

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 #: 2025010194

Project Title: Grace Solar Energy Center

Lead Agency: Riverside County

Contact Name and Title: Lead Agency: Dat Tran, Senior Planner; Applicant: Brendan Lewis, Senior Project Manager

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Project Location: Intersection of Buck Boulevard and 9th Avenue, North of I-10, Unincorporated Riverside County
City *County*

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

The applicant proposes to entitle, construct, operate, maintain, and decommission the Grace Solar Energy Center (Project). The Project is a utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) electrical generating and storage facility that will generate and deliver renewable electricity to the statewide electricity transmission grid. The Project is located on approximately 3,705 acres, of which approximately 3,310 acres are located on private lands and approximately 395 acres are located on land administered by the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office. The Project's solar facility would include up to 500 megawatts (MW) of PV solar generation and up to 500 MW of battery storage. The Project would also include an onsite substation, battery energy storage system (BESS), operations and maintenance (O&M) building, access roads, and transmission and collection lines. The Project would include two phases, including Phase 1 – Solar and Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Tie-In and Phase 2 – BESS and Arlington Collocation. Under Phase 1, the Project would construct the solar facility, ancillary facilities, and an approximately 3.5-mile transmission line to interconnect with the existing Parker – Blythe 161 kV transmission line owned by WAPA on private land. The Phase 1 transmission line would interconnect through a tie-in with the existing Parker – Blythe 161 kV transmission line owned by WAPA using a new 161 kV switchyard. The Phase 1 solar facility and ancillary facilities could also utilize the Phase 2 transmission line. Under Phase 2, the Project would construct a BESS and ancillary facilities on private land and an approximately 10.5-mile transmission line to interconnect with the Southern California Edison (SCE) 230-kV Colorado River Substation located on BLM-administered land. The majority of the Phase 2 transmission line (8.6 miles) would utilize the existing open-circuit of the double-circuit Arlington transmission line; and therefore, would be located within an existing right-of-way (ROW). The 395 acre area on BLM-administered lands would be limited to the transmission line in Phase 2.

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

Based on the analyses provided in the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), prior to mitigation, the Project would result in potentially significant impacts related to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, paleontological resources, transportation, and wildfire.

The Project would implement the following mitigation measures to reduce or avoid these potentially significant impacts: MM-VIS-1, MM-AQ-1, MM-BIO-1 through MM-BIO-14, MM-CUL-1 through MM-CUL-9, MM-GEO-1, MM-HAZ-1, MM-HAZ-2, MM-TRAF-1, MM-NOI-1, MM-PALEO-1, and MM-FIRE-1.

However, even with implementation of all feasible mitigation measures, impacts related to aesthetics would be significant and unavoidable, and cumulatively considerable. All other potentially significant impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level and would not be cumulatively considerable with implementation of feasible mitigation measures.

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

Comments received during the Scoping Period are included in the Scoping Report for the Project, and include the following:

- Concern about potable water
- Potential impacts to biological resources
- Potential solid waste impact
- Consistency with SCAG goals and Connect SoCal 2024
- Tribal consultation requirements pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 and Senate Bill 18

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

Responsible Agencies under CEQA include: BLM Palm Springs-South Case Field Office for a Right-of-Way (ROW) Grant, California Department of Fish and Wildlife for a Section 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, Regional Water Quality Control Board for a General Waste Discharge Requirements, and Caltrans District 8 for encroachment permits in Caltrans ROW