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# County of Santa Cruz

## Department of Community Development and Infrastructure

**701 Ocean Street, Fourth Floor, Santa Cruz, CA 95060**
**Planning (831) 454-2580 Public Works (831) 454-2160**
**https://cdi.santacruzcountyca.gov/**


# NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

**To:**

☐ County of Santa Cruz
Clerk of the Board
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

☐ Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.**
**State Clearinghouse Number (if applicable):**
**Project Title: Mt Hermon Solar Array**
**Project Applicant: Mars Energy Group**

**Project Location:** The project is located at the northwestern corner of Conference Drive (no situs) and East Zayante Road in the unincorporated community of Felton in central Santa Cruz County. Santa Cruz County is bounded to the north by San Mateo County, to the south by Monterey and San Benito Counties, to the east by Santa Clara County, and to the south and west by Monterey Bay and the Pacific Ocean.

**Project Description**: Proposal to construct an approximately 39,800-square-foot private microgrid utility facility consisting of an 831.60 kW ground-mounted photovoltaic (PV) system with a maximum height of nine feet, on a vacant 8.88-acre parcel to provide electric power exclusively for use by the Mt. Hermon Camp and Conference Center. All excess energy will be used to offset the client's usage; this project will not have an Energy Storage System. The array is proposed to be sited on a knoll in the center of the parcel, outside of the oak woodland and needlegrass grassland habitats.

This is to advise that the County of Santa Cruz has approved the above described project on and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project: 11/19/2026 (Date)

1. The project [ ☐ will ☒ will not ] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. ☐ An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
   ☒ A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation Measures [ ☒ were ☐ were not ] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [ ☐ was ☒ was not ] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [ ☐ was ☒ was not ] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [ ☒ were ☐ were not ] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the Negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at the following location:
https://www.sccoplanning.com/PlanningHome/Environmental/CEQAInitialStudiesEIRs.aspx

County of Santa Cruz Planning Department

701 Ocean Street, 4th Floor

**Signed by:**
Denise Hardesty
E39AC3BD4DA84CD...
Signature

Environmental Coordinator
Title

11/24/2026
Date

Date Received for Filing at Clerk of the Board

Date Received for filing at OPR

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