

DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PANOCH VALLEY SOLAR FACILITY
SAN BENITO COUNTY, CA



SEPTEMBER 2015

Volume II

NEPA Lead Federal Agency:



US Army Corps of Engineers

NEPA Cooperating Agency:



US Fish & Wildlife Service

VOLUME II

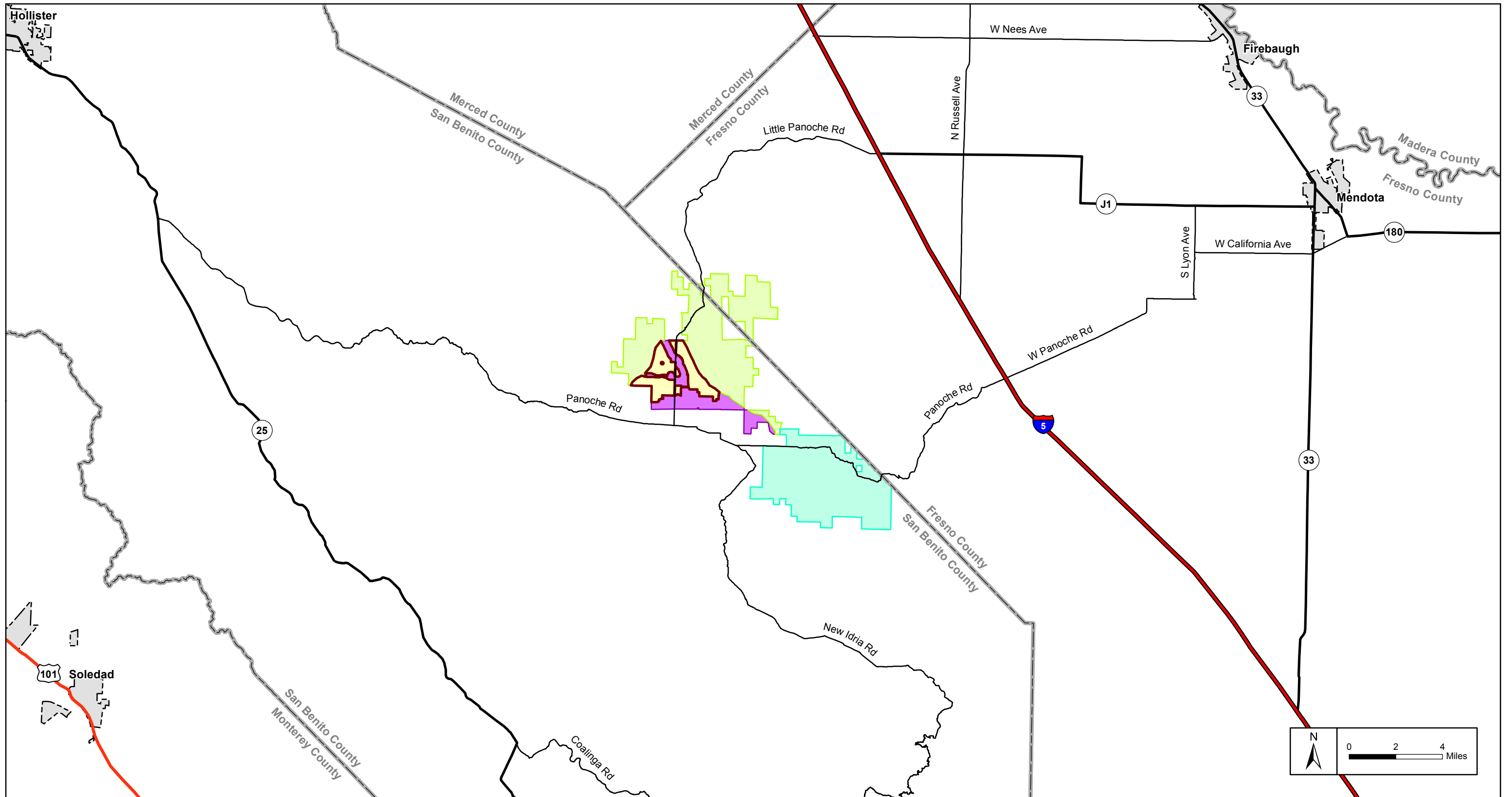
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Panoche Valley Solar Energy Project

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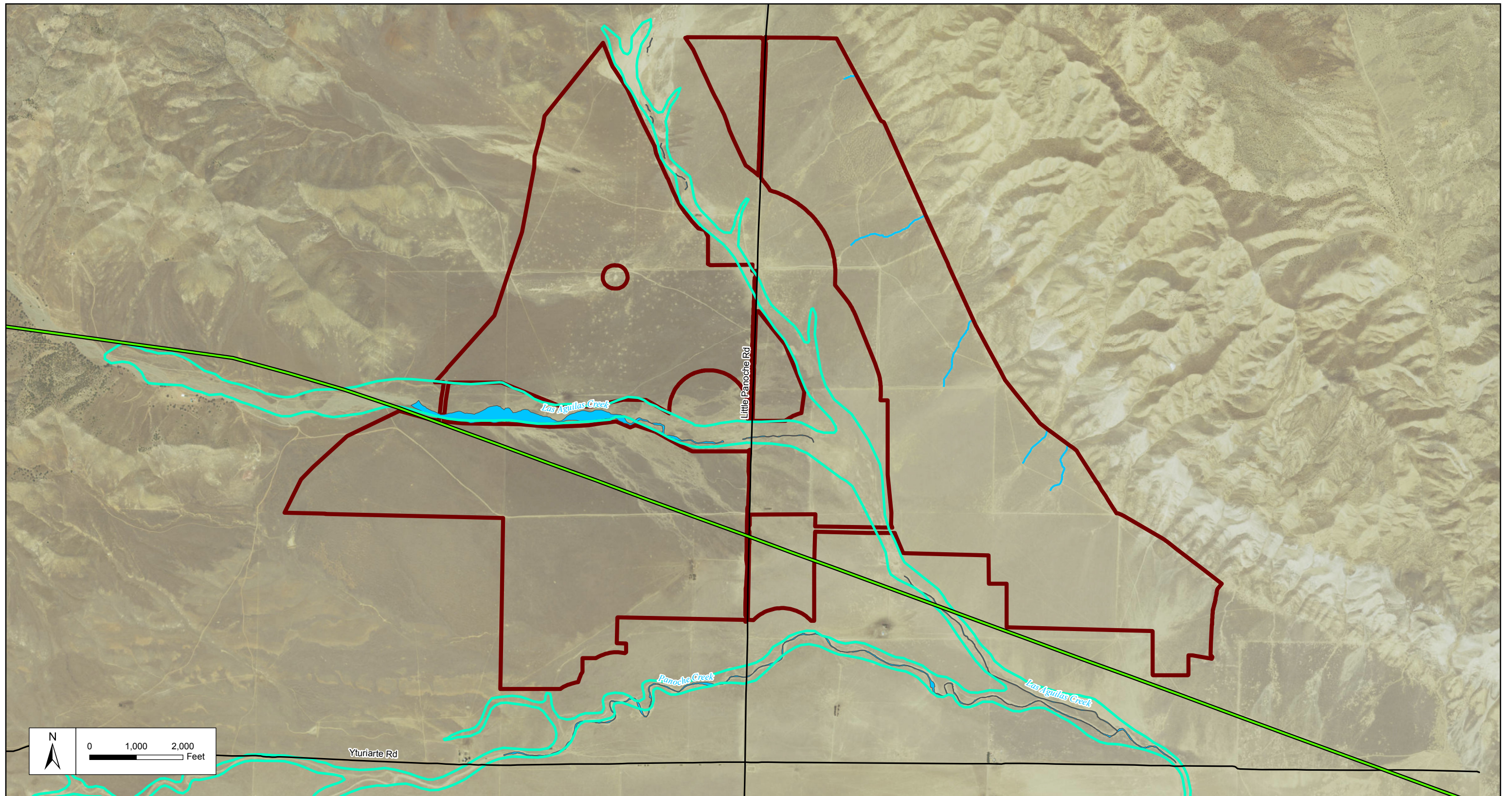


Legend

- Project Footprint
- Valadeao Ranch Conservation Lands
- Valley Floor Conservation Lands
- Silver Creek Ranch Conservation Lands
- City

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Proposed Project Location

FIGURE
1



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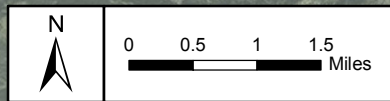
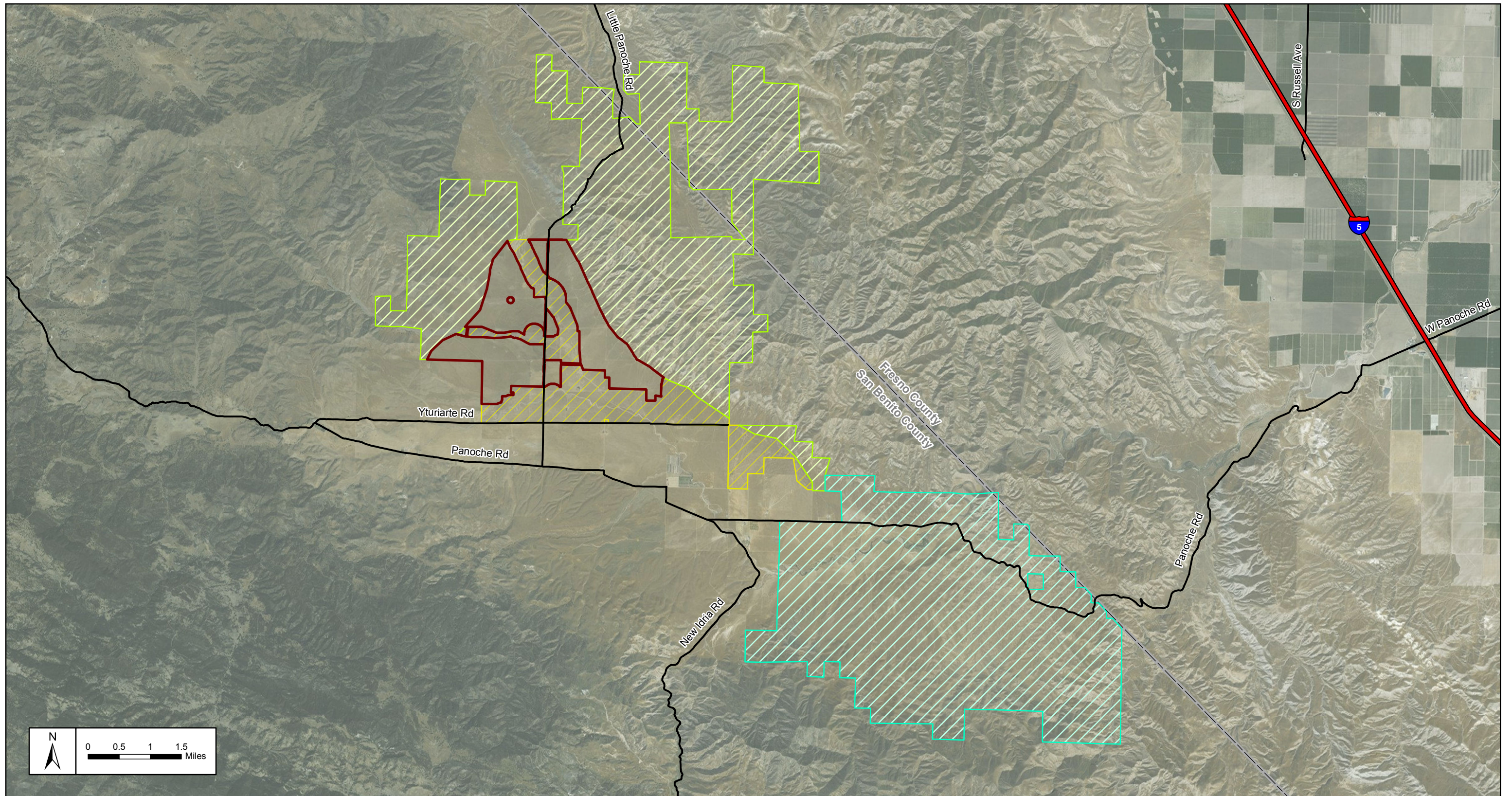


Legend

- Project Footprint
- Existing Transmission Line
- Ordinary High Water Mark
- Jurisdictional Drainage
- 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Proposed Project Site

FIGURE
2



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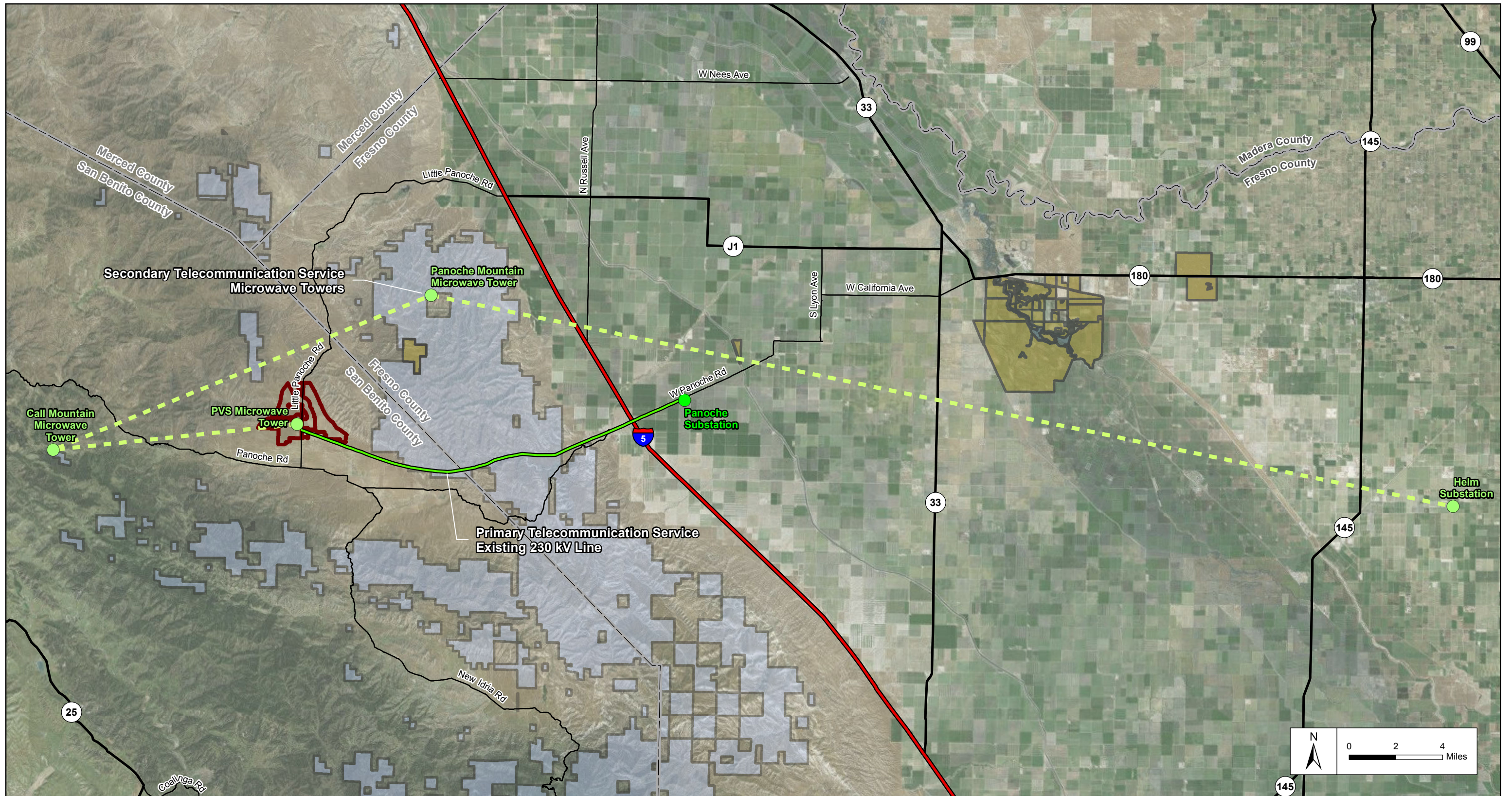


Legend

- Project Footprint
- Valadeao Ranch Conservation Lands
- Valley Floor Conservation Lands
- Silver Creek Ranch Conservation Lands

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Proposed Project Site and Conservation Lands

FIGURE
3



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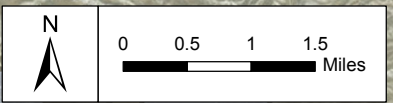
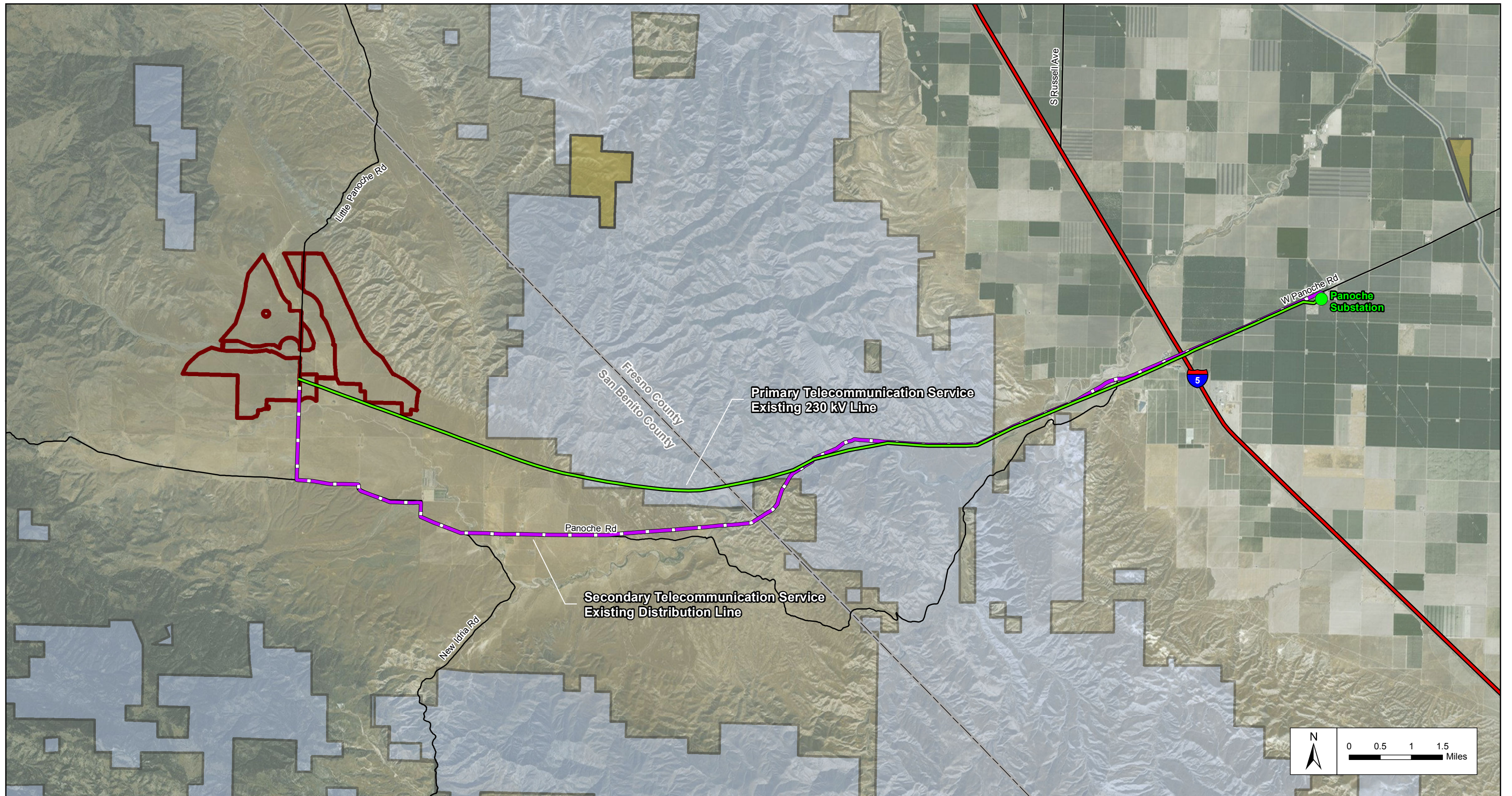


Legend

- Project Footprint
- BLM Land
- State Land
- Proposed Microwave Repeater Site
- Microwave Line of Sight
- Existing 230 kV Transmission Line

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Proposed Telecommunication Upgrade

FIGURE
4A



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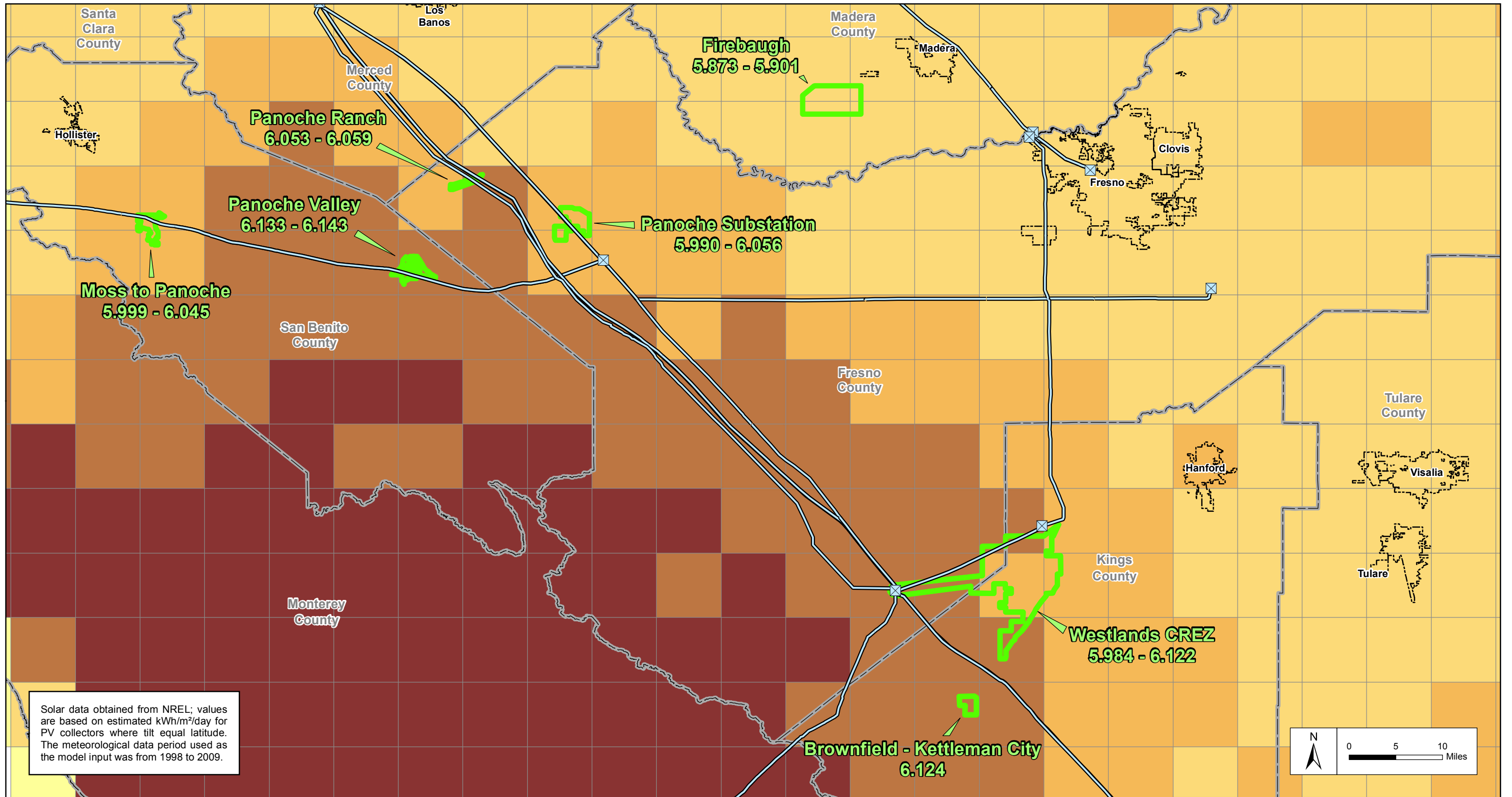


Legend

- Project Footprint
- BLM Land
- State Land
- Existing 230 kV Transmission Line
- Existing Distribution Line

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Proposed Telecommunication Upgrade Alternative

FIGURE
4B











Solar data obtained from NREL; values are based on estimated kWh/m²/day for PV collectors where tilt equal latitude. The meteorological data period used as the model input was from 1998 to 2009.

