



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

Inland Deserts Region
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To:
Office of Land Use and Climate
Innovation
[CEQA Submit](#)

From:
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
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Lead Agency (if different than CDFW)
Same as above

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Section 21108 of the Public Resources Code

State Clearinghouse Number: 2018031027

Project Title: Crimson Solar Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081(b)-2021-015-06-A5 Amendment No. 5 (ITP))

Project Location: County of Riverside, west of the City of Blythe, south of Interstate 10

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has issued an amended ITP (No. 2081(b)-2021-015-06-A5), pursuant to Section 2081(b) of the Fish and Game Code to Sonoran West Solar Holdings, LLC, Sonoran West Solar Holdings 2, LLC, and RE Cobalt LLC.

This proposed project involves a major amendment to the ITP to include the use of borrow pits within the solar array field, removal of the BESS from Phase 2 and increase in acreage to the existing BESS in Phase 3, corrections to the acreage per Phase due to updated GIS analysis, and resulting modifications to mitigation acreage and security due to the reallocation of acreage.

This amendment increases the take authorization by 0.5 acre resulting in overall Project impacts to 1,984.1 acres of desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) and western burrowing owl

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(*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) habitat. The project is expected to result in incidental take of desert tortoise, which is designated as an endangered species under the CESA, and western burrowing owl, which is designated as a candidate species under the CESA. The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Lead Agency, approved the project described above on March 27, 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.
4. A Mitigation Reporting or Monitoring Plan **was** adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Consideration **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:

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

DocuSigned by:
Signature: Heidi Calvert Date: 3/27/2026
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Heidi Calvert, Regional Manager