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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 #: 2025101397

Project Title: Heber 1 Parasitic Solar Energy Project

Lead Agency: Imperial County

Contact Name: Alan Molina

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Project Location: Heber (*City*) Imperial (*County*)

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

Heber Field Company, LLC, proposes to develop a 20 megawatt (MW) solar energy facility and interconnecting cable line (gen-tie line) that would provide parasitic load to the existing Heber 1 Geothermal Plant. The solar energy facility would provide behind-the-meter power used to offset the auxiliary load of the existing Heber 1 Geothermal Plant. The solar energy facility would not connect to or generate power that will enter the transmission grid; rather, the solar energy facility would be entirely behind-the-meter and would serve as an integrated part of the operation of the existing Heber 1 Geothermal Plant. There are three route options proposed, of which only one will be chosen, for the medium voltage cable that would connect the new 20 MW solar energy facility to the existing Heber 1 Geothermal Plant. The proposed project would be located on one privately-owned parcel (Assessor Parcel Number [APN] 059-020-001) at 602 Dogwood Road in the southern portion of Imperial County, California. The project site is approximately 1.4 miles south of the community of Heber. The proposed solar energy facility would encompass approximately 106 acres in the southern portion of APN 059-020-001.

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

AES: Impacts related to a new source of substantial light or glare would be reduced with MM AES-1
AG: Impacts related to the conversion of Important Farmlands to non-agricultural use would be reduced with MMs AG-1a through AG-2.
AQ: Impacts related to conflicts with air quality plans, increases in criteria pollutants, and exposure of sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations would be reduced with MMs AQ-1 through AQ-4.
BIO: Potential impacts on special-status species would be reduced with MMs BIO-1 through BIO-10 and AES-1.
CUL: Impacts on archaeological resources and human remains would be reduced with MMs CUL-1 and CUL-2.
ENG: Impacts related to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources would be reduced with MM ENG-1 .
GEO: Potential impacts related to geology and soils and paleontological resources would be reduced with MMs GEO-1 through GEO-2 and HYD-1.
HYD: Potential impacts related to water quality, erosion, flooding, stormwater drainage, or conflicts with a water quality control plan would be reduced with MMs HYD-1 and HYD-2 .
TCR: Potential impacts related to causing an adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource would be reduced with MM TCR-1.

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

A primary issue associated with this solar energy facility project, and other solar facility projects that are proposed in the County, is the corresponding land use compatibility and fiscal/economic impacts to the County. Through the environmental review process for this project, other areas of concern and issues to be resolved include potential impacts related to the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses, damage to crops, wildlife, impacts on IID drains, air quality, and health and safety hazards.

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

- California Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Imperial County Air Pollution Control District
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United States Army Corps of Engineers