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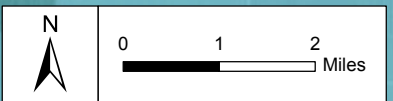
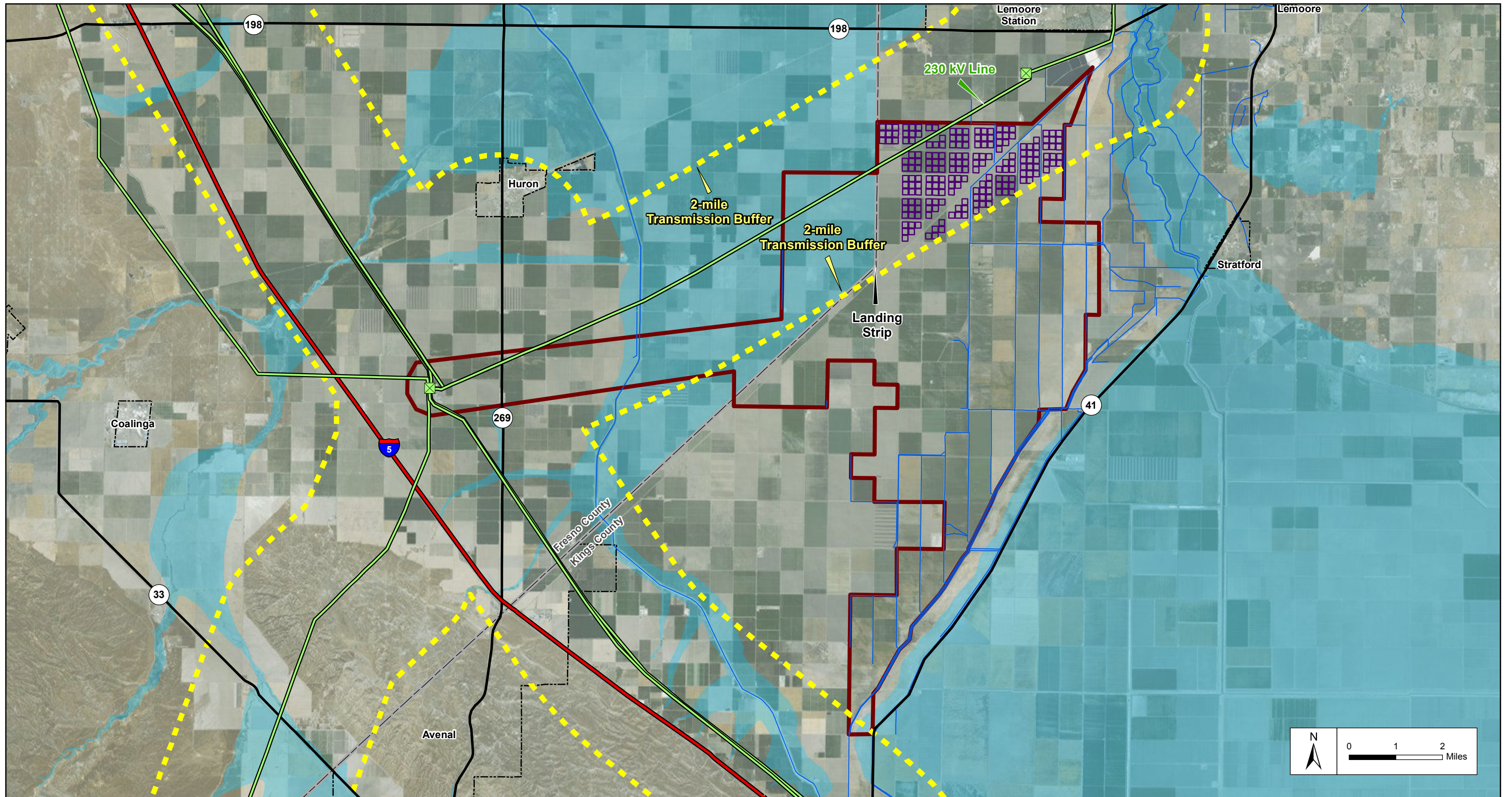
Legend

-  Site
-  Electric Substation
-  Electric Transmission

Solar Resource (kWh/m ² /day)	
	5.58 - 5.77
	5.78 - 5.96
	5.97 - 6.06
	6.07 - 6.18
	6.19 - 6.33

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Regional Solar

FIGURE
 5



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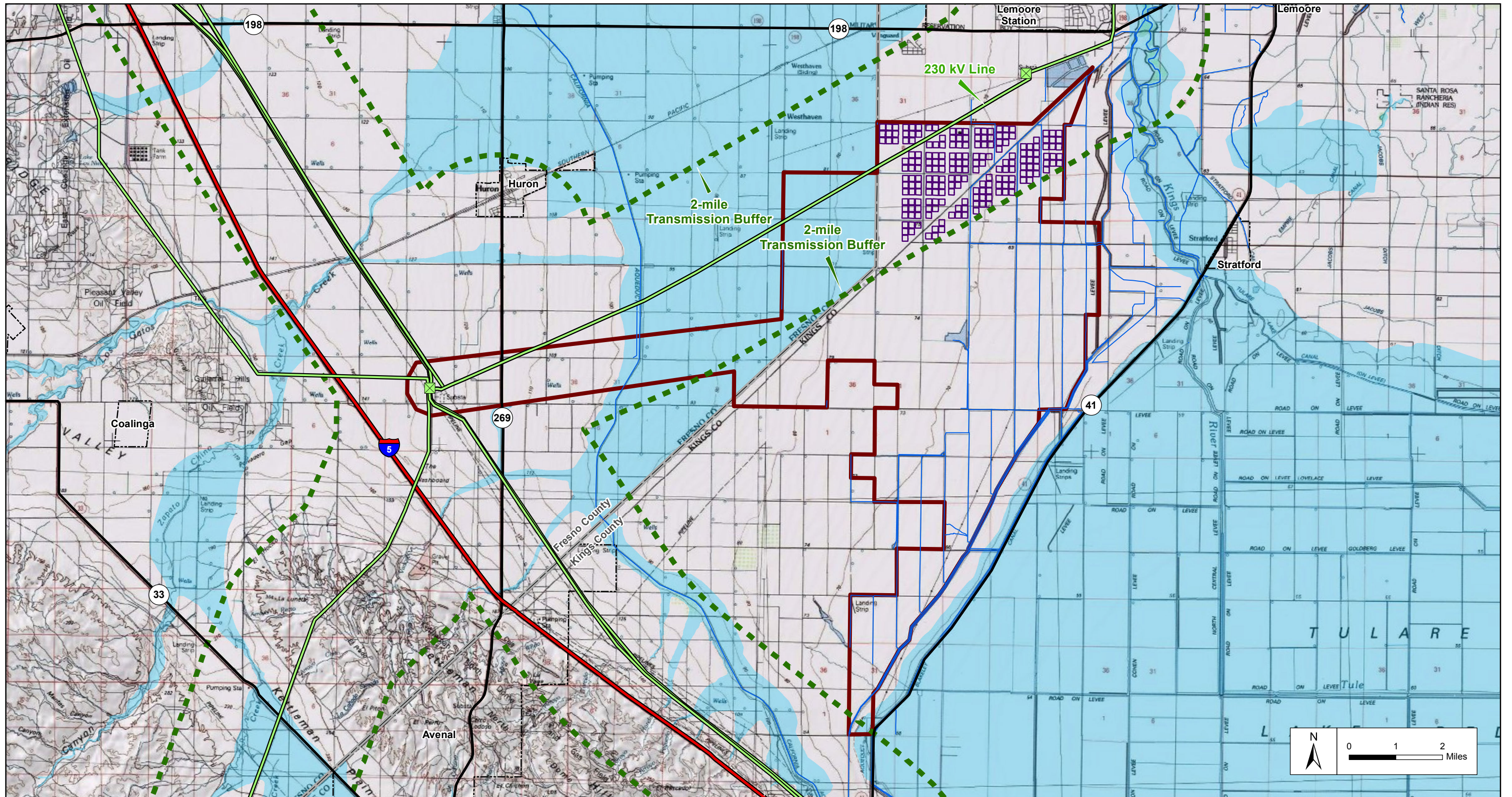


Legend

- Site
- City Limit
- 2 MW Array Block (200)
- ⊠ Electric Substation
- Electric Transmission
- ~ Canal, Drainage
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Westlands CREZ Alternative Site

FIGURE
 6A



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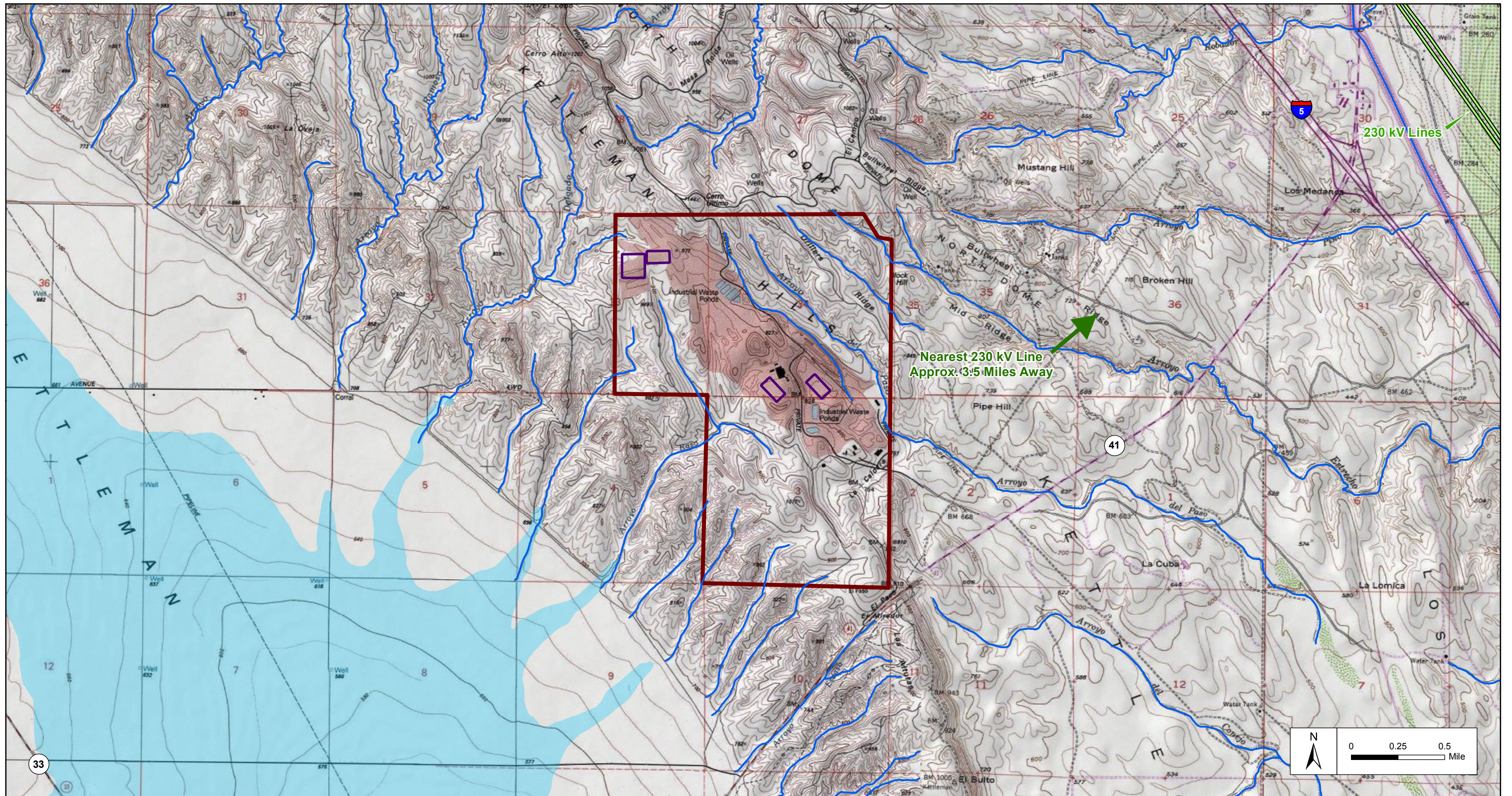


Legend

- Site
- 2 MW Array Block (200)
- 2-mile Transmission Buffer
- City Limit
- Electric Substation
- Electric Transmission
- Canal, Drainage
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Westlands CREZ Alternative Site

FIGURE
 6B



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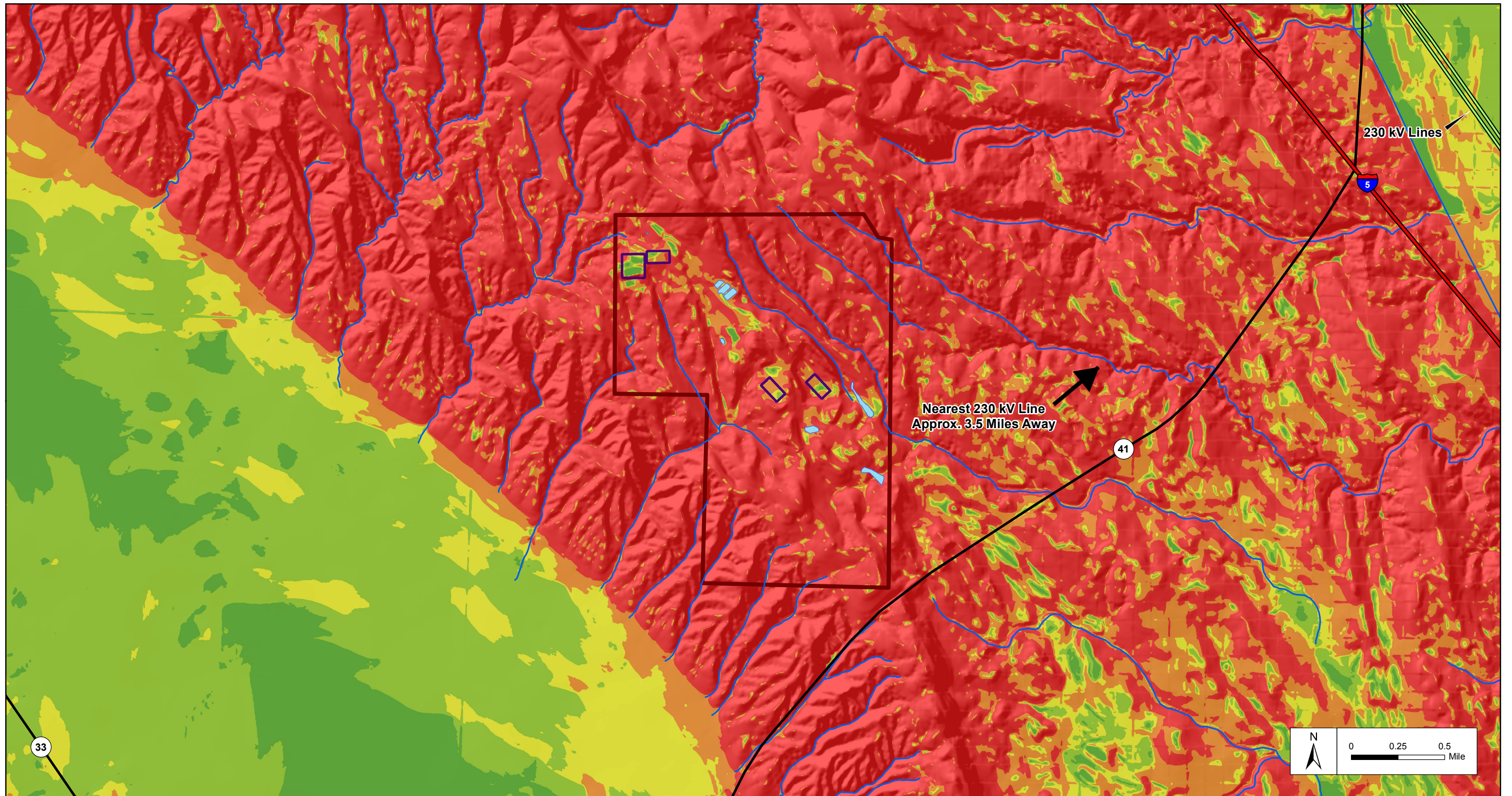


Legend

- Site
- Solar Array Block
- ~ Arroyo, Drainage (NHD)
- Electric Transmission
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Brownfield-Kettleman City Alternative Site




FIGURE
7A





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Legend

-  Site
-  Solar Array Block
-  Electric Transmission

-  Arroyo, Drainage (NHD)
-  Water Body (NHD)

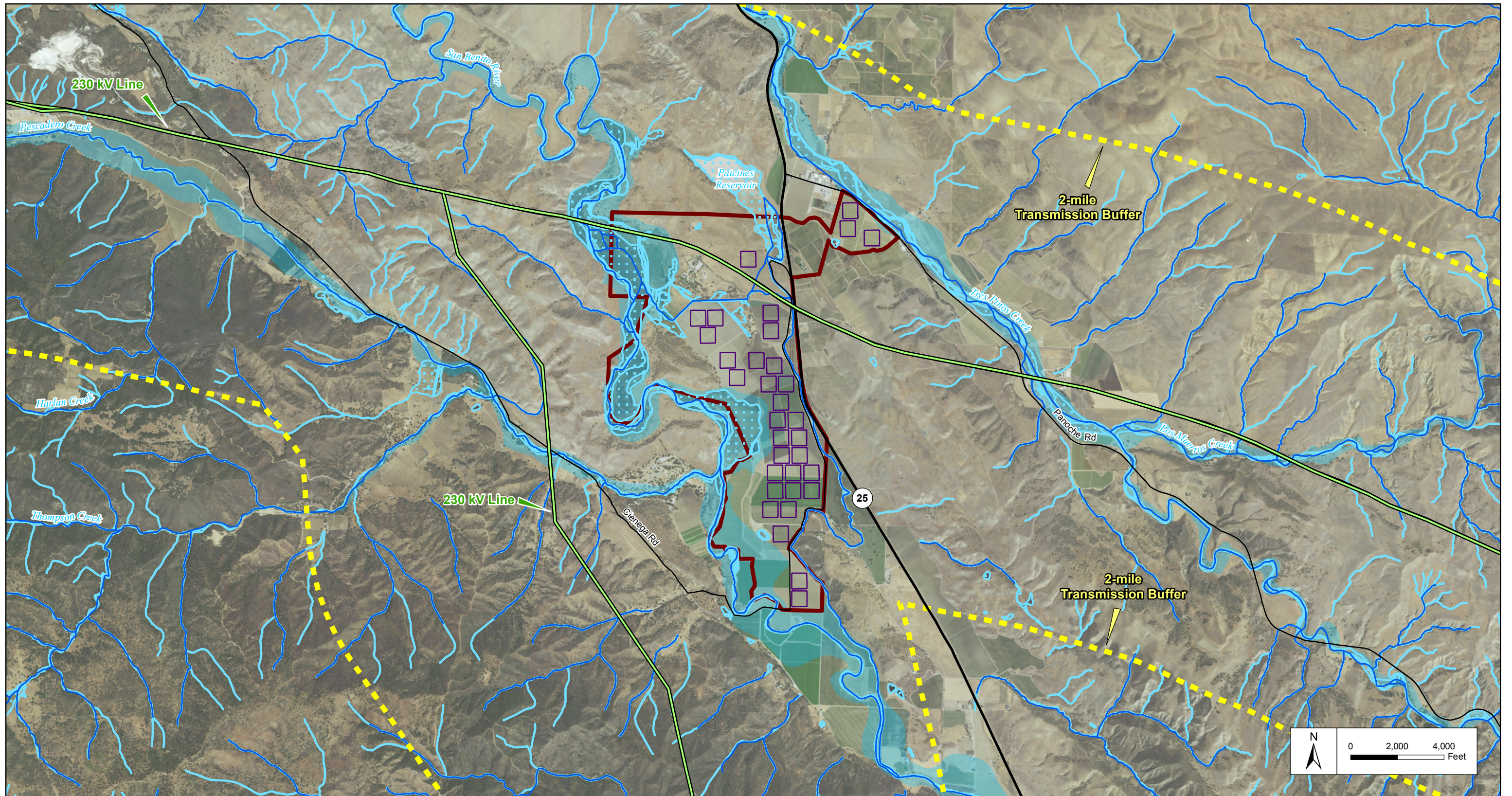
Slope

- | | |
|---|---|
|  0% - 1.0% |  3.1% - 6.0% |
|  1.1% - 2.0% |  > 6.0% |
|  2.1% - 3.0% | |

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Brownfield-Kettleman City Alternative Site

Slope based on USGS 10m NED

FIGURE
7B



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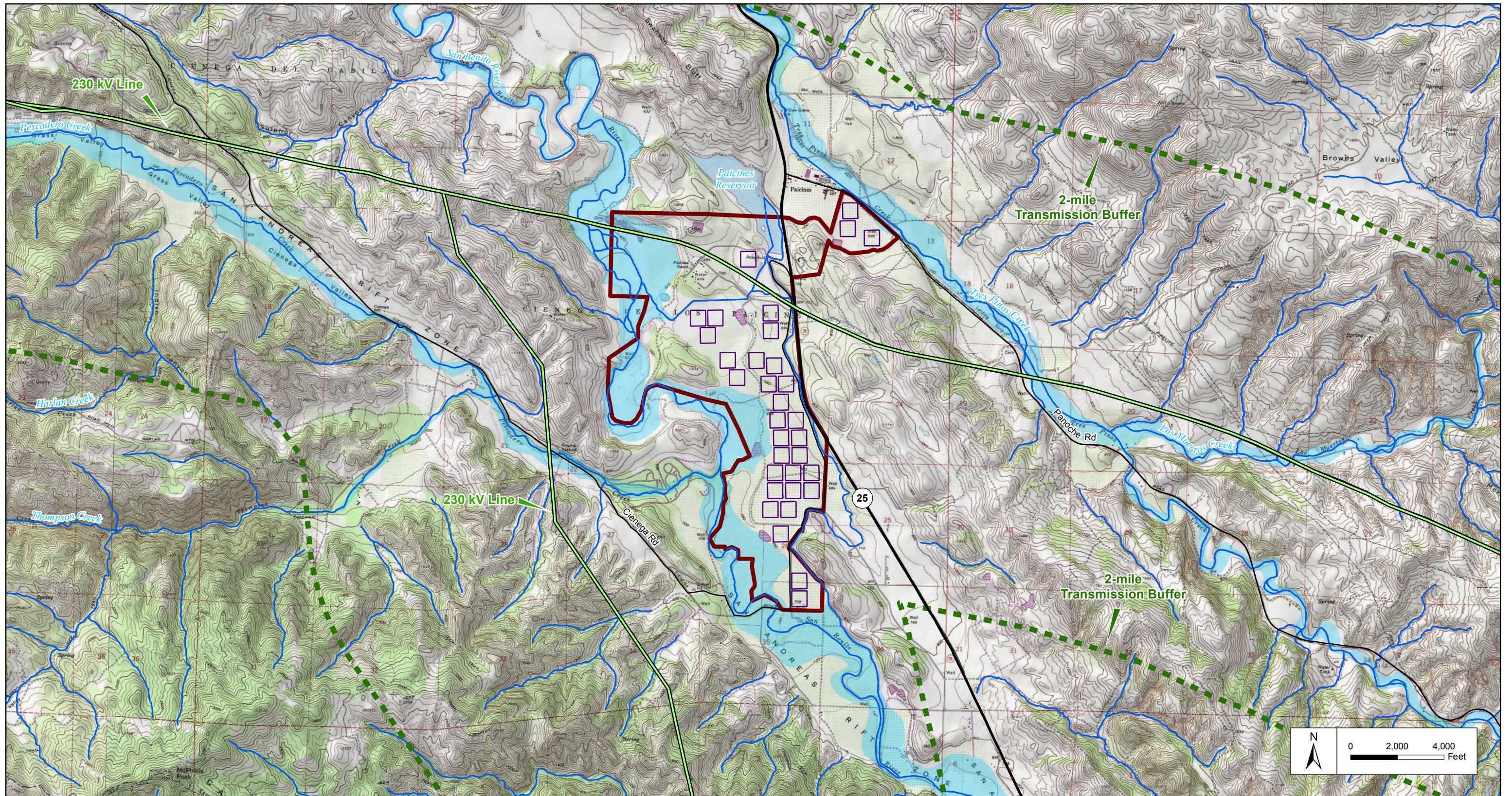


