Notice of Decision by the California Energy Commission

To: _X_ **Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation**
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Clearinghouse No: Not Available

_X_ **California Natural Resources Agency**
715 P Street, 20th floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Energy Commission
715 P Street, 3rd floor
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: Filing of Notice of Decision in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.5 (d)(2)(E) and Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Section 1749

Project Name: Willow Rock Energy Storage Center (WRESC) **Docket Number:** 21-AFC-02

Contact Person: Eric Veerkamp, Project Manager **Phone Number:** (916) 661-8458

Project Location: Portion of parcel 431-022-13, immediately north of Dawn Road, between Sierra Highway and State Route 14 in Kern County.

Project Description: WRESC would be a nominal 520-megawatt (MW) gross (500 MW net) and 4,160 megawatt-hour (MWh) gross (4,000 MWh net) facility using proprietary, advanced compressed air energy storage technology. Bulk-scale energy stored at the WRESC would be delivered to Southern California Edison's (SCE's) Whirlwind Substation via a new approximately 19-mile long 230-kilovolt (kV) generation-tie (gen-tie) line.

On December 19, 2025, the California Energy Commission approved the above-described project pursuant to a regulatory program certified by the California Secretary of Natural Resources under Section 21080.5 of the California Public Resources Code and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The conditions of certification contained in the Commission Decision ensure that the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center project **will** be designed, constructed, sited, and operated consistent with applicable regulations, and standards, including applicable public health and safety standards.
2. Implementation of the conditions of certification and mitigation measures contained in the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center Decision **will** also ensure that any significant direct, indirect, or cumulative environmental effects resulting from the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center project are reduced/minimized to the fullest extent feasible.
3. A statement of Overriding Considerations **was** adopted for this project in the area of Visual Resources.

The Commission docket files containing the Final Commission Decision and other information regarding the project are open to the public at: California Energy Commission, 715 P Street, Sacramento, California, 95814-5512. This information is also available on the Energy Commission's webpage https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=21-AFC-02

Signature	12/19/2025 **Date:**	Project Manager **Title**

Date received for filing:

OPR:

CNRA:

Office of the Secretary

DEC 22 2025

California Natural Resources Agency