

Notice of Determination**- 1 -****To:**

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

From:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
Region 4 – Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710
Contact: Jim Vang
Phone: (559) 580-3203
Email: Jim.Vang@wildlife.ca.gov

Lead Agency

Kern County
Planning and Natural Resources Department
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, California 93301
Contact: Mark Tolentino, Planner III
Phone: (661) 862-5041
Email: TolentinoM@kerncounty.com

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Section 21008 of the Public Resources Code

State Clearinghouse Number: 2025071048

Project Title: Discovery Solar PV and Storage Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081(b)-2026-008-04 (ITP))

Project Location: The Project is located approximately six miles southwest of the unincorporated community of Mojave, approximately nine miles southeast of the City of Tehachapi, approximately eight miles northwest of the unincorporated community of Rosamond, and approximately 20 miles west of Edwards Air Force Base in eastern Kern County.

Project Description: The Project involves the construction, operation, and maintenance of a utility-scale PV solar energy generation facility and associated infrastructure that will generate approximately 1,400 megawatts of solar energy with a battery energy storage system with up to eight gigawatt-hours of storage capacity.

The Project is expected to result in incidental take of the State endangered Bakersfield cactus (*Opuntia basilaris* var. *treleasei*), the State candidates for listing western Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*), western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*), and LeConte's thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*), which are afforded protections under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of the aforementioned species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

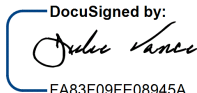
This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Responsible Agency approved the project described above on 9/28/2026 and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

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. An environmental impact report **was** prepared by the lead agency for the original project.
3. Additional mitigation measures **were** made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.

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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 Public Resources Code § 21081(a).
7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4: **A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.**

The environmental impact report prepared by the lead agency for the Project is available to the general public at the office location listed above for the lead agency. CDFW's administrative record of proceedings related to the incidental take permit is available to the public for review at CDFW's regional office.

Signature:  FA83F09FE08945A Date: 9/28/2026

Julie A. Vance, *Regional Manager*