Legend

- Site
- 2 MW Array Block (33)
- Electric Transmission
- Canal, Drainage (NHD)
- Wetland (NWI)
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Moss Landing-Panoche Alternative Site

FIGURE
 8A



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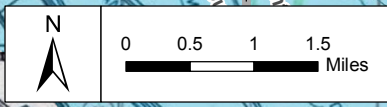
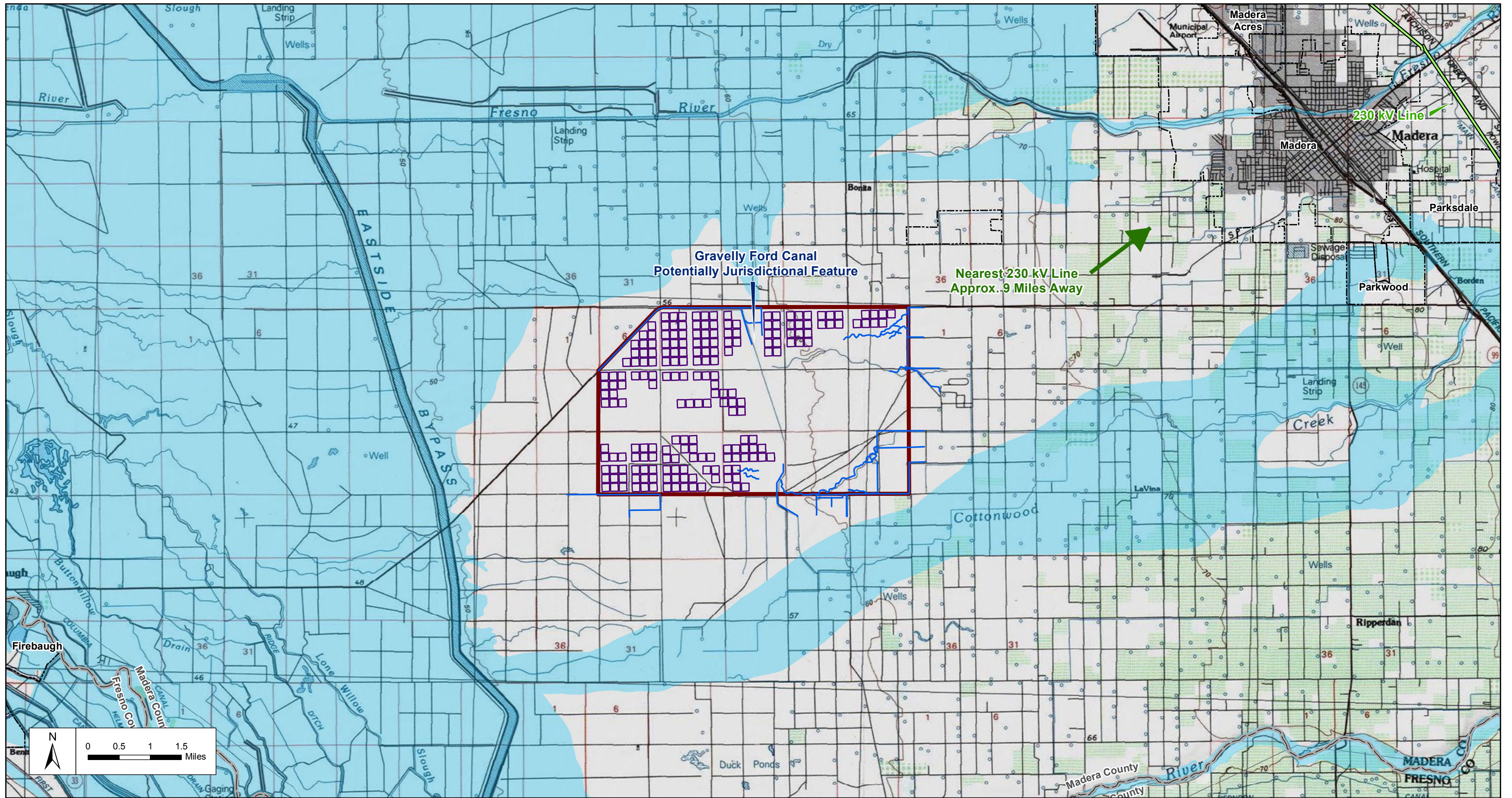


Legend

- Site
- 2 MW Array Block (33)
- Canal, Drainage (NHD)
- Electric Transmission
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Moss Landing-Panoche Alternative Site

FIGURE
8B



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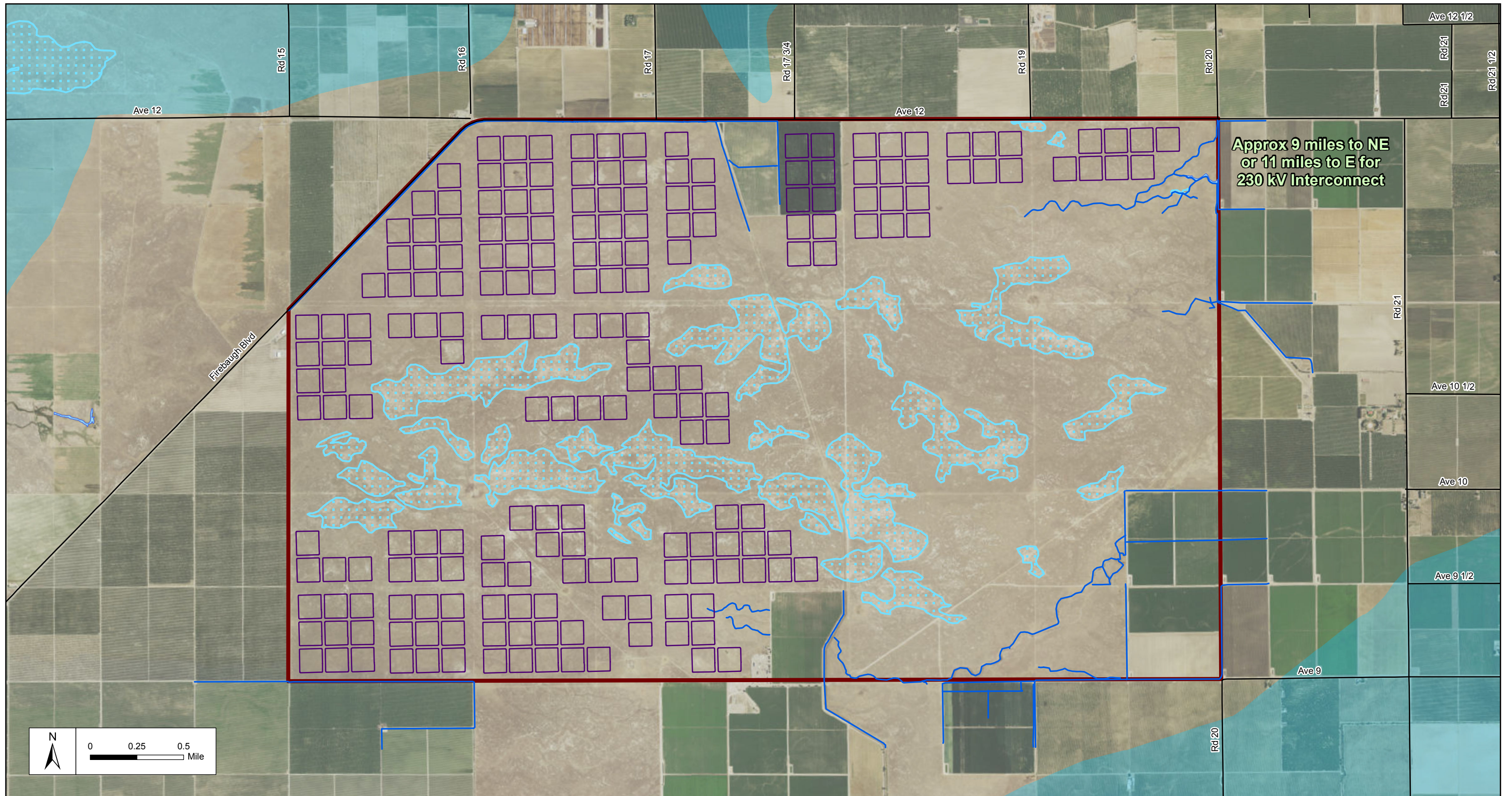


Legend

- Site
- 2 MW Array Block (200)
- Canal, Drainage
- City Limit
- Electric Transmission
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Firebaugh Alternative Site

FIGURE
9A



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Legend

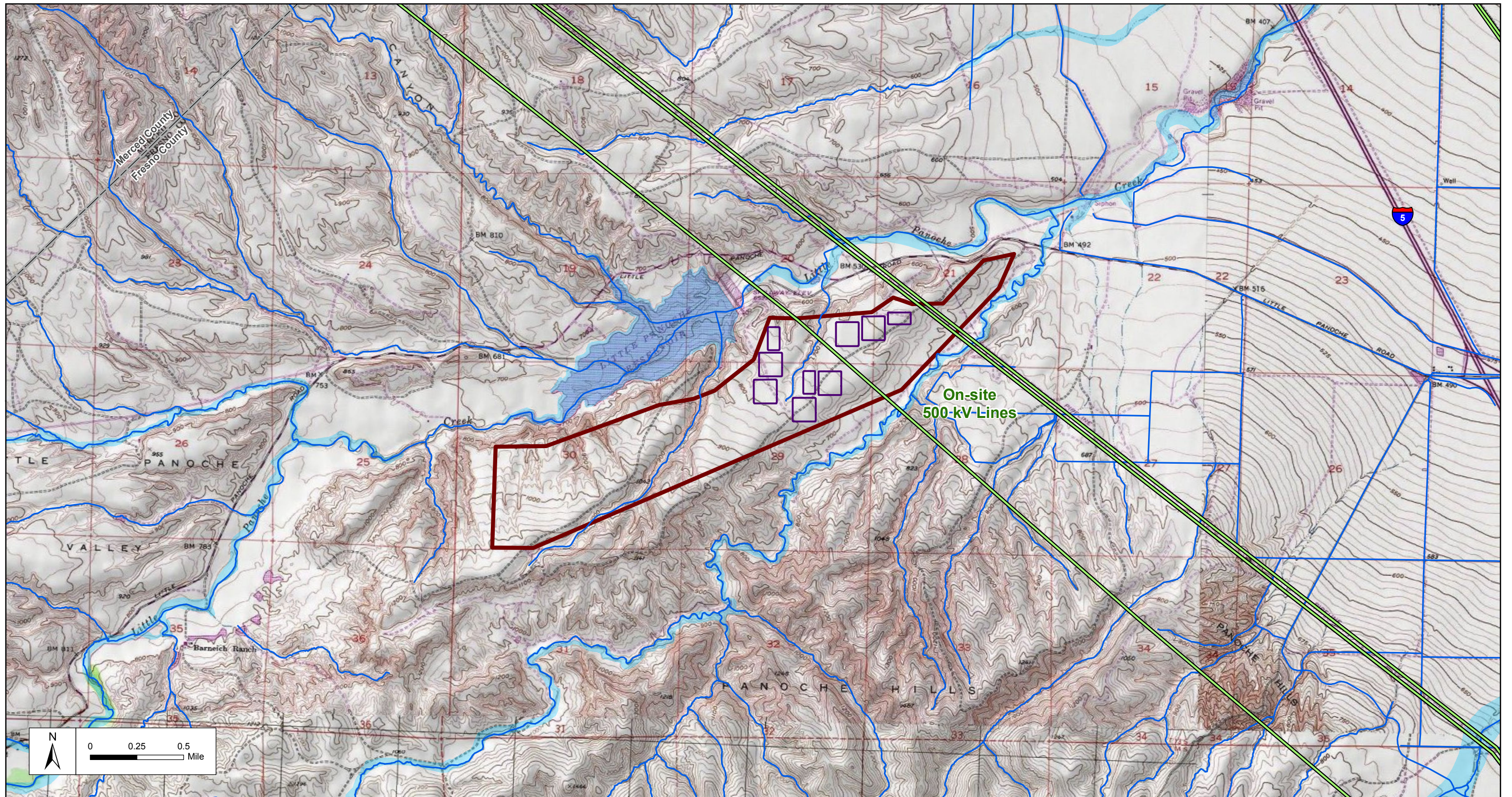
- Site
- 2 MW Array Block (200)
- Canal, Drainage
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain
- Potential Emergent Wetland
- Riverine

Panoche Valley Solar Project

Firebaugh Alternative Site

Wetland data obtained from California Department of Water Resources;
 Produced by California State University, Chico, Geographic Information Center

**FIGURE
 9B**



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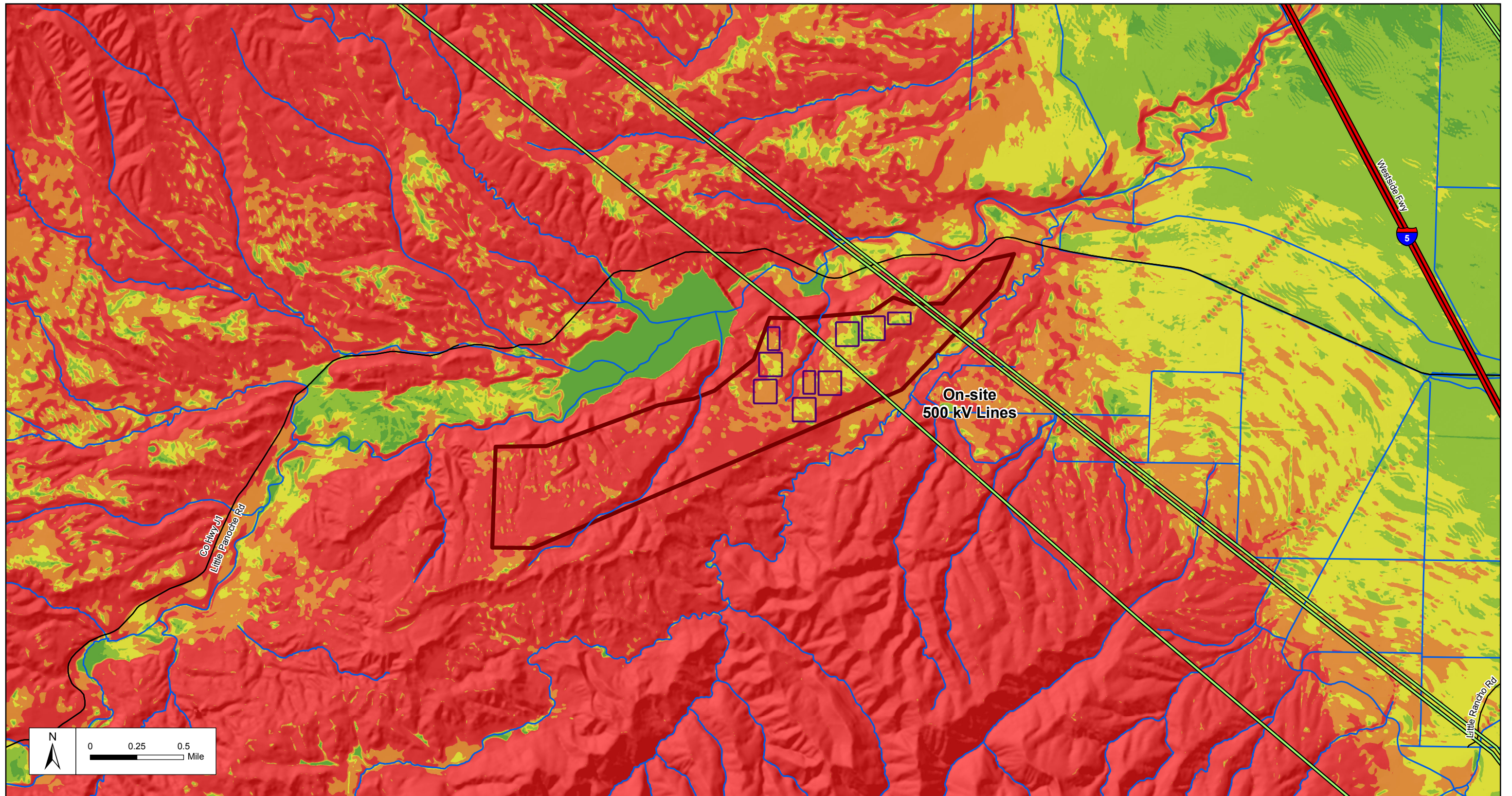


Legend

- Site
- Solar Array Block
- Electric Transmission
- ~ Arroyo, Drainage (NHD)
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Panoche Ranch Alternative Site

FIGURE
10A



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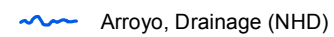
Legend



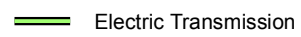
Site



Solar Array Block

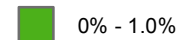


Arroyo, Drainage (NHD)

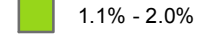


Electric Transmission

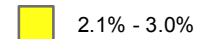
Slope



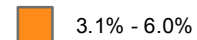
0% - 1.0%



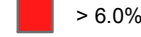
1.1% - 2.0%



2.1% - 3.0%



3.1% - 6.0%



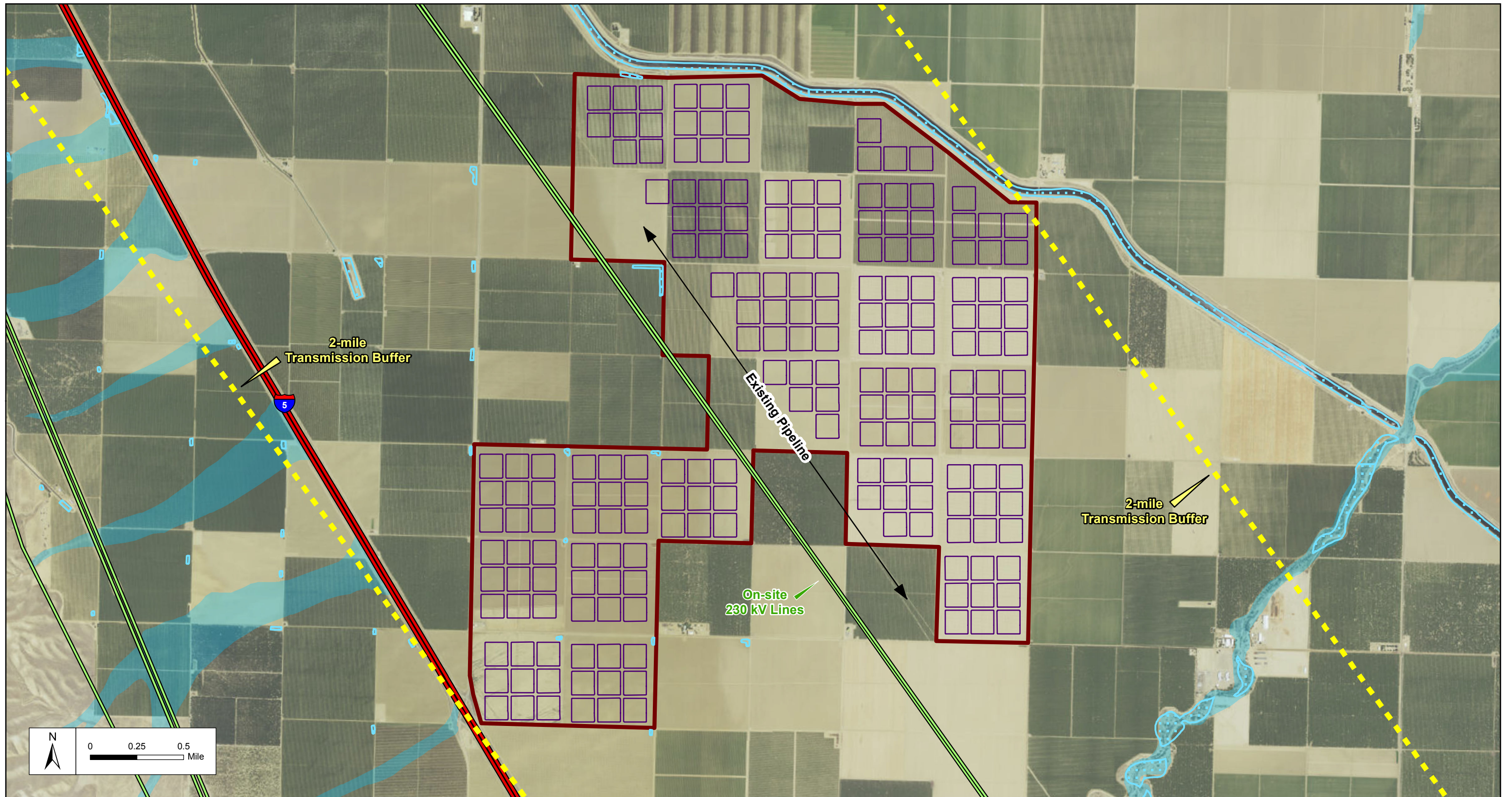
> 6.0%

Panoche Valley Solar Project

Panoche Ranch Alternative Site

Slope based on USGS 10m NED

**FIGURE
10B**



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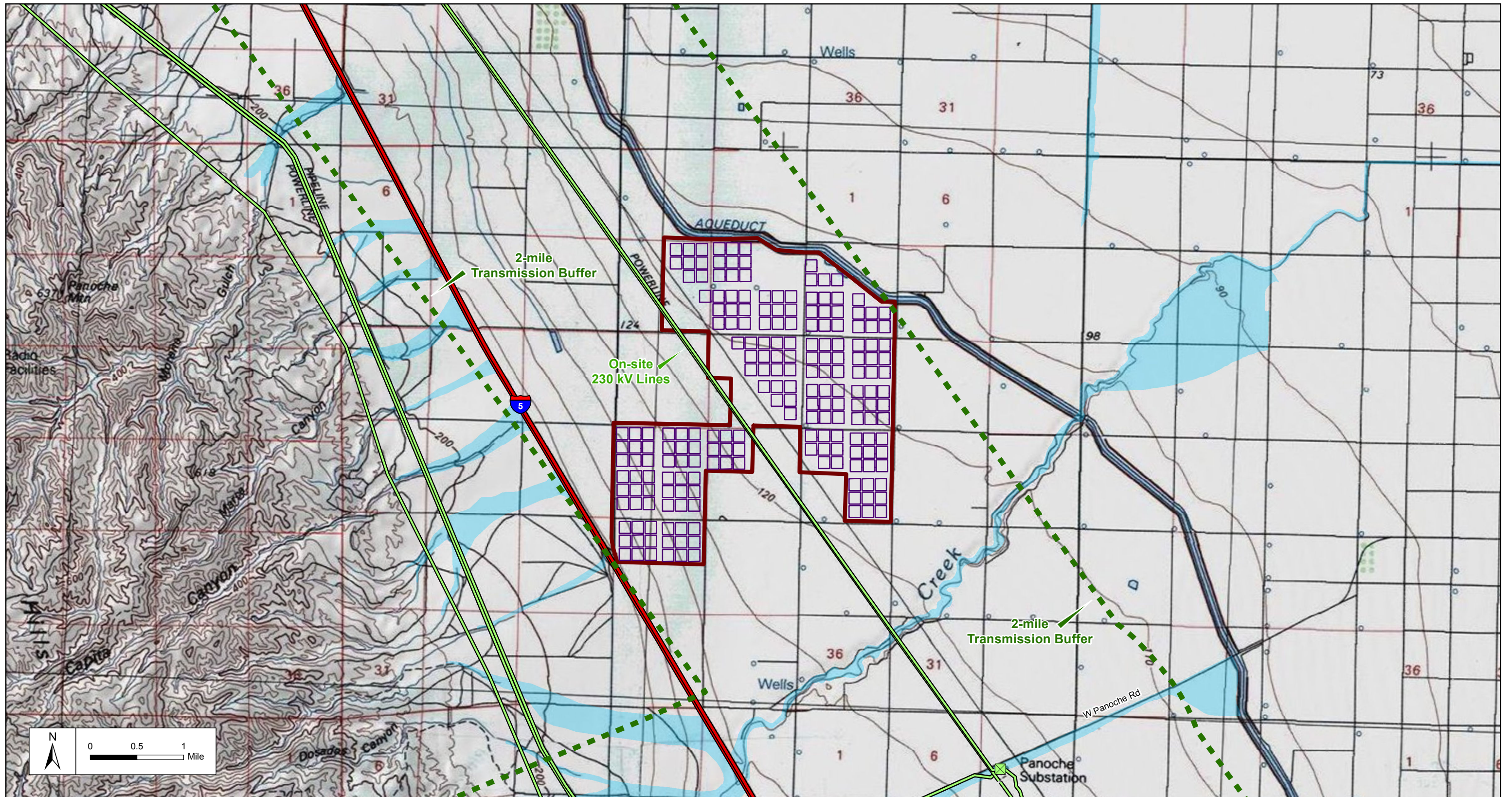


