

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 #: _____

Project Title: Solar Infrastructure and Battery Energy Storage System Project

Lead Agency: University of California, Merced

Contact Name: Phillip Woods

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Phone Number: (209) 349-2561

Project Location: Merced
City

Merced
County

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

The project would include the demolition of an existing 1-megawatt (MW) ground-mounted solar array facility, and the construction of an up to 6-MW solar facility consisting of a dual-axis tracking system and a new battery energy storage system (BESS) with a minimum storage capacity of 3 megawatt-hour (MWh). The project would interconnect to the UC Merced campus' existing distribution system and power grid via the existing gen-tie line. The project would be served by existing water distribution infrastructure and would include upgrades to the existing fire water storage tank and/or the construction of a new water storage tank on-site to meet water storage requirements for the proposed project. Access to the project site would be provided by the existing ingress/egress access road off of Cottonwood Loop, which would be improved in accordance with the local fire ordinances to a minimum width of 22 feet. The site would be fenced with six-foot-tall chain-link fencing, which may include barbed wire to facilitate cattle grazing on-site. A locked gate would be located at the project site entrance off of Cottonwood Loop to control ingress/egress.

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

The project's potentially significant impacts would all be reduced to a level of less than significant with implementation of the following mitigation measures:

Aesthetics: 2009 LRDP MMs AES-3a and AES-4

Air Quality: 2020 LRDP MMs AQ-1a and AQ-1b

Biological Resources: 2020 LRDP MMs BIO-4 and BIO-9a; PS MMs BIO-1 and BIO-2; ITP MMs BIO 1-12, 16-19, 21-37, 39-53, and 62-64 from ITP No. 2081-2009-010-04 (Amendment No. 4)

Cultural Resources: 2009 LRDP MMs CUL-2 and CUL-3

Geology and Soils: 2009 LRDP MM CUL-4a

Hazards and Hazardous Materials: PS MM HAZ-1

Public Services: PS MM HAZ-1

Wildfire: PS MM HAZ-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.

No known areas of controversy.

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

California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region No. 4
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board