise; public services; and transportation. Implementation of the VCIP would result in significant and unavoidable impacts related to aesthetics and agricultural resources. The remaining aforementioned impacts would be mitigated to less-than-significant levels through implementation of mitigation measures identified in the Draft PEIR.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

None identified.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Air Resources Board, California Highway Patrol, Caltrans District #6, Caltrans Division of Aeronautics, Caltrans Planning, Central Valley Flood Protection Board, Department of Conservation, California Energy Commission, Department of Food & Agriculture, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of Health Services, Native American Heritage Commission, Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks & Recreation, Department of Pesticide Regulation, Public Utilities Commission, Regional WQCB #5, Resources Agency, State Lands Commission, SWRCB: Water Quality, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Department of Water Resources