Legend

- Site
- 2 MW Array Block (200)
- Electric Transmission
- 2-mile Transmission Buffer
- Wetland (NWI)
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Panoche Substation Alternative Site

FIGURE
 11A



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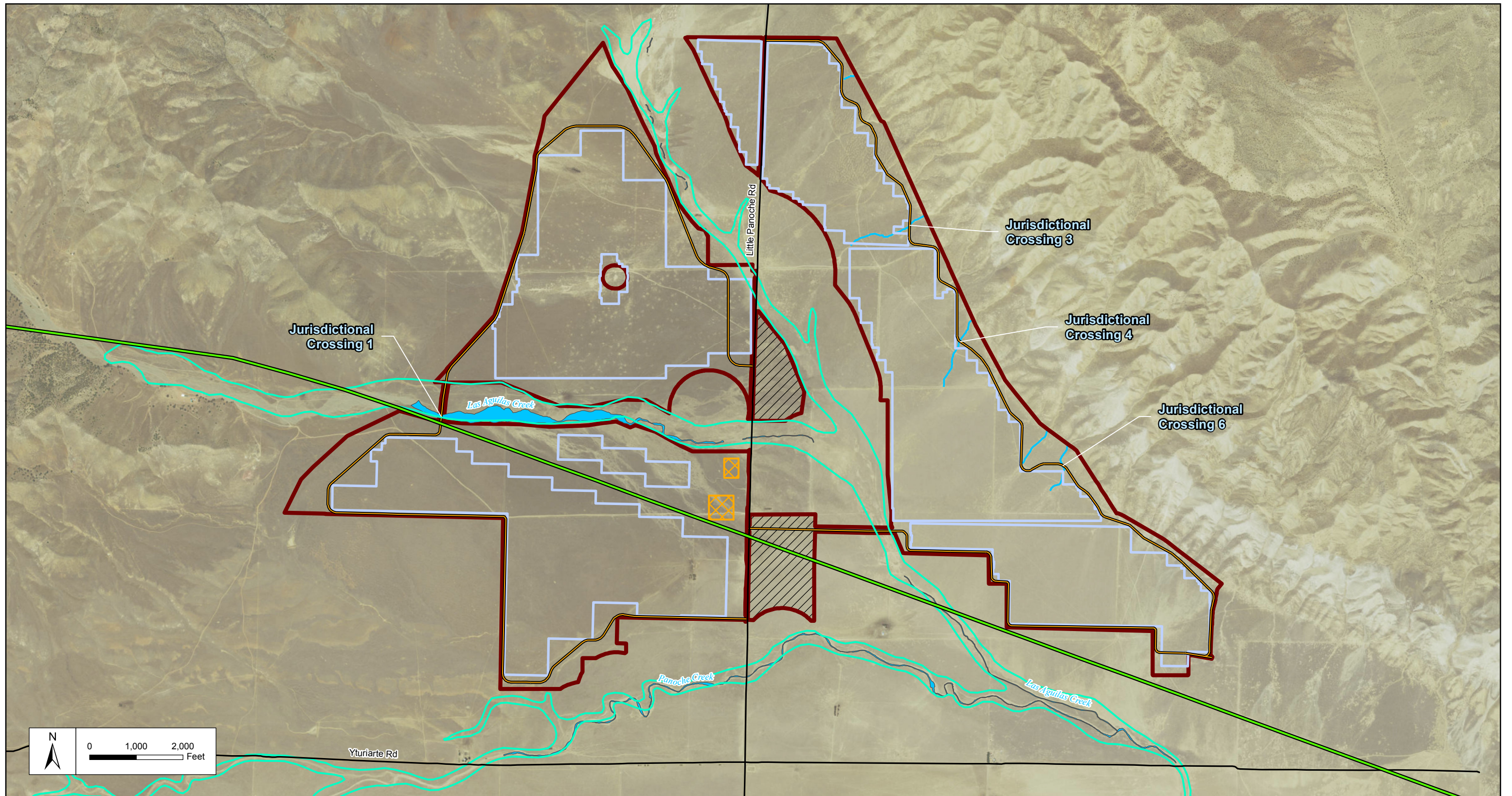


Legend

- Site
- 2 MW Array Block (200)
- Electric Substation
- Electric Transmission
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Panoche Substation Alternative Site

FIGURE
11B



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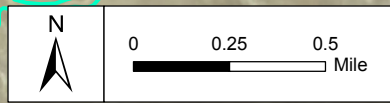
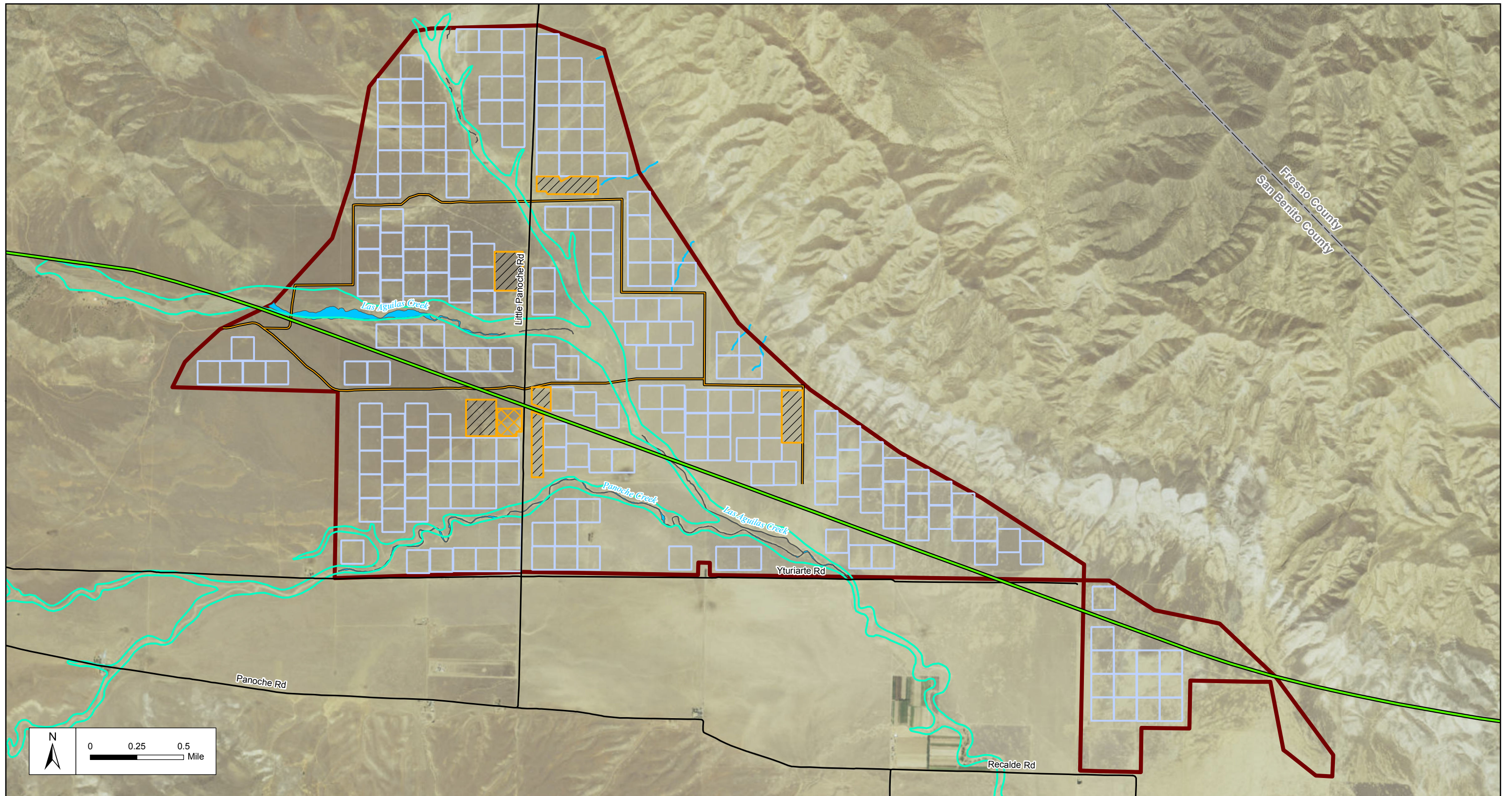


Legend

- Project Footprint
- Proposed Panel Block
- Substation, Switchyard
- Existing Transmission Line
- Perimeter Road
- Temporary Laydown Yard
- Jurisdictional Drainage
- Ordinary High Water Mark
- 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Proposed Project Site (Preferred Alternative)

FIGURE
12



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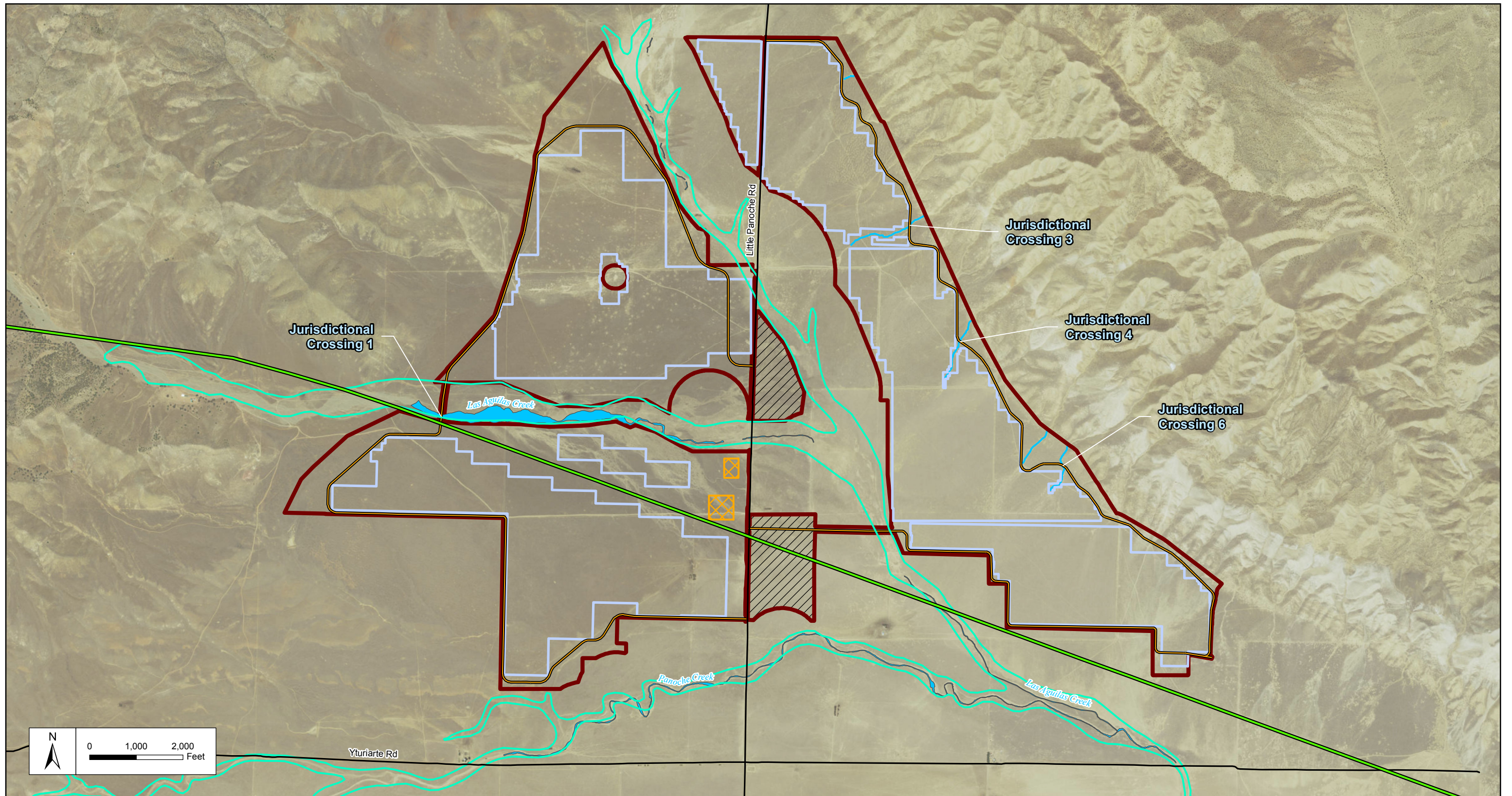


Legend

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Project Footprint | Existing Transmission Line | Jurisdictional Drainage |
| Proposed Panel Block | Project Road | Ordinary High Water Mark |
| Project Substation | Laydown Yard | 100-year Floodplain |

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 On-Site Alternative 1 (420 MW)

FIGURE
13



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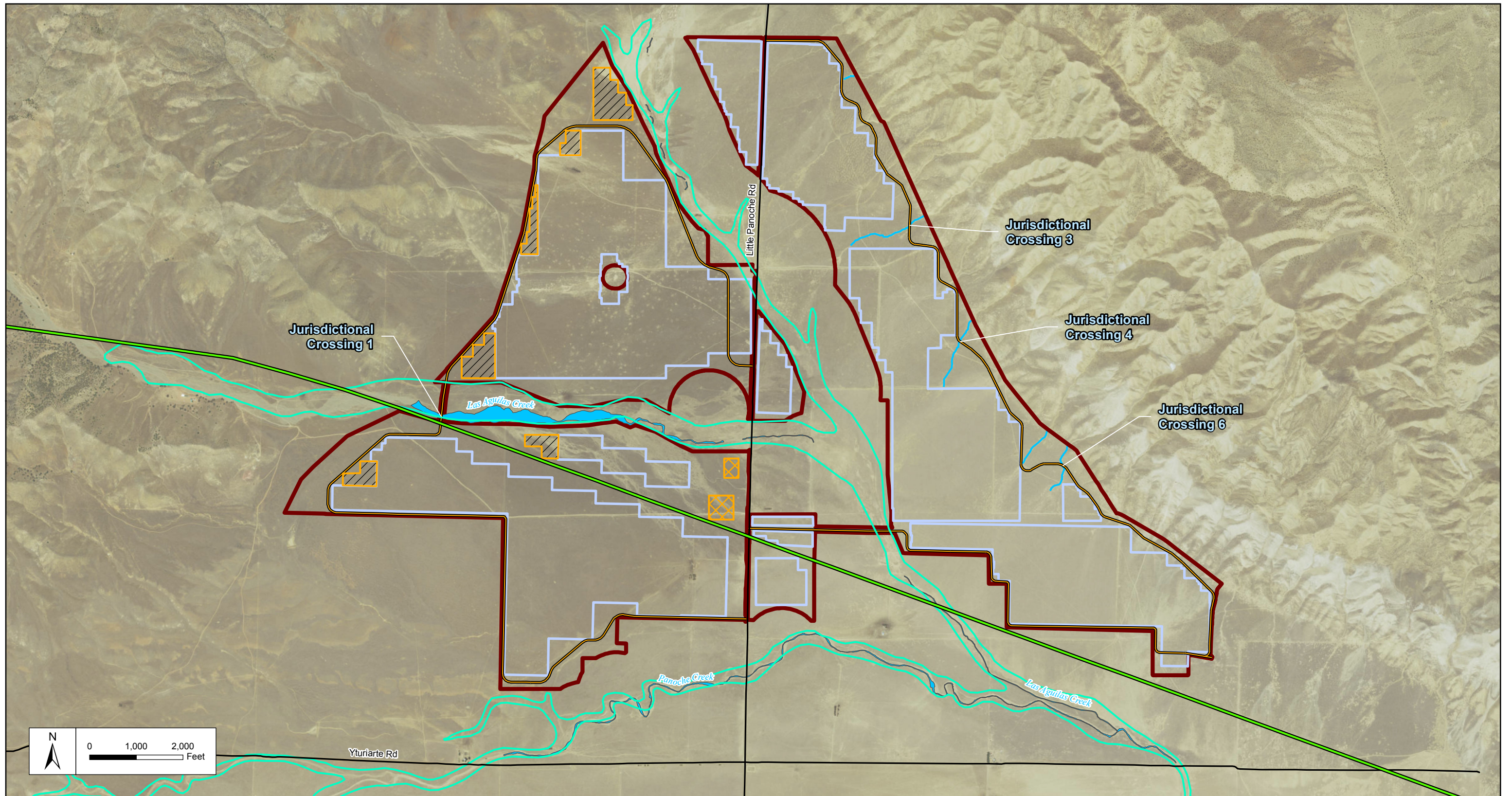


Legend

- Project Footprint
- Proposed Panel Block
- Substation, Switchyard
- Existing Transmission Line
- Perimeter Road
- Temporary Laydown Yard
- Jurisdictional Drainage
- Ordinary High Water Mark
- 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 On-Site Alternative 3 (Alternative Layout)
 Small Blocks Array Scenario 1

FIGURE
14



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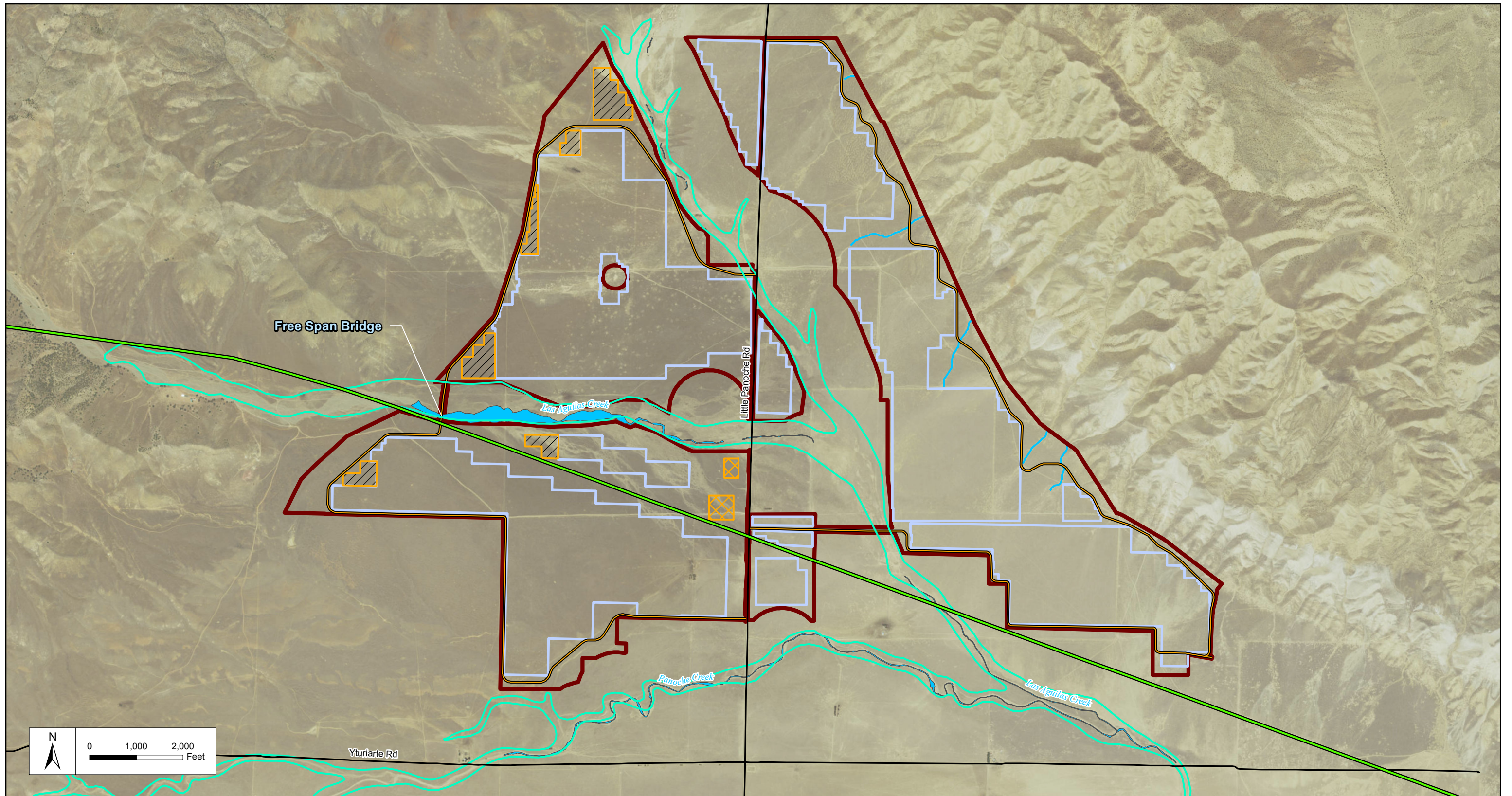


Legend

- Project Footprint
- Proposed Panel Block
- Substation, Switchyard
- Laydown Yard
- Existing Transmission Line
- Perimeter Road
- Jurisdictional Drainage
- Ordinary High Water Mark
- 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 On-Site Alternative 3 (Alternative Layout)
 Full Blocks Array Scenario 2

FIGURE
15



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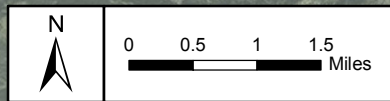
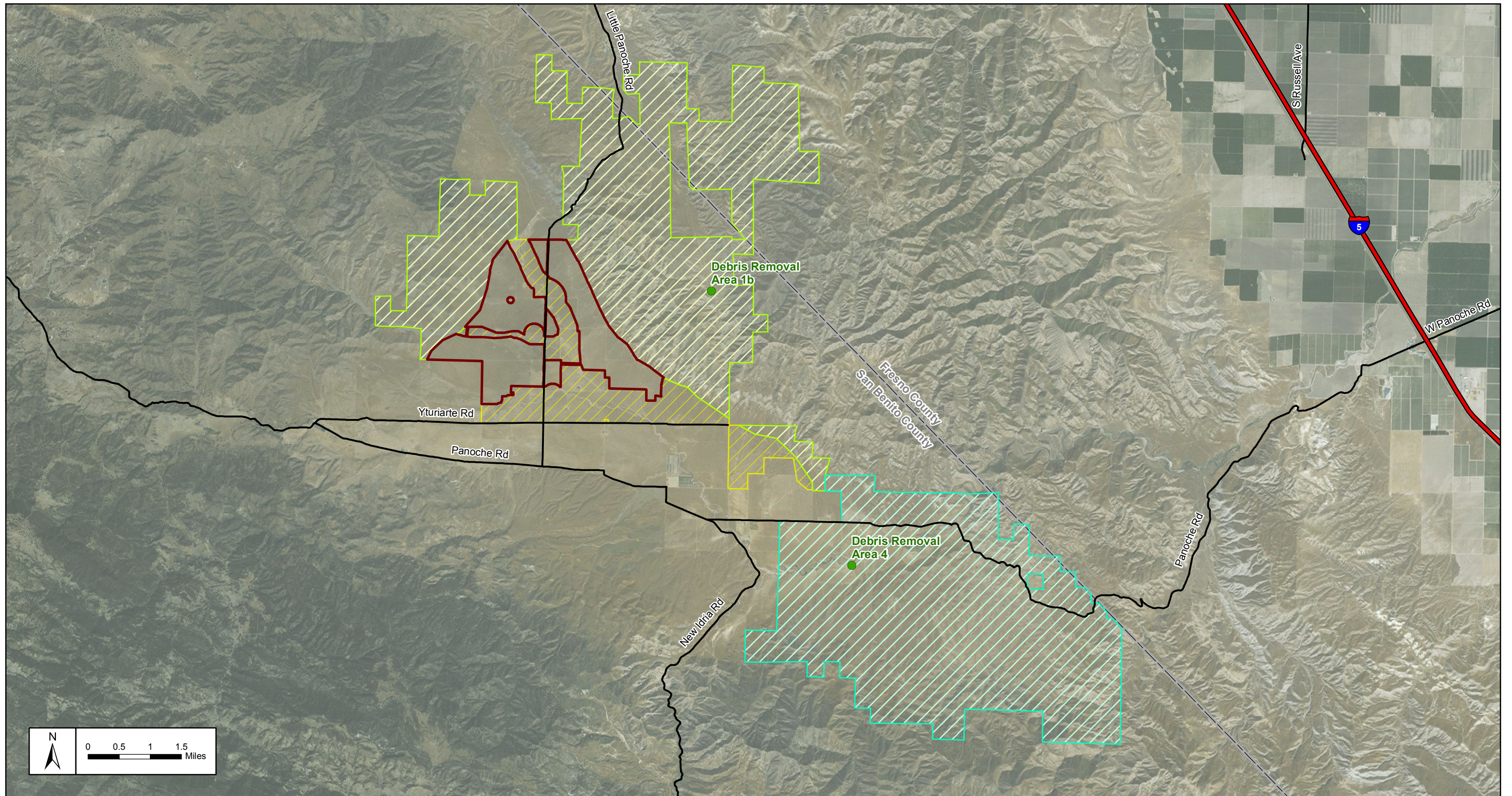


Legend

- Project Footprint
- Proposed Panel Block
- Substation, Switchyard
- Laydown Yard
- Existing Transmission Line
- Perimeter Road
- Jurisdictional Drainage
- Ordinary High Water Mark
- 100-year Floodplain

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 On-Site Alternative 4 (No Action Alternative)

FIGURE
16



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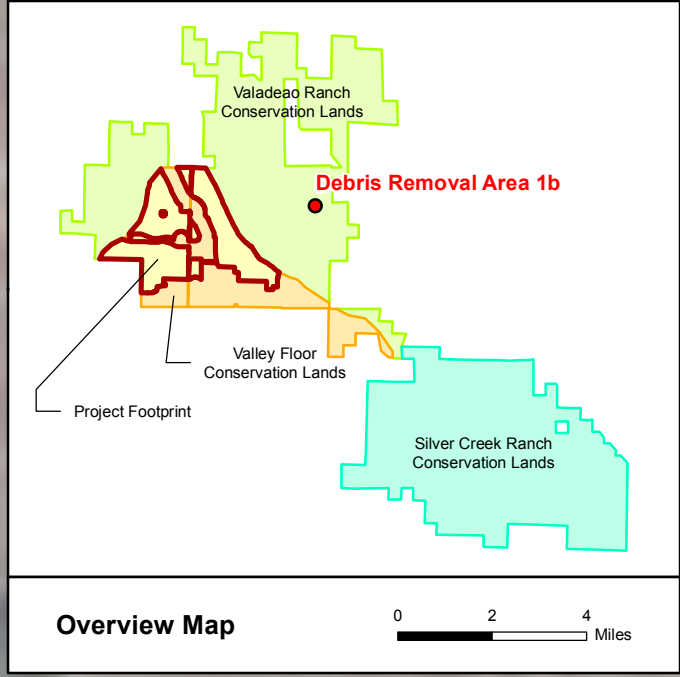


Legend

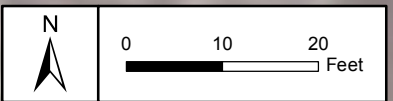
- Project Footprint
- Valadeao Ranch Conservation Lands
- Silver Creek Ranch Conservation Lands
- Valley Floor Conservation Lands

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Proposed Mitigation with
 Potential Impacts to Waters of the U.S.

FIGURE
17



Approximate Potential Impact to Waters from Debris Removal Area 1b	
Length	30 linear feet
Federal	134 ft ²



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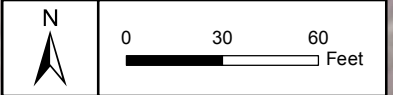
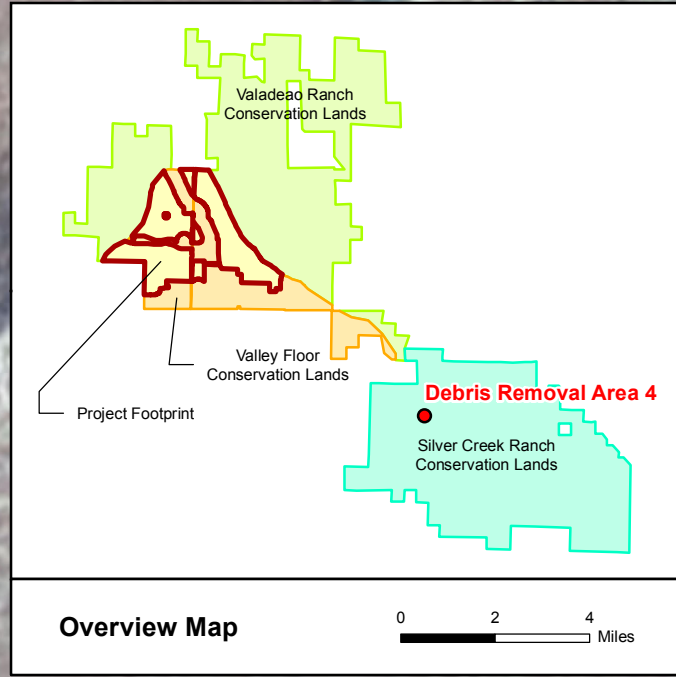
Legend

Debris Removal Area

Potential Impact to Federal Waters

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Potential Impacts to Waters of the U.S.
 Debris Removal Area 1b

FIGURE 18A



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Legend

Debris Removal Area

Potential Impact to Federal Waters

Panoche Valley Solar Project
 Potential Impacts to Waters of the U.S.

Debris Removal Area 4

FIGURE
18B

Appendix C
Applicant-Proposed Measures,
Mitigation Measures, and PG&E
Avoidance and Minimization
Measures

Table C-1.	Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs)	C-1
Table C-2.	Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan.....	C-9
Table C-3.	PG&E Avoidance & Minimization Measures (AMMs).....	C-61

Table C-1
Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs)

APM Number	Measure by Issue Area
Aesthetics	
APM AES-1	“Dulled” metal finish structures, and facility buildings painted in earth tones, will be used to reduce visual impacts where feasible. The solar module cells will be blue or green toned and non-reflective. Certain electrical equipment, such as transformers and capacitors, cannot be dulled. Equipment that cannot be dulled will have an ANSI gray or factory standard manufacturer finish. The perimeter fence will also be galvanized steel.
APM AES-2	Construction Lighting: During construction, localized and portable lighting will be used where the work is occurring. Lighting will be powered by generators and have switches to cut power when lighting is not required during construction.
APM AES-3	Operation Lighting: During operation of the project, motion-sensor lighting will be used at the main entrance, substation, and switching station. The lighting will consist of energy-efficient lamps that will only be lit when human activity is detected. Motion sensors will have sensitivities set to avoid activating the lights when animal activity is occurring. This will be done to prevent startling animals and creating false alarms for security personnel. In addition to lighting, security cameras will be installed onsite. Constant lighting, at a low-level, may be required at the O&M building for security and safety. This will be a single lamp source near the entrance of the O&M building, which will be activated by a timer. All lighting will have a power switch to conserve energy when the lighting is not required.
Agriculture	
APM AG-1	Grazing sheep on the project site. If necessary for vegetation control, sheep would be grazed throughout the project site, except on the 50-65 acres where new roads, buildings, switching station/substation are constructed or where safety concerns would prevent grazing. The grazing operation would be a rotational system using short-duration intensive grazing alternating with periods of rest. The project site would be divided into pastures, which could provide forage for between 750 and 3,600 adult sheep depending on annual rainfall and temperatures. The project site would be grazed between January and May. The Applicant would construct new sheep fencing as necessary. Each pasture would have access to water from existing livestock watering facilities.
APM AG-2	Allow grazing on lands covered by conservation easement created for biological resource mitigation. Cattle grazing would be used as appropriate to increase biodiversity and maintain the suitability of mitigation lands for protected species habitat. The grazing program would be developed in accordance with grazing BMPs outlined by the Bureau of Land Management and protected species habitat requirements as determined by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The grazing management plan would be developed, implemented, and monitored by the land trust or public conservation agency that holds the habitat conservation easement in consultation with CDFW and USFWS.
Air Quality	
APM AQ-1	All requirements of those entities having jurisdiction over air quality matters would be adhered to and any necessary permits for construction activities would be obtained. Open burning of construction trash would not be allowed.

Table C-1
Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs)

APM Number	Measure by Issue Area
APM AQ-2	<p>The Applicant shall implement the following BMPs to further reduce construction vehicle emissions (NO_x, VOC, and Diesel Particulate Matter) during project construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain all construction equipment in proper tune according to manufacturer's specifications; • Use diesel construction equipment, including portable equipment, rated more than 50 horsepower meeting the California Air Resources Board's (CARB's) Tier 2 standards for certified engines or cleaner off-road heavy-duty diesel engines (e.g., Tier 3 and Tier 4, where feasible), and comply with the State In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation (California Code of Regulations [CCR] Title 13, Article 4.8, Chapter 9, Section 2449); • Prohibit on and off-road diesel equipment idling for more than 5 minutes, or within time necessary to comply with Title 13, CCR, Section 2485 (c) (1) regarding idling of commercial vehicles. Signs shall be posted in the designated queuing areas and or job sites to remind drivers and operators of all idling limits; • Prohibit diesel idling within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors; • Staging and queuing areas shall not be located within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors; • Electrify off-road construction equipment when feasible; • Provide incentives for workers to use carpooling, where feasible; and • Use alternatively fuel construction equipment on-site where feasible, such as compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG), propane, biodiesel, or electric. <p>For purpose of this mitigation, "sensitive receptors" shall be defined as occupied residences, senior living centers, parks and recreation areas, medical facilities and schools.</p>
APM AQ-3	<p>The Applicant shall reduce fugitive dust emissions during construction through implementation of the following best management practices to be shown on grading and building plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water graded/excavated areas and active unpaved roadways, unpaved staging areas, and unpaved parking areas at least three times daily or apply chemical soil stabilizers per manufacturer recommendations. Frequency should be based on the type of operations, soil and wind exposure • Apply chemical soil stabilizers or water on inactive construction areas (disturbed lands, including dirt stockpiles; • All disturbed soil areas not subject to revegetation shall be stabilized using approved chemical soil binders, jute netting, or gravel for temporary roads; • Gravel shall be placed on all perimeter roadways and driveways as soon as possible after grading for said roadways; • All trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials shall be covered or shall maintain at least two feet of freeboard (minimum vertical distance between top of load and top of trailer) in accordance with California Vehicle Code Section 23114; • Install gravel track systems where vehicles enter and exit unpaved roads onto streets and inspect equipment tires to ensure free of soil prior to carry-out to paved roadways.
Biological Resources	
APM BIO-1	All construction vehicle movement outside the project area would normally be restricted to pre-designated access, contractor acquired access, or public roads.
APM BIO-2	The areal limits of construction activities would normally be predetermined, with activity restricted to and confined within those limits. No paint or permanent discoloring agents would be applied to rocks or vegetation to indicate survey or construction activity limits.
APM BIO-3	In construction areas where recontouring is not required, vegetation would be left in place wherever possible and original contour would be maintained to avoid excessive root damage and allow for regrowth.

Table C-1
Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs)

APM Number	Measure by Issue Area
APM BIO-4	<p>Prior to construction, all supervisory construction personnel would be instructed on the protection of cultural and ecological resources. To assist in this effort, the construction contract would address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal and state laws regarding antiquities and plants and wildlife, including collection and removal. • The importance of these resources and the purpose and necessity of protecting them.
APM BIO-5	<p>Mitigation measures that will be developed during the consultation period under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act will be adhered to as specified in the Biological Opinion of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.</p>
APM BIO-6	<p>Project boundary fencing will be constructed using chain link approximately 6 feet in height. The bottom of the chain link fencing will be elevated off the surface of the ground approximately 5-6 inches to allow for wildlife movement across the project site.</p>
APM BIO-7	<p>In construction areas where ground disturbance is significant or where recontouring is required, surface restoration would occur as required by the landowner or land management agency as part of decommissioning. The method of restoration would normally consist of returning disturbed areas back to their natural contour, reseeding, installing cross drains for erosion control, placing water bars in the road, and filling ditches.</p>
APM BIO-9	<p>Protocol surveys were completed for the entire Project Footprint, and additional preconstruction surveys will be completed within 30 days of ground disturbance for each construction area. Monitors will be present during construction activities.</p>
APM BIO-11	<p>The BNLL Protection Plan will be implemented at the site for construction activities.</p>
APM BIO-12	<p>Preserve Undisturbed Onsite Lands. Of the total project site area, the applicant will limit the total permanent disturbance area to 2,506 acres (1,888 acres of which will be permanently disturbed). Prior to the issuance of building or grading permits, the applicant will submit for the County's review and approval a site plan, building plan, or grading plan that delineates and calculates the total disturbance area for facilities proposed for that area of construction and will include a note on those plans that describes how these areas will be demarcated on the ground through the placement of appropriate staking, signage, or equally effective technique to ensure that construction is confined to the disturbance area. The applicant will implement on the ground demarcation of the disturbance area in accordance with the approved plan(s).</p>
APM BIO-13	<p>On-site Conservation Measures for Blunt-Nosed Leopard Lizard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is avoiding impacts by staying out of the floodplain and by buffering any BNLL sighting with a 52.4-acre area. • Provide for connectivity of these avoided areas, through the Valley Floor Conservation Land. • Project is also integrating a series of other avoidance measures by APM and MM to allow the applicant to construct and operate in a manner that will not result in take of individuals. • Restoration measures (soil stockpiling and revegetation efforts) will restore temporarily disturbed areas so they provide suitable areas for the species • The site will implement the BNLL Protection Plan that was included in the Biological Assessment and reviewed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service
APM BIO-14	<p>Off-site Conservation Measures for Blunt-Nosed Leopard Lizard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BNLL have been detected on the Mitigation Lands (Valley Floor Conservation Land and Silver Creek Ranch Conservation Land). These Mitigation Lands are included in the Project's Conservation Management Plan.

Table C-1
Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs)

APM Number	Measure by Issue Area
APM BIO-15	<p>On-site Conservation Measures for Giant Kangaroo Rat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is also integrating a series of avoidance and minimization measures by APM and MM to allow the applicant to construct and operate in a manner that will minimize to the extent practicable impacts to individuals (e.g., preconstruction surveys, translocation efforts, education program of workers, site restrictions on access and operations, etc.). • Project will utilize the Giant Kangaroo Rat Relocation Plan to relocate Giant Kangaroo Rat present on the site prior to the start of construction. • Restoration measures (soil stockpiling and revegetation efforts) will restore temporarily disturbed areas so they provide suitable areas for the species. • Occupancy sampling was used to determine changes in layout of the site. <p>This monitoring informed an adaptive management approach to site management.</p>
APM BIO-16	<p>Off-site Conservation Measures for Giant Kangaroo Rat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigate at a 3:1 ratio • Mitigate an additional 1:1 if after 5 years of monitoring the temporarily restored areas are found to no longer support the species. • Mitigation Lands, including Valley Floor Conservation Lands, Silver Creek Ranch Conservation Lands, and Valadeao Ranch Conservation Lands provide greater than the 3:1 ratio required assuming the project maintains residual value in the temporarily disturbed areas that are restored on the Project Site. • Monitoring of the site will permit an adaptive management program such as modifications of the grazing regime. • Off-site lands will be managed by a third-party selected in consultation with CDFW and USFWS.
APM BIO-17	<p>On-site Conservation Measures for San Joaquin Kit Fox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is also integrating a series of avoidance and minimization measures by APM and MM to allow the applicant to construct and operate in a manner that will minimize to the extent practicable impacts to individuals (e.g., preconstruction surveys, translocation efforts, education program of workers, site restrictions on access and operations, etc.). • Restoration measures (soil stockpiling and revegetation efforts) will restore temporarily disturbed areas so they provide suitable areas for the species • On-going monitoring based on the occupancy sampling will be used to determine changes in use of the site. • This monitoring will inform an adaptive management approach to site management such as modifications of the grazing regime
APM BIO-19	<p>Off-site Conservation Measures for San Joaquin Kit Fox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigate 3:1 for loss of habitat, with an additional 1:1 if after 5 years of monitoring the temporarily restored areas are found to no longer support the species. • Based on the Haight et al. (2002) spatial model, there are 1,010 acres of high suitability and 9,026 acres are of moderate suitability on the portions of Mitigation Lands. Therefore, the mitigation lands provide 10,036 acres of suitable habitat for the kit fox. The 10,036 acres that provide suitable habitat for kit fox on the Mitigation Lands results in a minimum of a 4.1:1 replacement ratio. In addition, a SJKF corridor has been created through the center of the Project Footprint to allow for movement of the species. • Monitoring of the site will permit an adaptive management program such as modifications of the grazing regime. • Off-site lands will be managed by a third-party selected in consultation with CDFW and USFWS.

Table C-1
Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs)

APM Number	Measure by Issue Area
APM BIO-20	<p>Employee Education Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Employee Education Program familiarizes Applicant employees and contractors with BMPs and other measures associated with protected species potentially on the project footprint and in the vicinity. This program is designed to ensure all personnel who work at the PVSF are aware of and can identify the species and the measures implemented to avoid individuals of this species. In addition, contact names and numbers are given to which personnel can report incidents regarding protected species. • An employee environmental program (awareness) will be administered to all new employees and to all other employees every 2 years. Upon completion of the program, the employees are given a badge or hardhat sticker that is required for admittance onto the PVSF. • Prior to beginning work at the PVSF, all new employees, contractors, and other personnel that work at the PVSF will complete an employee education program that includes a section on protected species awareness. Personnel must take the Employee Education Program administered test. Training included in the Employee Education Program pertains to protected species identification, species basic natural history, components of avoidance program, familiarity with pre-construction surveys and what they are and how they are administered, BMPs, and how to report incidents involving protected species. • The employee or contractor for the Applicant will be shown examples (i.e., pictures) of protected species and their burrows, or other sign. Basic natural history facts for the protected species will be included in information given to employees. All BMPs will be provided in easy to carry pamphlets for reference while working at the PVSF and mitigation lands. A review of the BMPs will be conducted for each employee and a test will be administered to verify that employees have a familiarity with the provisions in the BMPs.
APM BIO-21	<p>List of Best Management Practices. Refer to updated Supplemental EIR for a list of Best Management Practices. All employees and contractors will be made aware of the BMPs, and those BMPs that are pertinent to employee work conduct will be implemented. Applicable measures are listed below.</p>
APM BIO-22	<p>a) Prior to initiation of construction of a project area (i.e., any activity that results in surface disturbance), a qualified biologist shall conduct a BNLL education program (e.g., tailgate briefing) for all project personnel. Topics to be discussed during the briefing shall include: occurrence and distribution of BNLL in adjacent areas, take avoidance measures being implemented during the project, reporting requirements if an incident occurs, and applicable definitions and prohibitions under the Fish and Wildlife Code for fully protected species, and relevant provisions of the federal and state Endangered Species Act.</p>
APM BIO-24	<p>b) A biological monitor(s) shall be present while ground-disturbing activities are occurring. In addition to conducting preconstruction surveys, the biological monitors shall aid crews in satisfying take avoidance criteria for BNLL and implementing project mitigation measures.</p>
APM BIO-25	<p>c) Biological monitors are empowered to order cessation of activities if take avoidance and/or mitigation measures are violated and will notify the Applicant's environmental representative.</p>
APM BIO-27	<p>d) The Applicant shall appoint a representative who will be the contact source for any employee or contractor who inadvertently kills or injures a BNLL or who finds a dead, injured, or entrapped individual BNLL. The representative will be identified during the pre-performance educational briefing.</p>
APM BIO-28	<p>e) Any contractor, employee(s), or other personnel who inadvertently kills or injures a BNLL shall immediately report the incident to their representative. The representative shall contact the Applicant's environmental representative and, if feasible, a qualified biologist. The Applicant will contact CDFW immediately in the case of a dead, injured, or entrapped BNLL. The</p>

Table C-1
Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs)

APM Number	Measure by Issue Area
	CDFW contact for immediate assistance is State Dispatch at (916) 445-0045. State Dispatch will contact the local warden or biologist. The qualified biologist will also document all circumstances of death, injury or entrapment of BNLL. The biologist will 1) take all reasonable steps to enable the individual animal to escape should it be entrapped, 2) contact CDFW or other appropriate authorities to identify an approved rehabilitation center and appropriate capture and transport techniques should the covered animal be injured, and 3) document circumstances of death in writing and if possible photographing dead animal in situ prior to moving. Notification shall include the date, time, and location of the incident or of the finding of a dead or injured BNLL, and any other pertinent information. The USFWS contact for this information is the Endangered Species, Program Field Office, 2493 Portola Rd., Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003. The dead covered animal can be transported to California State University at Bakersfield or the Endangered Species Recovery Team in Bakersfield for storage and research if CDFW approves.
APM BIO-29	f) To prevent inadvertent entrapment of protected species, all open holes, steep-walled holes, or trenches more than 2 feet deep shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks (wooden planks should be no less than 10 inches in width and should reach to bottom of trench). Before such holes or trenches are filled, they should be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals.
APM BIO-30	g) All spills of hazardous materials shall be cleaned up immediately in accordance with the Spill Prevention Plan.
APM BIO-31	j) Pets are prohibited at the PVSF.
APM BIO-32	k) Firearms are prohibited at the PVSF.
APM BIO-33	l) All food-related trash, such as wrappers, cans, bottles, bags, and food scraps shall be disposed of daily in containers with secure covers and regularly removed from PVSF.
APM BIO-34	m) Use of rodenticides and herbicides in project areas is prohibited with the exception of those applied near buildings/critical facilities. Only agency approved compounds will be applied (if necessary) by licensed applicators in accordance with label directions and other restrictions mandated by US Environmental Protection Agency, County Agricultural Commissioner, regional label prescriptions on use, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and other State and Federal legislation.
APM BIO-35	n) All project-related vehicles shall observe a speed limit of 15 mph or less on all except as posted on State and County highway/roads.
APM BIO-36	m) Motorized vehicles are prohibited within occupied BNLL habitat. If not avoidable, that area will be considered temporarily disturbed and size will be limited in width to 25 feet (12.5 feet on either side of the centerline) and a biological monitor will be present. Due to the potential presence of BNLL on portions of Yturiarte Road, all vehicles and equipment would make a single trip down to the crossing location and a single trip back. During each trip a Biological Monitor or Designated Biologist will lead the vehicles and/or equipment by walking and surveying for BNLL (within the known buffered area only) to clear the roadway of BNLL.
APM BIO-37	p) Appropriate measures shall be undertaken to prevent unauthorized vehicle entry to off-road survey routes in sensitive habitat areas. Signing will be the preferred method to discourage use.
APM BIO-38	q) Project vehicles shall be confined to existing access routes or to specifically delineated areas (i.e., areas that have been surveyed). Otherwise, off-road vehicle travel is not permitted.
APM BIO-39	p) Upon completion of any project component, all areas that are significantly disturbed and not necessary for future operations shall be stabilized to resist erosion, and re-vegetated and re-

Table C-1
Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs)

APM Number	Measure by Issue Area
	contoured if necessary, to promote restoration of the area to pre-disturbance conditions.
Cultural Resources	
APM CR-1	<p>Prior to construction, all supervisory construction personnel would be instructed on the protection of any known or unknown cultural and paleontological resources. To assist in this effort, the construction contract would address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal and state laws that protect such resources and required procedures that must be follow for the collection and removal, including notification of the appropriate public agencies. • The importance of these resources and the purpose and necessity of protecting them.
Geology	
APM GEO-2	In order to avoid expansive clay and mitigate possibly disturbed surface soil, overexcavation of building and equipment pads will be considered as required by the geotechnical report.
Noise	
APM N-1	To comply with the County's noise standards, the Applicant shall prohibit the use of fuel operated generators running at 100 percent load within 350 feet of the property boundary between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Battery- operated generators, generators that tie into a temporary or permanent electrical power source, or fuel-operated generators dampened to a noise level measured at less than 40 dBA Ldn at the property line shall be permitted within 350 feet of the property boundary. No fuel-operated generators, dampened or otherwise, shall be permitted within 200 feet of the property boundary. The Applicant shall also prohibit pile driving and grading of the site during these hours. The Applicant will incorporate these restrictions into construction contracts and/or construction specifications.
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	
APM HAZ-1	Hazardous materials shall not be drained onto the ground or into streams or drainage areas. Totally enclosed containment shall be provided for all trash, as well as recyclable materials. All construction waste, including trash and litter, garbage, other solid waste, petroleum products, and other potentially hazardous materials, shall be removed to a disposal facility authorized to accept such materials.
APM HAZ-2	Prior to construction and mounting of the PV panels, each panel will be checked for cracks or other defects to avoid the possible exposure of toxic metals on the surface. The panels will be properly cleaned, if necessary, to prevent any potential contaminated water from contacting the ground or native vegetation.
APM HAZ-3	Sheep grazing under the panels will help to keep pasture growth controlled, as necessary.
APM HAZ-4	The applicant shall ensure that any animals grazing on the site during construction activity pursuant to a lease or other agreement shall be properly vaccinated in accordance with local custom and practice for San Benito County and Panoche Valley.
APM HAZ-6	Prior to energizing the project, the Applicant will install electrical safety signage on all solar arrays in the immediate vicinity of wiring and electrical equipment using weather-resistant and fade-proof materials as required by applicable electrical code. Warning signs will be designed to be evident to any person tampering with, working on, or dismantling project electrical system. Sign language shall comply with the requirements in applicable electrical codes.
APM HAZ-7	As documented in Section B.9 of the Project Description [EIR 2010], the Applicant proposes to decommission the site at the end of the useful life of the project. To address the situation where the applicant becomes insolvent or is otherwise unable to perform the decommissioning and to ensure that the County has sufficient resources to undertake or

Table C-1
Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs)

APM Number	Measure by Issue Area
	contract to undertake the decommissioning, the applicant will enter into an agreement with County prior to issuance of the first building or grading permit that provides sufficient financial security to ensure that funds will be available to cover the anticipated cost of recycling and disposal of panels and other infrastructure at the end of the project's useful life.
Population and Housing	
APM PH-1	At least thirty days prior to commencing construction, the Applicant will provide construction contractors with information, including general information on the facility, telephone numbers, addresses and contact information, on temporary housing opportunities in coordination with San Benito County and the San Benito County Chamber of Commerce. The information will be provided on a website, pamphlet, or other written material.
Public Services and Facilities	
APM PSU-1	If damaged or destroyed by construction activities, fences and gates would be repaired or replaced to their original pre-disturbed condition as required by the applicable landowner or the land management agency.
APM PSU-2	During operation of the solar farm, the project site would be maintained free of trash.
APM PSU-3	During construction and operation of the solar farm, all disposable materials that are considered recyclable shall be separated and properly recycled or reused in compliance with federal, State, and local law or disposed of as required by a facility authorized to accept such materials.
APM PSU-4	Hazardous materials shall not be drained onto the ground or into streams or drainage areas. Totally enclosed containment shall be provided for all trash, as well as recyclable materials containers. All construction waste, including trash and litter, garbage, other solid waste, petroleum products, and other potentially hazardous materials, shall be removed to a disposal facility authorized to accept such materials.
Water Resources	
APM WR-1	If they are damaged or destroyed by construction activities, water facilities (i.e., physical damage to equipment or infrastructure) would be repaired or replaced to their pre-disturbed condition as required by the landowner or land management agency.
APM WR-2	In construction areas where ground disturbance is significant or where recontouring is required, surface restoration would occur as required by the landowner or land management agency as part of project decommissioning. The method of restoration would normally consist of returning disturbed areas back to their natural contour, reseeding, installing cross drains for erosion control, placing water bars in the road, and filling ditches.
APM WR-3	Roads would be built as near as possible to right angles to the streams and washes or as required by project permits. Culverts would be installed where necessary. All construction and maintenance activities shall be conducted in a manner that would minimize disturbance to vegetation, drainage channels, and intermittent or perennial stream banks. In addition, road construction would include dust-control measures during construction in sensitive areas. All existing roads would be left in a condition equal to or better than their condition prior to the construction of the solar farm.
APM WR-4	The Applicant would limit the panel washing to two washings per year during project operation. Should this estimate need to be revised once the project is fully operational depending on soil/dust conditions, the Applicant would consult with the County and obtain the requisite approvals prior to any modifications to this schedule.

**Table C-2
Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan**

Mitigation No.	Measure by Issue Area
General	
EM-1	<p>Provide funding for environmental monitoring. Prior to issuance of building or grading permits, whichever occurs first, the Applicant shall provide funding for the County of San Benito to ensure monitoring for all measures requiring environmental mitigation. The goal of the mitigation monitoring program is to ensure compliance with County Conditions of Approval and EIR mitigation measures. Monitoring will be carried out during all applicable construction, operational, and decommissioning stages of the project.</p> <p>A mitigation monitoring plan shall be developed that includes the County-approved environmental mitigation measures and any other conditions of approval. This plan shall include (1) goals, responsibilities, authorities, and procedures for verifying compliance with environmental mitigations; (2) lines of communication and reporting methods; (3) daily and weekly reporting of compliance; (4) construction crew training regarding environmental sensitivities; (5) authority to stop work; and (6) action to be taken in the event of noncompliance. The mitigation monitoring plan shall also include a post-construction program to monitor construction measures that extend beyond the construction period and mitigation measures required during the operational phase. The plan shall also include the decommissioning phase of the project.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also be responsible for funding work necessitated by mitigation measures that requires use of individuals with special expertise (e.g., botanist, wildlife biologist).</p>
EM-2	<p>Provide documentation for monitoring. To guarantee the success of the overall environmental monitoring program defined in Mitigation Measure EM-1, the Applicant shall retain a qualified individual to verify that all adopted measures have been successfully implemented. The Applicant shall prepare monitoring reports, on an annual basis, for each calendar year in which construction occurs. The first report shall be submitted to the County one year after the initiation of construction, and thereafter on an annual basis until the monitor, in consultation with the County, has determined that all measures have been successfully established. The Applicant, and successors-in-interest, shall agree to complete any necessary remedial measures identified in the report(s) to maintain compliance with all adopted mitigation measures.</p>
Aesthetics	
AE-1.1	<p>Reduce night lighting impacts. The Applicant shall design and install all temporary construction and decommissioning lighting and permanent exterior lighting according to the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamps and reflectors are not visible from beyond the proposed project site, including any off-site security buffer areas. • Lighting does not cause excessive reflected glare. • Direct lighting does not illuminate the nighttime sky. • Illumination of the proposed project and its immediate vicinity is minimized. • The proposed project lighting mitigation plan complies with local policies and ordinances (for Class 2 in Zone 3 see County Ordinance 19.31.006 and 19.31.009). <p>The Applicant shall submit to San Benito County for review and approval a lighting mitigation plan that includes the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location and direction of light fixtures that take the lighting mitigation requirements into account. • Lighting design that considers setbacks of proposed project features from the proposed project site boundary to aid in satisfying the lighting mitigation requirements.

**Table C-2
Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan**

Mitigation No.	Measure by Issue Area
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting that incorporates fixture hoods/shielding, with light directed downward or toward the area to be illuminated. • Light fixtures that have cutoff angles sufficient to prevent lamps and reflectors from being visible beyond the proposed project boundary, except where necessary for security. • Lights not occupied on a continuous basis that have (in addition to hoods) switches, timer switches, or motion detectors so that the lights operate only when the area is occupied.
	<p>At least 60 days prior to installation of any permanent exterior lighting or temporary construction/decommissioning lighting, the Applicant shall contact San Benito County to discuss the documentation required in the lighting mitigation plan. At least 30 days prior to installation of any permanent exterior lighting, the Applicant shall submit to San Benito County for review and approval the lighting mitigation plan. If the County determines that the plan requires revision, the proposed project owner shall provide to San Benito County a revised plan for review and approval. The proposed project owner shall not order any exterior lighting until receiving County approval of the lighting mitigation plan.</p> <p>Prior to commercial operation, the Applicant shall notify San Benito County when the operational lighting installation has been completed and is ready for inspection. If, after inspection, the County notifies the Applicant that modifications to the lighting are needed, within 30 days of receiving that notification the Applicant shall implement the modifications and notify the County that they have been completed and are ready for inspection.</p> <p>Within 48 hours of receiving a lighting complaint, the Applicant shall provide San Benito County with either (1) a complaint resolution proposal to resolve the complaint and a schedule for its implementation, or (2) written confirmation that lighting is in compliance with the lighting plan and the building permit. The proposed project owner shall notify the County within 48 hours of implementing a resolution. A complaint resolution report shall be submitted to County within 30 days thereafter.</p>
BR-G.3	<p>Develop and implement a Habitat Restoration and Revegetation Plan. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Biological Resources.</p>
AE-3.1	<p>Treat surfaces of project structures and buildings. The Applicant shall treat the surfaces of all project structures and buildings visible to the public such that (1) their colors minimize visual intrusion and contrast by blending with the existing colors of the surrounding landscape, (2) their colors and finishes do not create excessive glare, and (3) their colors and finishes are consistent with local policies and ordinances.</p> <p>Following in-field consultation with San Benito County Planning & Building staff and other representatives as deemed necessary, the proposed project owner shall submit for County review and approval, a specific Surface Treatment Plan that will satisfy these requirements. The treatment plan shall include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A description of the overall rationale for the proposed surface treatment, including the selection of the proposed color(s) and finish(es). • A list of each major project structure, building, tank, pipe, wall, and fencing, specifying the color(s) and finish(es) proposed for each. Colors must be identified by vendor, name, and number, or according to a universal designation system. • One set of color brochures or color chips showing each proposed color and finish. • A specific schedule for completion of the treatment. • A procedure to ensure proper treatment maintenance for the life of the project. <p>Develop Treatment Plan. At least 60 days prior to physical construction specifying to the vendor the colors and finishes of the first structures or buildings that are surface treated</p>

**Table C-2
Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan**

Mitigation No.	Measure by Issue Area
	<p>during manufacture, the Applicant shall submit the proposed treatment plan to the County for review and approval. If the County determines that the plan requires revision, the proposed project owner shall provide to the County a plan with the specified revision(s) for review and approval before any treatment is applied. Any modifications to the treatment plan must be submitted the County for review and approval.</p> <p>The Applicant shall not specify to the vendors the treatment of any buildings or structures to be treated during manufacturing and shall not perform the final treatment on any buildings or structures in the field until the Applicant receives notification of approval of the treatment plan by the County. Subsequent modifications to the approved treatment plan shall be prohibited without the County's approval.</p> <p>Report to the County. Prior to the start of commercial operation, the Applicant shall notify the County that surface treatment of all listed structures and buildings has been completed, and that they are ready for inspection. The Applicant shall submit to the County one set of electronic color photographs from the same KVPs used for project analysis. The Applicant shall provide a status report regarding surface treatment maintenance in the Annual Compliance Report. The report shall specify (1) the condition of the surfaces of all structures and buildings at the end of the reporting year, (2) maintenance activities that occurred during the reporting year, and (3) the schedule of maintenance activities for the next year.</p>
Agriculture	
BR-G.3	Development and implementation of a Habitat Restoration and Revegetation Plan. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Biological Resources.
BR-I.2	Develop and implement a Grazing Plan for the project site. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Biological Resources.
BR-G.5	Create permanent conservation easements as compensation for impacts to biological resources. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Biological Resources.
BR-G.6	Develop and implement Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan for mitigation lands. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Biological Resources.
AG-2.1	<p>Create agricultural conservation easement(s). Prior to the issuance of building permits, the Applicant shall pay for the creation of either (a) 4,563-acre conservation easement(s) on grazing land, or (b) 285-acre conservation easement(s) on high quality cropland in the San Juan Valley. The 285 acres in (b) shall be classified as Prime Farmland by the Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. Conservation easement(s) or adequate funds to create them shall be given to a qualified agricultural land trust, as determined by the Department of Planning and Building. The qualified agricultural land trust must: (1) Have adopted the Land Trust Alliance's Standards and Practices; (2) Have substantial experience creating and stewarding agricultural conservation easements; (3) Have a stewardship endowment to help pay for its perpetual stewardship obligations. Preference shall be given to a local agricultural land trust if it meets these standards.</p> <p>Fees shall also be provided to cover (1) administrative costs incurred in the creation of the conservation easement(s) and (2) a contribution to the land trust's stewardship endowment to pay for the long-term cost of monitoring and enforcing the terms of the conservation easement(s) in perpetuity. The total amount of these fees shall be determined by the qualified land trust in consultation with the County.</p> <p>Either notice that conservation easement(s) have been recorded or proof that funds to</p>

**Table C-2
Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan**

Mitigation No.	Measure by Issue Area
	acquire them have been received by the agricultural land trust shall be filed with the Department of Planning Building prior to the issuance of building permits. When conservation easement(s) are recorded, a “notice of conservation easement” shall also be filed with the County Recorder. Annual monitoring reports for the conservation easement(s) created shall also be provided to the County by the land trust.
LU-1.1	Establish construction liaison. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Land Use and Recreation.
LU-1.2	Provide advance notification of construction. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Land Use and Recreation.
LU-1.3	Provide quarterly construction updates. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Land Use and Recreation.
AQ-1.1	Reduce fugitive dust. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Air Quality.
BR-1.1	Prepare and implement a Weed Control Plan. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Biological Resources.
BR-1.2	Develop and implement a Grazing Plan for the project site. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Biological Resources.
BR-G.5	Create permanent conservation easements as compensation for impacts to biological resources. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Biological Resources.
WR-1.1	Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting Plan. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Water Resources.
WR-1.2	Aquifer Testing and Well Interference Analysis. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Water Resources.
WR-6.1	Accidental spill control and environmental training. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Water Resources.
WR-6.2	Store fuels and hazardous materials away from sensitive water resources. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Water Resources.
WR-6.3	Maintain vehicles and equipment. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Water Resources.
Air Quality	
AQ-1.1	<p>Reduce fugitive dust. The Applicant shall implement the following measures to minimize nuisance impacts and to significantly reduce fugitive dust emissions, and the Applicant shall require all of the following measures to be shown on grading and building plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit grading to 50 acres per day, and grading and excavation to 2.2 acres per day; • Water graded/excavated areas and active unpaved roadways, unpaved staging areas, and unpaved parking areas at least three times daily or apply non-toxic chemical soil stabilization materials per manufacturer’s recommendations. Frequency should be based on the type of operations, soil and wind exposure; • Prohibit all grading activities during periods of high wind (sustained over 15 mph); • Apply chemical soil stabilizers on inactive construction areas (disturbed lands within construction projects that are unused for at least four consecutive days); • Apply non-toxic binders (e.g., latex acrylic copolymer) or water to exposed areas

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	<p>after cut and fill operations, and hydro-seed area;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant vegetative ground cover compliant with County-approved Landscape Plan in disturbed areas as soon as possible; • Cover, enclose, or apply soil stabilizers to inactive storage piles or water three times daily; • Install wheel washers at the entrance to construction sites for all exiting trucks; Track outs will be a minimum of 100 feet long or twice the length of the longest vehicle entering the site. Track out pads will be a combination of corrugated steel “rumble plates” at exits of track out pads and 6 inches thick of class 150 (4” minimum diameter) stone preceding rumble pads. Rumble pads and track out stone will be maintained and cleaned as necessary to remove any deposited materials. Vehicles entering and exiting the site will be free of excessive dirt and debris and will be cleaned as necessary to satisfy fugitive dust control requirements. All on site construction equipment will be required to be washed prior to delivery to the site and washed (utilizing high pressure washers) prior to demobilizing. Construction traffic on site and between sections of the site will utilize track out devices prior to crossing paved roads. Delivery vehicles (over road tractor trailers, concrete and aggregate trucks, and all other delivery vehicles) will be required to travel on established roadways and utilize established lay down areas at the Project site. Vehicle traffic for employees will travel to established parking areas and enter and exit over the track out devices as previously described. Trackout devices will be regularly maintained and all construction equipment entering the site will be inspected and any equipment observed not to have been washed will not be permitted to enter the Project site. • Use street sweepers, water trucks, or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible; • All dirt stock pile areas shall be sprayed daily as needed; • Permanent dust control measures identified in the approved project revegetation and landscape plans shall be implemented as soon as possible following completion of any soil disturbing activities; • Exposed ground areas that are planned to be reworked at dates greater than one month after initial grading shall be sown with a fast germinating, non-invasive grass seed and watered until vegetation is established. Unless restricted in the biological resources mitigation measures, alternative methods for soil stabilization may be implemented, including but not limited to use of water to establish a crust, chemical stabilizers, and straw mulching; • All disturbed soil areas not subject to revegetation shall be stabilized using approved chemical soil binders, jute netting, or gravel for temporary roads and any other methods approved in advance by the Monterey Bay Unified APCD; • Gravel shall be placed on all roadways and driveways as soon as possible after grading for said roadways. In addition, building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding, soil binders, or frequent water application are used; • Vehicle speed for all construction vehicles shall not exceed 15 mph on any unpaved surface at the construction site; • All trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials shall be covered or shall maintain at least 2 feet of freeboard (minimum vertical distance between top of load and top of trailer) in accordance with California Vehicle Code Section 23114; • Unpaved road travel shall be limited to the extent possible, for example, by limiting the travel to and from unpaved areas, by coordinating movement between work

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AQ-I.2	<p>areas rather than to central staging areas, and by busing workers where feasible;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install wheel washers where vehicles enter and exit unpaved roads onto streets, or wash off trucks and equipment leaving the site, and inspect vehicle tires to ensure free of soil prior to carry-out to paved roadways. Alternatively, use track outs as defined above; and • Sweep streets at the end of each day, or as needed, if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent paved roads. Water sweepers with reclaimed water shall be used where feasible. <p>Designate a dust complaint monitor. The Applicant shall require the contractor(s) or builder(s) to designate a person or persons to monitor the fugitive dust emissions and enhance the implementation of the measures as necessary to minimize dust complaints, reduce visible emissions below 20 percent opacity, and to prevent transport of dust off-site. Their duties shall include monitoring during holidays and weekend periods only when work is in progress. The name and telephone number of such persons shall be provided to the Monterey Bay Unified APCD Compliance Division prior to the start of any grading, earthwork, or demolition. The Applicant shall provide and post a publicly visible sign that specifies the telephone number and name to contact regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond to complaints and take corrective action within 48 hours. The phone number of the Monterey Bay Unified APCD shall also be visible to ensure compliance with Rule 402 (Nuisance).</p>
Biological Resources	
BR-G.1	<p>Implement a Worker Environmental Education Program. Prior to any project activities on the site (i.e., surveying, mobilization, fencing, grading, or construction), a Worker Environmental Education Program (WEEP) shall be implemented by a qualified biologist or qualified biologists. Both the biologist(s) and the WEEP shall be subject to County approval. The WEEP shall be put into action prior to the beginning of any project activities and implemented throughout the duration of project construction. The WEEP shall include, at a minimum, the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training materials and briefings shall include but not be limited to: a discussion of the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; the consequences of non-compliance with these acts; identification and values of plant and wildlife species and significant natural plant community habitats; a contact person and phone number in the event of the discovery of dead or injured wildlife; and a review of mitigation requirements. • A discussion of hazardous substance spill prevention and containment measures. • A discussion of measures to be implemented for avoidance of the sensitive resources discussed above and the identification of an on-site contact on in the event of the discovery of sensitive species on the site. This will include a discussion on microtrash and its potential harmful effects on California condors. • Protocols to be followed when road kill is encountered in the work area or along access roads to minimize potential for additional mortality of scavengers and the identification of an on-site representative to whom the road kill will be reported. Road kill shall be reported to the appropriate local animal control agency within 24 hours. • Maps showing the known locations of special-status wildlife, populations of rare plants and sensitive vegetative communities, seasonal depressions and known waterbodies, wetland habitat, exclusion areas, and other construction limitations (e.g., limited operating periods). These features shall be included on the projects plans and specifications drawings.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature and photographs or illustrations of potentially occurring special-status plant and/or wildlife species will be provided to all project contractors and heavy equipment operators. • The Applicant shall provide to the County of San Benito evidence that all on-site construction and security personnel have completed the WEEP prior to the start of site mobilization. A special hardhat sticker or wallet size card shall be issued to all personnel completing the training which shall be carried with the trained personnel at all times while on the project site. All new personnel shall receive this training and may work in the field for no more than five days without participating in the WEEP. A log of all personnel who have completed the WEEP training shall be kept on site. • A weather protected bulletin board or binder shall be centrally placed or kept on site (e.g., in the break room, construction foreman’s vehicle, construction trailer) for the duration of the construction. This board or binder will provide key provisions of regulations or project conditions as they relate to biological resources or as they apply to grading activities. This information shall be easily accessible for personnel in all active work areas. • Develop a stand-alone version of the WEEP, that covers all previously discussed items above, and that can be used as a reference for maintenance personnel during project operations. <p>Milestones: WEEP will be prepared prior to the issuance of a building permit or site mobilization whichever occurs first. The WEEP will be approved by the County and implemented for the duration of construction activities.</p> <p>Monitoring: An environmental monitor will be retained during construction of the project and will be directly involved with the implementation and enforcement of the WEEP. A log of all personnel who have completed the WEEP training shall be kept on site.</p>
BR-G.2	<p>Implement Best Management Practices (BMPs). BMPs shall be implemented as standard operating procedures during all ground disturbance and construction-related activities to avoid or minimize project impacts on biological resources. These BMPs shall include but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with BMPs will be documented and provided to the County in a written report on an annual basis. The report shall include a summary of the construction activities completed, a review of the sensitive plants and wildlife encountered, a list of compliance actions and any remedial actions taken to correct the actions, and the status of ongoing mitigation efforts. • Prior to ground disturbance of any kind the project work areas shall be clearly delineated by stakes, flags, or other clearly identifiable system. • Vehicles and equipment shall be parked on pavement, existing roads, and previously disturbed areas to the extent practicable. • Speed limit signs, imposing a daytime speed limit of 15 miles per hour, will be installed throughout the project site prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction. A night-time speed limit of 10 mph will be adhered to on the Project site, and will not exceed 25 mph on public roads in the vicinity of the Project site. If a SJKF den is located near a project road, speed will be reduced to 10 mph and the den will not be blocked or excavated. To minimize disturbance of areas outside of the construction zone, all project-related vehicle traffic shall be restricted to defined access routes that will be staked and/or flagged, construction areas, and other designated areas. These areas will be included in preconstruction surveys and to the extent possible, should be established in locations disturbed by previous

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	<p>activities to prevent further impacts. Off-road traffic outside of designated project areas will be prohibited. All Project-related flagging shall be collected and removed after completion of the Project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No vehicles or equipment shall be refueled within 100 feet of an ephemeral drainage or wetland unless a bermed and lined refueling area is constructed. Spill kits shall be maintained on site in sufficient quantity to accommodate at least three complete vehicle tank failures of 50 gallons each. Any vehicles driven and/or operated within or adjacent to drainages or wetlands shall be checked and maintained daily to prevent leaks of materials. • All general trash, food-related trash items (e.g., wrappers, cans, bottles, food scraps, cigarettes), microtrash (i.e., broken glass, paper and plastic waste, small pieces of metal), and other human-generated debris will be stored in animal proof containers and/or removed from the site each day. No deliberate feeding of wildlife will be allowed. • Development on the main project site will maintain existing hydrologic patterns with respect to runoff supporting seasonal wetlands, vernal pools and ephemeral drainages. • All pipes and culverts with a diameter of greater than one inch shall be capped or taped closed. Prior to capping or taping the pipe/culvert shall be inspected for the presence of wildlife. In the event a pipe is inadvertently left open, the pipe will be inspected prior to moving. If encountered the wildlife shall be allowed to escape unimpeded. • No firearms will be allowed on the project site, unless otherwise approved for security personnel. • To prevent harassment or mortality of listed, special-status species and common wildlife, or destruction of their habitats, no domesticated animals of any kind shall be permitted in any project area with the exception of grazing animals such as cattle, goats, or sheep that are being used for vegetation management on the site, trained working animals used specifically for livestock management or species surveys (e.g., horses, livestock working dogs, and scent detection dogs). Livestock and scent detection dogs shall be immunized against rabies, parvovirus, and distemper. • Use of chemicals, fuels, lubricants, or biocides will be in compliance with all local, state and federal regulations. All uses of such compounds shall observe label and other restrictions mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and other state and federal legislation, as well as additional project-related restrictions deemed necessary by the USFWS and CDFW. If rodent control must be conducted the use shall be restricted to interiors of building and zinc phosphide shall be used because of lower risk of poisoning San Joaquin kit fox and American badgers. • Any contractor or employee that inadvertently kills or injures a threatened or endangered, or other legally protected, animal, or finds one either dead, injured, or entrapped, will immediately report the incident to the on-site biological monitor or to the representative identified in the WEEP. The biological monitor or representative will contact the USFWS, CDFW, and County by telephone or email by the end of the day, or at the beginning of the next working day if the agency office is closed. In addition, formal notification shall be provided in writing within five working days of the incident or finding. Notification will include the date, time, location and circumstances of the incident. Any threatened or endangered species found dead or injured will be handled consistent with any direction provided by

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	<p>USFWS or CDFW.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the site disturbance and/or construction phase, ground disturbing activities (including, but not limited to grading, pile driving, trenching) before dawn and after dusk, are prohibited. Other construction work and standard operations and maintenance activities would be limited to daytime hours of generally between 5 am to 9 pm based on sunrise and sunset times. • Minimize vegetation removal within active construction areas. This will include flagging of sensitive vegetative communities or plants. • Only project features that impact state and federal jurisdictional waters, as measured from the top-of-bank on both sides of these features, will be permitted through approval of a USACE 404 permit and/or Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) from CDFW. Project access roads shall be designed to reach all portions of the project without direct effect on washes, except as described and allowed by the USACE 404 permit and approved LSAA and/or where this provision conflicts with the San Benito County Fire Code. No bridges shall be installed over washes unless required by the San Benito County Fire Code or the agency responsible for providing fire protection services to the and/or as allowed by the USACE 404 permit and approved LSAA. Driving across washes shall be prohibited except for emergency ingress and egress and as required by the agency responsible for providing fire protection services to the and/or as allowed by the USACE 404 permit and approved LSAA. • All excavation, steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of 2 feet in depth shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth dirt fill or wooden planks (wooden planks should be no less than 10 inches in width and should reach the bottom of the trench, and placed at an appropriate angle to allow SJKF to exit). Trenches shall also be inspected for entrapped wildlife each morning prior to onset of construction activities and immediately prior to covering with plywood at the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for entrapped wildlife. Any wildlife discovered will be allowed to escape before construction activities are allowed to resume, or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist holding the appropriate permits (if required). • Project personnel shall monitor all areas within 0.25 miles around the solar arrays (in accessible areas) on a regular basis (i.e., several times per week) for any dead animals, including wild animals or grazing animals such as cattle, goats, or sheep that are being used for vegetation management on the site. Any animals found dead will be removed immediately. • New light sources will be minimized, and lighting will be designed (e.g., using downcast lights) to limit the lighted area to the minimum necessary. • Construction materials will not be stacked in a manner that allows encourages SJKF to establish den sites within the material. • Use of rodenticides and herbicides in areas affected by the Project will be restricted to use within the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Control Plan. Herbicides used for noxious weed control would be applied in accordance with BLM-approved procedures and other federal and state regulations. Applications will be applied by licensed applicators in accordance with label directions and other restrictions mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, County Agricultural Commissioner, regional label prescriptions on use, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and other state and federal legislation.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to herbicide application on public lands, operators will obtain a pesticide use permit from the BLM. <p>Milestones: The Applicant shall submit a written report to the County and BLM on an annual basis for review.</p> <p>Monitoring: Environmental monitor shall monitor for compliance with proposed BMPs.</p>
BR-G.3	<p>Develop and implement a Habitat Restoration and Revegetation Plan. The Applicant shall restore disturbed areas to pre-construction conditions or better. Prior to the issuance of a building permit and removal of any soil or vegetation, the Applicant shall retain a County-approved, qualified biologist, knowledgeable in the area of annual grassland habitat restoration, to prepare a Habitat Restoration and Revegetation Plan (HRRP). The biologist would also be responsible for monitoring the initial implementation of the plan as the Applicant’s attainment of the established success criteria.</p> <p>The purpose of the HRRP will be to explicitly identify the process by which all disturbed areas shall be restored to at least pre-construction conditions. The plan will address restoration and revegetation related to disturbance from construction. It will also address restoration and revegetation required after decommissioning of the project. The plan shall include, at a minimum, the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Figures depicting areas proposed for disturbance – The HRRP shall include detailed figures indicating the locations of areas proposed for temporary and long-term disturbance. These figures shall be updated, as necessary, to reflect current site conditions should they change. <p>Soil Restoration Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A soil baseline study shall be conducted before ground-disturbing activities at the proposed project site. The County may determine that the geotechnical survey conducted for the EIR may satisfy this requirement. • Locations and details for topsoil salvage and storage – The HRRP shall identify areas within the construction footprint where topsoil is present and can be salvaged and stockpiled for replacement during revegetation activities. <p>Where topsoil is present, but is wholly dominated by invasive non-native species or other noxious plant species it will not be used in revegetation because the non-native seed bank would outweigh any benefit for revegetation the soil may have. Areas characterized as California Annual Grassland will require topsoil salvage, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between three and twelve inches of topsoil shall be salvaged from where it must be temporarily removed. • Topsoil shall not be mixed or stored with spoil material. The length of time topsoil is stored shall not exceed two years. • For disturbed areas where topsoil was removed, redistribution shall begin immediately after re-grading, weather permitting, and depths shall vary between three and 12 inches depending on the depth of topsoil stripped. • Replaced topsoil shall be left in a roughened condition to discourage erosion. Additional erosion control and soil stabilization may be required on steeper slopes, on topsoil susceptible to wind erosion, etc. • If compaction, rutting, or crushing occurs prior to seeding, the replaced topsoil shall be worked with a harrow, disc, spring, tooth, chisel plow, or similar implement. Fertilization shall not be utilized. • Where electrical cables are buried, trenching shall occur in the proposed aisles between panel rows, and trenched areas shall be refilled as cables are buried and topsoil shall be replaced.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After closure and decommissioning: (1) Structures and facilities shall be removed to a depth of 3 feet; (2) Graded areas shall be returned to original contours; and (3) As appropriate, highly-disturbed soils shall be supplemented with certified weed-free mulch.
	<p>Plant Restoration and Revegetation Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed species for restoration/revegetation – The species palette proposed for restoration/revegetation shall include a combination of native and non-native (based on current species composition in the restoration/revegetation areas) annual grasses and annual herbaceous species known to occur in the area. Due to the large nonnative annual grass component currently present within most project area the intent of the HRRP is to introduce as many native species as possible recognizing that the colonization of the site by non-native annual grasses is likely. • Seed source and collection guidelines – If possible, seeds from stock within the Panoche Valley or from within a 25-mile radius will be collected to maintain local genetic integrity. If seed collection from these areas is not possible then a seed source must be obtained from a local seed supplier familiar with native species. Seed will be limited to the species and quantity specified in the seed mix palette prepared for the project. All seed will originate from the project region, within +/- 1000 feet elevation of the Project site. The seed supplier chosen will provide a list of three references with the bid proposal. The references will include year, contact names, and telephone numbers. Seeds will be tested for percent purity, percent germination, number of pure live seeds per pound, and weed seed content. Seed testing will be the responsibility of the seed supplier. • Planting methodology – A description of the preferred methods proposed for seeding shall be provided (e.g., hydroseeding, drill seeding, broadcast seeding). Additionally, a discussion on timing of seeding, type of irrigation system proposed, potential need of irrigation, type and duration of irrigation, and erosion controls proposed for revegetation activities shall be included. • Invasive, non-native vegetation control – A comprehensive Weed Control Plan will be developed for the project and is detailed below under Impact BR-2. The Weed Control Plan will serve to prevent the type conversion of natural habitats to those dominated by invasive species.
	<p>Monitoring Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring program – Areas subject to restoration/revegetation shall be monitored to assess conditions and to make recommendations for successful habitat establishment. Monitoring will be performed by County-approved, qualified biologist(s) knowledgeable in the area of annual grassland habitat restoration. Monitoring should include, at the minimum, following: • Qualitative Monitoring – Qualitative monitoring surveys will be performed monthly in all restored/revegetated areas for the first year following planting in any phase of the project. Qualitative monitoring will be on a quarterly schedule thereafter, until final completion approval of each restoration/revegetation area. Qualitative surveys will assess native plant species performance, including growth and survival, germination success, reproduction, plant fitness and health as well as pest or invasive plant problems. A County-approved, qualified wildlife biologist will assist in monitoring surveys and will actively search for mammal and other wildlife use. <p>Monitoring at this stage will indicate need for remediation or maintenance work well in advance of final success/failure determination. The monitoring reports will describe site progress and conditions and list all observations pertinent to eventual</p>

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	<p>success, and make recommendations as appropriate reg. remedial work, maintenance, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantitative Monitoring – Quantitative monitoring will occur annually for years one to five or until the success criteria are met. <p>Within each revegetation area, as shown figures referenced above, the biologist will collect data in a series of one-square-meter quadrants to estimate cover and density of each plant species within the revegetated areas. Data will be used to measure native species growth performance, to estimate native and non-native species coverage, seed mix germination, native species recruitment and reproduction, and species diversity. Based on these results, the biologist will make recommendations for maintenance or remedial work on the site and for adjustments to the approved seed mix.</p> <p>Where topsoil is replaced, a County-approved, qualified soil expert shall assess soil conditions after restoration is complete to ensure that Grade One agricultural soils are returned to their pre-construction condition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Success criteria – Criteria for successful restoration/revegetation of temporarily disturbed areas shall be percent cover equal to that of preconstruction levels or better. This percentage shall include no more than a 10 percent non-native component, with the exception of intentionally/or naturally seeded non-native grasses that occurred in the area prior to site disturbance. • Reporting – Reporting will include progress reports summarizing site status and recommended remedial measures that will be submitted by the biologist to the County quarterly, with the exception of the site visits immediately preceding the development of each annual status report (see below). Each progress report will list estimated species coverage and diversity, species health and overall vigor, the establishment of volunteer native species, topographical/soils conditions, problem weed species, the use of the site by wildlife species, significant drought stress, and any recommended remedial measures deemed necessary to ensure compliance with specified performance criteria. <p>One annual site status report that summarizes site conditions will be forwarded by the biologist to the County at the end of each year following implementation of this plan. Each annual report will list species coverage and diversity measured during yearly quantitative surveys, compliance/non-compliance with required performance standards, species health and overall vigor, the establishment of volunteer native species, hydrological and topographical conditions, the use of the site by wildlife species, and the presence of invasive weed species. In the event of substantial noncompliance with the required performance criteria, the reports will include remedial measures deemed necessary to ensure future compliance with specified performance criteria. Each annual report will include, at the minimum:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The name, title, and company of all persons involved in restoration monitoring and report preparation 2. Maps or aerials showing restoration areas, transect locations, and photo documentation locations 3. An explanation of the methods used to perform the work, including the number of acres treated for removal of non-native plants 4. An assessment of the treatment success. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Final Closure Plan - The HRRP shall also include a Final Closure Plan, which shall address the final infrastructure removal, restoration, and revegetation activities upon closure and decommissioning of the project. The Final Closure Plan shall

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	<p>include a cost estimate, adjusted for inflation, reflecting the costs of restoration, revegetation, and monitoring for the duration of time expected to fully restore impacted soil and vegetation communities impacted by the project. At least one year prior to planned closure and decommissioning the Applicant shall submit to the County an updated Final Closure Plan for review to determine if revisions are needed. The Applicant shall incorporate all required revisions and re-submit the Final Closure Plan to the County 90 days prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities associated with closure and decommissioning activities.</p> <p>Milestones: County approval of Habitat Restoration and Revegetation Plan prior to the issuance of a building permit and a review of plan compliance prior to the final project inspection. County approval of Final Closure Plan shall be required prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities associated with closure and decommissioning activities.</p> <p>Monitoring: An on-site environmental monitor shall be retained to ensure the compliance with measures set forth in the Habitat Restoration and Revegetation Plan.</p>
BR-G.4	<p>Implement biological monitoring of construction activities. Prior to the commencement of ground disturbance or site mobilization activities, the Applicant shall retain County-approved, qualified biologist(s) with demonstrated expertise with listed and/or special-status plants, terrestrial mammals and reptiles to monitor all construction activities on a daily basis. The qualified biologist(s) shall be present at all times during ground-disturbing activities immediately adjacent to, or within, habitat that supports populations of the listed or special-status species identified in Section C.6 of this EIR. Any listed or special-status plants shall be flagged for avoidance. Any special-status terrestrial species found within a project impact area shall be relocated by the authorized biologist and relocated to suitable habitat outside the impact area. If the installation of exclusion fencing is deemed necessary by the authorized biologist, the authorized biologist shall direct the installation of the fence. Fencing shall be long-lasting and UV-stable and shall be maintained and repaired as directed by biological monitor(s). Clearance surveys for special-status species shall be conducted by the authorized biologist prior to the initiation of construction each day.</p> <p>If, during construction, the biological monitor observes a dead or injured threatened or endangered wildlife species on the construction site, the monitor shall contact the USFWS, CDFW and County by the end of the day, or at the beginning of the next working day if the agency office is closed and, a written report shall be sent to the County of San Benito, CDFW and/or USFWS within five calendar days. The report will include the date, time of the finding or incident (if known), and location of the carcass and circumstances of its death (if known). The biological monitor shall, immediately upon finding the remains, coordinate with the on-site construction foreman to discuss the events that caused the mortality, if known, and implement measures to prevent future incidents. Details of these measures shall be included with the report. Species remains shall be collected and frozen as soon as possible, and CDFW and/or USFWS shall be contacted regarding ultimate disposal of the remains.</p> <p>Milestones: Monitoring shall occur from the first day of work through the duration of construction activities.</p> <p>Monitoring: Environmental monitor will assist on-site biological monitor(s).</p>
BR-G.5	<p>Purchase credits from a CDFW-approved mitigation bank, create a permanent conservation easement(s), in favor of CDFW or a CDFW-approved conservation holder for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. To compensate for permanent impacts to plants and</p>

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	<p>wildlife on the project site, habitat shall be preserved through the use of permanent conservation easements, purchase of credits from a CDFW-approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. This may include preservation areas within portions of the project site that are not impacted by the construction (or that are only temporarily disturbed and then restored) and operation of the project and/or mitigation lands outside the project boundary. Specific species and habitats that require compensatory habitat preservation are defined below.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also be responsible for donating fees to the CDFW-approved conservation lands holder sufficient to cover: (1) Administrative costs incurred in the creation of permanent conservation easement(s), or the transfer of land in fee with a deed restriction and (2) provide funds in the form of a non-wasting endowment to cover the cost of monitoring and enforcing the terms of the device in perpetuity, and (3) provide funds in the form of a non-wasting endowment to cover the management of the lands pursuant to the approved HMMP. The amount of these administrative fees and endowments shall be determined by the completion of a Property Analysis Record approved by the CDFW-approved conservation holder and the County.</p> <p>Conservation easement(s) or restricted lands shall also be subject to the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The locations of acceptable conservation easement(s) or restricted lands shall be approved by the County, CDFW, and USFWS. — ▪ The primary purpose of the conservation easement(s) or restricted lands shall be conservation of impacted species and vegetative communities <p>Conservation easement(s), deed restriction, or other appropriate agreement shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Be perpetual. ▪ Be subject to a legally binding agreement that shall: (1) Be recorded with the County Recorder(s) along with a recorded “notice of conservation easement”; (2) Include “conservation easement,” “deed restriction” or other appropriate name for the agreement in the title of the recorded agreement(s); (3) Name CDFW or another organization to which the conservation easement(s) or restricted land will be conveyed if the original holder is dissolved. ▪ Be subject to the management requirements outlined in Mitigation Measure BR-G.6 (Develop and implement a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan for mitigation lands). Habitat preserved as mitigation for impacts to biological resources must be of equal or greater habitat value, based on the parameters defined in Tables C.6-6 and C.6-7 at the end of this section. <p>Vegetative communities. For impacts to on-site vegetative communities, the Applicant shall create conservation easement(s), purchase credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. The Applicant shall preserve land at mitigation ratio of 1:1 (one acre preserved for each acre permanently impacted) and shall contain the same type and quality of vegetative communities as those that are impacted by the project. This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for other impacts.</p> <p>Special-status plants. The Applicant shall compensate for temporary and permanent impacts to special-status plant species with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s), purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to</p>

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	<p>a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. For impacts to State and Federally Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Petitioned and Candidate plants, mitigation shall occur at a ratio of 1:1 (one individual preserved for each individual impacted). Compensation for temporary impacts shall occur at a 0.5:1 ratio. The preserved habitat for a significantly impacted plant species shall be of equal or greater habitat quality after any restoration activities (as defined in Table C.6-6) to the impacted areas in terms of soil features, extent of disturbance, vegetation structure, and will contain verified extant populations, of the same number of individuals or greater, of the State or Federally listed (Endangered, Threatened, Proposed, Petitioned, and Candidate) plants that are impacted. This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>California Species of Special Concern. The Applicant shall compensate for temporary and permanent impacts to California Species of Special Concern with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s), purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. The Applicant shall compensate for permanent impacts to the California Species of Special Concern (CSSC) addressed in Impact BR-7 at a ratio of 1:1 (one individual preserved for each individual impacted). Compensation for temporary impacts shall be required at a ratio of 0.5:1. Preserved habitat shall be of equal quality or greater quality than impacted habitat after any restoration activities (as defined in Table C.6-6) compared to the impacted habitat.</p> <p>California tiger salamander. The Applicant shall compensate for temporary and permanent loss of known and potential breeding habitat, and upland habitat within a radius of 1.2 miles of known or potential breeding habitat, for California tiger salamanders with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s), purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP.</p> <p>California tiger salamanders may wander up to 1.2 miles from their breeding habitat in search of aestivation habitat; however, the migrations of most individuals appear to be more limited. Trenham and Shaffer (2005) found that 95 percent of all salamanders appear to aestivate within 2100 feet of their breeding habitat. However, in a 5-year study conducted by Orloff (2007), the majority of salamanders in her study area appeared to be moving at least 0.5 miles to the nearest probable breeding ponds, and approximately 7 to 11 percent of those salamanders appeared to travel at least 0.75 miles to get to breeding ponds.</p> <p>Impacts shall be mitigated by providing habitat preservation, enhancement, and management in perpetuity at graduated ratios for upland aestivation habitat. Breeding habitats and suitable upland habitat impacted within 2,100 feet of a known or potential breeding pond will be mitigated at a ratio of 3:1, suitable upland habitat located between 2,100 feet and 2,640 feet (0.5 miles) of a breeding pond will be mitigated at a ratio of 2:1, and suitable upland habitat located between 2,640 feet and 6,636 feet (1.2 mile) of a breeding pond will be mitigated at a ratio of 1:1. Temporary impacts to suitable upland and potential breeding habitat shall be mitigated at a ratio of 0.5:1. A suitable breeding pond is a depression with the potential to contain water for 12 weeks of the year; the depression need not pond for this duration every year to meet the definition of a potential breeding pond. Preserved habitat shall be the same quality or better quality after any restoration activity such as new pond creation (as defined in [2010 Final EIR] Table C.6-6) compared to the impacted habitat, shall consist of no more than three non-contiguous areas of land, and shall include high-quality breeding habitat</p>

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	<p>at a ratio equal to or greater than the potential breeding habitat present within the fence line of the project site (measured by acreage, not by number of breeding ponds). This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>Blunt-nosed leopard lizard. The Applicant shall compensate for permanent impacts to blunt-nosed leopard lizards and their habitat with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s), purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. The Applicant shall compensate for impacts to suitable blunt-nosed leopard lizard habitat (as defined in [2010 Final EIR] Table C.6-7) at a 3:1 ratio for acreage permanently altered by construction, solar arrays, roads, buildings, switchyard, and other infrastructure. In addition, the Applicant shall compensate for functional degradation of suitable blunt-nosed leopard lizard habitat at a 2:1 ratio for areas surrounded by or bordered by solar arrays, or adjacent to the switchyard, building(s), perimeter fence, and other infrastructure. The mitigation areas must include occupied habitat that is of equal or greater habitat quality after any restoration activity compared to the impacted habitat. This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>Mountain plover habitat. The Applicant shall compensate for permanent impacts to habitat for wintering mountain plovers with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s) , purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP.. Conservation easement(s) shall provide habitat preservation, in perpetuity at a ratio of 1:1 for all impacted acreage. Preserved habitat shall be occupied and be of equal or greater quality after any restoration activity (as defined in [2010 Final EIR] Table C.6-6) compared to the impacted habitat. This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>Golden eagle foraging habitat. The Applicant shall compensate for permanent impacts to habitat for foraging golden eagles with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s) , purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. Conservation easement(s) shall provide habitat preservation, in perpetuity at a ratio of 2:1 for all impacted acreage. Preserved habitat shall be of equal or greater quality after any restoration activity (as defined in [2010 Final EIR] Table C.6-6) compared to the impacted habitat. This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>California condor foraging habitat. The Applicant shall compensate for permanent impacts to habitat for foraging California condors with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s) , purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. Conservation easement(s) shall provide habitat preservation, in perpetuity at a ratio of 2:1 for all impacted acreage. Preserved habitat shall be of equal or greater quality after any restoration activity (as defined in [2010 Final EIR] Table C.6-6) compared to the impacted habitat. This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>Burrowing owl. The Applicant shall compensate for permanent impacts to burrowing owls or their habitat with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s), purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the</p>

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	<p>management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. The mitigation lands will comply with the mitigation guidelines set forth in the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation guidelines (CDFG, 2012), which include among other requirements, a requirement that the lands be of equal or greater habitat quality after any restoration activity (as defined in [2010 Final EIR] Table C.6-6) compared to the impacted habitat, and will be preserved and managed for this species in accordance with the <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation</i> (CDFG, 2012). This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>Giant kangaroo rat. The Applicant shall compensate for permanent impacts to giant kangaroo rats and their habitat with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s), purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. The Applicant shall compensate for impacts to suitable giant kangaroo rat habitat at a 3:1 ratio for acreage permanently altered by construction, solar arrays, roads, buildings, switchyard, and other infrastructure. In addition, the Applicant shall compensate for functional degradation of suitable giant kangaroo rat habitat at a 2:1 ratio for areas surrounded by or bordered by solar arrays, or adjacent to the switchyard, building(s), perimeter fence, and other infrastructure. The mitigation areas must include occupied habitat that is of equal or greater habitat quality and support an equal or greater population of giant kangaroo rat after any restoration activity (as defined in [2010 Final EIR] Table C.6-7) compared to the impacted habitat. This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>San Joaquin kit fox. The Applicant shall compensate for permanent impacts to San Joaquin kit fox and their habitat with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s), purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW, approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. The Applicant shall compensate for impacts to suitable San Joaquin kit fox habitat at a 4:1 ratio for acreage permanently altered by construction, solar arrays, roads, buildings, switchyard, and other infrastructure. Of this 4:1, 2:1 shall be highly suitable habitat (Panoche Valley, slopes of 5 percent or less) and 2:1 shall be moderately suitable habitat (Panoche Valley, slopes of 15 percent or less). In addition, the Applicant shall compensate for functional degradation of suitable San Joaquin kit fox habitat at a 2:1 ratio for areas surrounded by or bordered by solar arrays, or adjacent to the switchyard, building(s), perimeter fence, and other infrastructure. This 2:1 shall be moderately suitable habitat (Panoche Valley, slopes of 15 percent or less). The mitigation areas must include occupied habitat that is of equal or greater habitat quality and support an equal or greater population of San Joaquin kit fox after any restoration activity (as defined in [2010 Final EIR] Table C.6-7) compared to the impacted habitat. In addition, mitigation areas must have slopes less than or equal to 11 percent (USFWS, 2010d). This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>San Joaquin antelope squirrel. The Applicant shall compensate for permanent impacts to San Joaquin antelope squirrel and their habitat with the creation of permanent conservation easement(s), purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction or other appropriate agreement for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP. The Applicant shall compensate for impacts to suitable San Joaquin antelope squirrel habitat at a 1:1 ratio for acreage permanently altered by construction, solar arrays, roads, buildings, switchyard, and other infrastructure. In addition, the Applicant shall compensate for functional degradation of suitable San Joaquin antelope squirrel habitat at a 1:1 ratio for areas</p>

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	<p>surrounded by or bordered by solar arrays, or adjacent to the switchyard, building(s), perimeter fence, and other infrastructure. The mitigation areas must include occupied habitat that is of equal or greater habitat quality and support an equal or greater population of San Joaquin antelope squirrel after any restoration activities (as defined in [2010 Final EIR] Table C.6-6) compared to the impacted habitat. This mitigation may occur on lands used simultaneously as mitigation for impacts to other species.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the start of construction (defined as ground or vegetation disturbance) the Applicant shall obtain County approval of the location of mitigation lands, the holder of conservation easements, and the restrictions contained in the conservation easement(s) created for the permanent protection of these lands. Documentation of recorded conservation easement(s) shall be submitted to and approved by the County prior to the start of construction. Verification of having met habitat mitigation requirements (per [2010 Final EIR] Tables C.6-6 and C.6-7 and supporting documentation) shall be reviewed and approved prior to construction of each project phase by the County. This documentation will be posted on the County's website for public review. If this milestone is not met, construction shall not commence.</p> <p>Monitoring: Mitigation lands will be monitored and maintained per the requirements set forth the Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan prepared for the project, discussed below under MM BR-I.8. An annual report shall be submitted to the County.</p>
BR-G.6	<p>Develop and implement Wetland Mitigation and Monitoring Plan and Habitat Management Plan for mitigation lands. To ensure the success of on-site preserved land and acquired mitigation lands, required for compensation of permanent impacts to vegetative communities, wetlands, and listed or Special-Status plants and wildlife, the Applicant shall retain a County-approved, qualified biologist to prepare a Wetland Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (WMMP) and a Habitat Management Plan (HMP). The WMMP will focus on impacts and mitigation for jurisdictional waters and wetlands while the HMP will focus on the habitat and species management measures. The WMMP and HMP will be submitted to the County of San Benito for approval, prior to the issuance of a construction permit. The WMMP will be subject to approval and conditions set forth by regulatory agencies (USACE, Regional Water Quality Control Board [RWQCB], and CDFW). The HMMP will include, at a minimum, the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Summary of anticipated habitat impacts and the proposed mitigation. 2. Detailed description of the location and boundaries of undisturbed project areas proposed for preservation, off-site mitigation lands and a description of existing site-wide conditions. The HMP shall include detailed analysis showing that the mitigation lands meet the performance criteria outlined in Mitigation Measure BR-G.5 (Purchase credits from a CDFW-approved mitigation bank, create a permanent conservation easement(s), in favor of CDFW or a CDFW-approved conservation holder for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP). 3. Discussion of measures to be undertaken to enhance (e.g., through focused management and/or restoration) the on-site preserved habitat and off-site mitigation lands for listed and special-status species. 4. Description of management and maintenance measures (e.g., managed grazing, fencing maintenance) 5. Discussion of habitat and species monitoring measures for on-site preservation areas and off-site mitigation lands, including specific, objectives, performance criteria, monitoring methods, data analysis, reporting requirements, monitoring

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	<p>schedule, etc. Monitoring shall document compliance with Mitigation Measure BR-G.5 (Purchase credits from a CDFW-approved mitigation bank, create a permanent conservation easement(s), in favor of CDFW or a CDFW-approved conservation holder for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP, or transfer land in fee to a CDFW approved conservation holder with a deed restriction for the management of the land pursuant to the approved HMMP) and Mitigation Measures EM-1 and EM-2 (provide funding for and document environmental monitoring).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Development of a monitoring strategy for the monitoring of indirect impacts to vegetation and wildlife from alteration to the solar and hydric regimes as a result of solar panels. 7. Development of a monitoring strategy, which shall serve to document the persistence of blunt-nosed leopard lizard, giant kangaroo rat, San Joaquin kit fox, and San Joaquin antelope squirrel populations within the project site. This monitoring will be conducted for a minimum of 5 years after the completion of construction activities. The strategy shall include, at the minimum, the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Documentation of pre-project population or use levels for the species noted above, based on results of focused pre-construction surveys and previously supplied applicant data. b) On-going monitoring of species populations upon completion of construction activities, while the project is in operation, for a minimum of three years. c) Monitoring of reference populations for each of these species on the mitigation lands will enable comparisons with changes in populations not impacted by the project. These results would allow for further refinement of project related affects and environmentally caused responses. 8. A contingency plan for mitigation elements that do not meet performance or final success criteria within 5 years; this plan will include specific triggers for remediation if performance criteria are not being met and a description of the process by which remediation of problems with the mitigation site (e.g., presence of noxious weeds) will occur. <p>The WMMP shall include, at a minimum, the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wetlands and waters impacts summary and habitat mitigation actions; 2. Goals of the restoration to achieve no net loss; 3. A map depicting the location of the mitigation site(s) and a detailed descriptions of existing conditions; and 4. A detailed description of the mitigation design, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Location of new wetlands; b. Description of existing and proposed soils, hydrology, geomorphology, and geotechnical stability, as well as results of applicable soils testing conducted at the mitigation site; c. A detailed description of the steps required for site preparation and a conceptual grading plan—a formal package for plan sets, specs, and estimates for the grading and mitigation construction work shall be prepared based on the concepts set forth in the WMMP no fewer than fifteen days prior to starting work at the mitigation site; d. A description of recommended soil amendments and other site preparation; e. Development of a planting plan, including details on plan procurement, if necessary, propagation, allowable species for seeding and relative pounds/acre and applications; f. Maintenance plan for created wetlands; g. A description of specific monitoring metrics, and objective performance and success

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	<p>criteria, such as delineation of created area as jurisdictional wetland per USACE methods within five years of construction, and others;</p> <p>h. Monitoring methods for vegetation and soils, and measures stipulating quantitative monitoring to occur once per year for at least five years following construction of the wetlands or until success criteria are met;</p> <p>i. A list of reporting requirements and reporting schedule; and</p> <p>j. A contingency plan for mitigation elements that do not meet performance or final success criteria within five years for created wetlands; this plan shall include specific triggers for remediation if performance criteria are not being met and a description of the process by which remediation of problems with the mitigation site (e.g., presence of noxious weeds) shall occur.</p> <p>Milestones: The WMMP and HMP must be submitted to the county prior to the start of construction. Prior to final County inspection, initial and estimated final impact acreages must be presented to the County and acquisition of off-site lands must be verified.</p> <p>Monitoring: Applicant must implement monitoring as prescribed in the WMMP and HMP.</p>
BR-1.1	<p>Prepare and implement a Weed Control Plan. Prior to the issuance of a building permit or any ground disturbance the Applicant shall retain a County-approved, qualified restoration ecologist or biologist to prepare a comprehensive adaptive Weed Control Plan (WCP) to be administered during the construction and operation of the project for the purpose of invasive weed abatement. The WCP shall be submitted to the County of San Benito for review and approval and shall be updated and utilized for weed eradication and monitoring post-construction. The WCP shall include, but not be limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-construction weed survey. Conduct a pre-construction survey for weeds in all areas of proposed ground-disturbing activity, including, but not limited to, solar panel footing preparation and construction areas, assembly yards, access roads, and areas subject to grading for new or improved access roads. Weed populations that are (1) rated High or Moderate for negative ecological impact in the California Invasive Plant Inventory Database (Cal-IPC, 2006); and/or (2) known to aid and promote the spread of wildfires shall be mapped and described according to density and area covered. Areas with identified weed infestations shall be treated for target species, as described in the approved Weed Control Plan, prior to ground disturbance according to control methods detailed below and best management practices for invasive weed populations. • Weed control measures. Weed control treatments may include permitted manual, mechanical, and herbicide methods. Any application of herbicides shall be in compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations under the prescription of a Pest Control Advisor (PCA), and implemented by a Licensed Qualified Applicator. Herbicides shall not be applied during or within 72 hours of a scheduled rain event. Where manual and/or mechanical methods are used, disposal of the plant debris will take place at an appropriate offsite location. Herbicides shall not be used within Ephemeral Drainages, Stock Ponds, or Ephemeral Pools without approval of the County of San Benito and if necessary, the USFWS, and only water-safe herbicides shall be used in these locations. Herbicides shall not be applied when wind velocities exceed 6 mph. If spray is observed to be drifting to a non-target location, spraying shall be discontinued until conditions causing the drift have abated. Where manual and/or mechanical methods are used, disposal of the plant debris shall follow the regulations set by the County of San Benito. <p>The timing of weed control treatments shall be determined for each plant species</p>

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	<p>with the goal of controlling populations before they start producing seeds. Consultation with a County-approved, qualified biologist shall be required prior to weed control treatments with the intent of avoiding any adverse impacts to plants and wildlife in the area.</p> <p>Before and during construction of the project, measures to control the introduction and spread of noxious weeds in the project work area shall be taken as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor and treat weed infestations. From the time ground disturbance through operation of the project, surveying for new invasive weed populations and the monitoring of identified and treated populations shall be required at all sites impacted by construction (array structures, staging areas, etc.), including access roads disturbed during the project. Surveying and monitoring for weed infestations shall occur annually. Treatment of all identified target species, as described in the approved Weed Control Plan, shall occur at a minimum of once annually. When no new seedlings or re-sprouts are observed at treated sites for three consecutive, normal rainfall years, the weed population can be considered eradicated and weed control efforts may cease for that impact site. <p>Weed control efforts shall be timed annually to reduce noxious weed seed production, by conducting activities when flowering has just started, but before seeds have been produced. All plant debris shall be disposed of at an approved location. Weed control efforts shall commence in early spring (February), as indicated annually by a qualified restoration ecologist or biologist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use certified weed-free construction materials. During project pre-construction and construction, all seeds and straw materials shall be weed-free rice straw, and all gravel and fill material shall be certified weed free by the County Agriculture Commissioners' Office. Any deviation from this will be approved by the County of San Benito. All plant materials used during restoration shall be native, certified weed-free, and approved by the County.• Wash vehicles and equipment. During project pre-construction and construction, all construction vehicles will be visually inspected before arrival onsite. Vehicles and equipment will be free of excess dirt or mud prior to access to the site. If vehicles or equipment contain dirt or mud, proper washing will take place in designated areas prior to access onsite. A log shall be kept describing vehicle or equipment washed, methods, and name of washer. This log will be kept onsite and made available upon the request of the County. PVS will follow the developed Weed Control Plan to effectively prevent infestation, eradicate specific populations of invasive plant species in certain project areas, and suppression of existing populations of invasive plant species. Vehicles and equipment will be washed before exiting the site on an "as needed" basis, determined by the accumulation of dirt and mud after inspection by a Biological Monitor. a• In addition, tools such as chainsaws, hand clippers, pruners, etc. shall be washed before and after entering all Project work areas. All washing shall take place where rinse water is collected and disposed of in either a sanitary sewer or landfill, unless otherwise approved by the County of San Benito. A written daily log shall be kept for all vehicle/equipment/tool washing that states the date, time, location, type of equipment washed, methods used, and staff present. The log shall include the signature of a responsible staff member. Logs shall be available to the County for inspection at any time and shall be submitted to the County on a monthly basis.• Weed clearing and disposal. During project operation and maintenance activities, weeds in assembly yards, array footprints, access roads, staging areas, and any other disturbance areas shall be cleared and disposed of in an approved

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	<p>method.</p> <p>The above measures shall be implemented by the Applicant as specified in the County Approved WCP.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the issuance of a grading permit the County must approve the WCP which will be developed in consultation with the CDFW.</p> <p>Monitoring: An environmental monitor shall be retained to ensure the compliance with measures set forth in the WCP.</p>
BR-1.2	<p>Develop and implement a Grazing Plan for the project site. Managed livestock grazing has been proposed for the project site. Prior to the issuance of a construction permit the Applicant shall retain a County-approved qualified restoration ecologist or biologist to prepare a Grazing Plan to be administered during the construction and operation of the project. The Grazing Plan shall be submitted to the County of San Benito for review and approval. The Grazing Plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Timing and duration of grazing. 2. Discussion of the ecological impacts of replacing cattle grazing with sheep grazing. 3. Detailed measures to ensure the persistence and prevent the extirpation of annual grassland species, including listed and rare plant species. 4. The requirement that interior fencing for grazing management be constructed of three strand wire and posts and shall include detailed maps of fencing locations. 5. Analysis of the potential for sheep grazing to contribute to the spread of invasive weed seed. 6. Development of a detailed monitoring component to examine the effects of sheep grazing on wildlife on the project site and the effects of changes in vegetation related to shading from solar panels on grazing. <p>The Grazing Plan will be an adaptive management tool. Grazing management strategies will be evaluated over time. Modifications to the strategies used or to the techniques used to accomplish each strategy will be implemented based on results, experience, and the latest research. Proposed alterations to the plan would require the review and approval of the County.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the issuance of a construction permit the County must approve the Grazing Plan.</p> <p>Monitoring: An environmental monitor shall be retained to ensure the compliance with measures set forth in the Grazing Plan.</p>
AQ-1.1	<p>Reduce fugitive dust. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Air Quality.</p>
BR-3.1	<p>Conduct pre-construction surveys for State and Federally Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Petitioned, and Candidate plants and implement avoidance measures. Prior to initial ground disturbance and for undisturbed areas in subsequent construction years, the Applicant shall conduct pre-construction surveys for State and federally listed Threatened and Endangered, Proposed, Petitioned, and Candidate plants in all areas subject to ground-disturbing activity, including, but not limited to, solar panel footing preparation and construction areas, assembly yards, and areas subject to grading for new access roads. The surveys shall be conducted during the appropriate blooming period(s) (February 1 – May 31) by a qualified plant ecologist/biologist according to protocols established by the USFWS, CDFW, and California Native Plant Society (CNPS). All listed plant species found shall be marked and avoided. Any populations of special-status plants found during surveys will be fully described, mapped, and a CNPS Field Survey Form or written equivalent shall be prepared.</p>

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	<p>Surveys of reference populations shall be conducted along with surveys on the project site to document that precipitation conditions would not have adversely affected the ability to detect the species. If a listed plant species cannot be avoided, consultation with USFWS and CDFW will occur.</p> <p>Prior to site grading, any populations of listed plant species identified during the surveys shall be protected by a buffer zone. The buffer zone shall be established around these areas and shall be of sufficient size to eliminate potential disturbance to the plants from human activity and any other potential sources of disturbance including human trampling, erosion, and dust. The size of the buffer depends upon the proposed use of the immediately adjacent lands, and includes consideration of the plant's ecological requirements (e.g., sunlight, moisture, shade tolerance, physical and chemical characteristics of soils) that are identified by a qualified plant ecologist and/or botanist. The buffer for herbaceous and shrub species shall be, at minimum, 50 feet from the perimeter of the population or the individual. A smaller buffer may be established, provided there are adequate measures in place to avoid the take of the species, with the approval of the USFWS, CDFW, and County of San Benito. If impacts to listed plants are determined to be unavoidable, the USFWS shall be consulted for authorization. Additional mitigation measures to protect or restore listed plant species or their habitat may be required by the USFWS before impacts are authorized, whichever is appropriate.</p> <p>Milestones: Surveys will be conducted prior to initial ground disturbance and for undisturbed areas during each subsequent construction year.</p> <p>Monitoring: The environmental monitor will document when yearly survey events occur, review the resulting data and update the WEEP (MM BR-1.1) if impacts to species not previously addressed are anticipated.</p>
BR-6.1	<p>Conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting and breeding birds and implementation of avoidance measures. Prior to any on-site site disturbance (i.e., mobilization, staging, grading or construction) during the breeding season (February 1 through August 15) for any birds that could occur on the site, the Applicant shall retain a County-approved qualified biologist to conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting birds. The qualified biologist must be trained and able to hear grasshopper sparrows. Surveys for nesting birds shall be conducted within the recognized breeding season in all areas within 500 feet of solar arrays, staging areas, substation sites, and access road locations. Surveys for raptors shall be conducted for all areas between February 1 and August 15. The required survey dates may be modified based on local conditions, as determined by the County-approved, qualified biologist, with the approval of the County of San Benito.</p> <p>If breeding birds with active nests are found prior to or during construction, a biological monitor shall establish a 300-foot buffer around the nest for ground-based construction activities and no activities will be allowed within the buffer(s) until the young have fledged from the nest or the nest fails.</p> <p>If nesting golden eagles are identified, a 0.5-mile no activity buffer will be implemented in accordance with the Eagle Conservation Plan (subject to approval by the USFWS and CDFW). Should condors be found roosting within 0.5 miles of the construction area, no construction activity shall occur between 1 hour before sunset to 1 hour after sunrise, or until the condors leave the area. Should condors be found nesting within 1.5 miles of the construction area, no construction activity will occur until further authorization from the USFWS. All California condor sightings in the project area will be reported directly to the USFWS by the County qualified biologist in accordance with Avian Conservation Strategy (subject to approval by the USFWS and CDFW).</p> <p>The prescribed buffers may be adjusted to reflect existing conditions including ambient noise, topography, and disturbance with the approval of the County as appropriate. The biological</p>

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	<p>monitor(s) shall conduct regular monitoring of the nest to determine success/failure and to ensure that project activities are not conducted within the buffer(s) until the nesting cycle is complete or the nest fails. The biological monitor(s) shall be responsible for documenting the results of the surveys and ongoing monitoring and will provide a copy of the monitoring reports for impact areas to the respective agencies.</p> <p>If for any reason an active bird nest must be removed during the nesting season, the Applicant shall provide written documentation providing concurrence from the USFWS and CDFW authorizing the nest relocation. Additionally the Applicant shall provide a written report documenting the relocation efforts. The report shall include what actions were taken to avoid moving the nest, the location of the nest, what species is being relocated, the number and condition of the eggs taken from the nest, the location of where the eggs are incubated, the survival rate, the location of the nests where the chicks are relocated, and whether the birds were accepted by the adopted parent.</p> <p>Surveys shall be conducted to include all structural components of the solar arrays and related structures as well as all construction equipment. If birds are found to be nesting in facility structures, buffers as described above shall be implemented. If birds are found to be nesting in construction equipment, that equipment shall not be used until the young have fledged the nest or, if no young are present, until after the breeding season has passed.</p> <p>If trees or existing poles/towers are to be removed as part of project related construction activities they will be done so outside of the nesting season to avoid additional impacts to nesting raptors. If removal during the nesting season can't be avoided then trees and existing poles/towers the biological monitor must confirm that the nest is vacant prior to its removal. If nests are found within these structures and contain eggs or young the biological monitor shall allow no activities within a 300-foot buffer for nesting birds and/or a 500-foot buffer for raptors until the young have fledged the nest.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the commencement of construction activities pre-construction nesting surveys will be conducted; during the recognized breeding season for most birds biological monitors will routinely inspect for active nests.</p> <p>Monitoring: The environmental monitor will need to conduct routine checks of nests during the known breeding season and, if young are present, monitor until young have fledged.</p>
BR-7a.1	<p>Impacts to all potential breeding habitat for western spadefoot toad shall be avoided to the extent feasible. If work within this habitat cannot be avoided, work shall be conducted outside the breeding season of adult western spadefoot toads and the subsequent developmental period of larvae. Therefore, when possible, no work within this habitat will be conducted between January 31 and April 1 or until the habitat is completely dry. If vehicles are required to drive over these areas mats or pads that prevent compaction shall be used. If avoidance is not feasible and work must occur during the wet season, the Applicant shall implement pre-construction surveys for western spadefoot toad. If adult toads or larvae/tadpoles are found a 200-foot buffer shall be placed around these areas and shall remain in place until the larva/tadpoles complete metamorphosis and retreat to upland areas.</p> <p>The biologist shall document all suitable occupied and unoccupied western spadefoot toad habitat. Prior to final County inspection or occupancy, whichever comes first, the biologist shall prepare a written report detailing the survey results, when necessary, and compliance with avoidance measures for County review and approval. Copies of this report shall also be provided to the CDFW.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the commencement of construction activities implement avoidance</p>

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BR-7a.2	<p>and minimization measures.</p> <p>Monitoring: Environmental monitor shall ensure implementation of avoidance measures and, when necessary, that buffer delineations are kept in good working order.</p> <hr/> <p>Conduct pre-construction surveys for San Joaquin coachwhip and coast horned lizard and implement avoidance measures. The Applicant shall retain a County-approved, qualified biologist to conduct pre-construction surveys immediately prior to (i.e., the morning of the commencement of) ground disturbance. If San Joaquin coachwhips or coast horned lizards are found within the area of disturbance and can be captured, the biologist will relocate the animals to a pre-approved location outside the project area. The candidate locations for species relocation will be identified prior to construction and based on the size and type of habitat present, the potential for negative interactions with resident species, and species range. A final report identifying the number of animals moved, any mortality identified during the relocation event, and the general health of the species shall be completed and submitted to the County on a monthly basis.</p> <p>Habitat suitability and occupancy data will be used to determine whether proposed mitigation lands for biological resources meet the requirements for CSSC species mitigation as outlined in Mitigation Measure BR-G.5.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the disturbance of habitat conduct pre-construction surveys for San Joaquin coachwhip and coast horned lizards. Re-locate when identified.</p> <p>Monitoring: Environmental monitor shall monitor for occurrences of these species when construction activities occur in suitable habitat.</p>
BR-7b.1	<p>Conduct pre-construction surveys for non-breeding birds designated as California Species of Special Concern. The Applicant shall retain a qualified, County-approved biologist to conduct pre-construction surveys for birds designated as California Species of Special Concern (CSSC) in areas proposed for ground disturbance prior to ground-disturbing activities. The timing of surveys shall be determined in consultation with California Department of Fish and Game. Habitat suitability and occupancy data will be used to determine whether proposed mitigation lands for biological resources meet the requirements for CSSC species mitigation as outlined in Mitigation Measure BR-G.5.</p>
BR-7c.1	<p>Conduct pre-construction surveys for short-nosed kangaroo rat, San Joaquin pocket mouse, and Tulare grasshopper mouse and implementation of avoidance measures. No more than 30 days prior to commencement of ground disturbing activities the Applicant shall retain a County-approved, qualified biologist to conduct pre-construction surveys for each phase of the project. If occupied habitat for Short-nosed kangaroo rat, San Joaquin pocket mouse, and/or Tulare grasshopper mouse is found it shall be flagged. Impacts to occupied habitat shall be avoided to the extent feasible. If individuals are found within an area proposed for disturbance and can be captured, the biologist will relocate them to a pre-approved area outside the project area. The candidate locations for species relocation will be identified prior to construction and based on the size and type of habitat present, the potential for negative interactions with resident species, and species range. A final report identifying the number of animals moved, any mortality identified during the relocation event, and the general health of the species shall be completed and submitted to the County on a monthly basis.</p> <p>Habitat suitability and occupancy data will be used to determine whether proposed mitigation lands for biological resources meet the requirements for CSSC species mitigation as outlined in Mitigation Measure BR-G.5.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the disturbance of habitat conduct pre-construction surveys for</p>

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	<p>Shortnosed kangaroo rat, San Joaquin pocket mouse, Tulare grasshopper mouse. Flag occupied areas and re-locate when identified.</p> <p>Monitoring: Environmental monitor shall monitor for occurrences of these species when construction activities occur in suitable habitat.</p>
BR-8.2	<p>Avoid disturbance to ephemeral pools occupied by vernal pool fairy shrimp to the maximum extent practicable, and mitigate for any unavoidable impacts. For ephemeral pools occupied by vernal pool fairy shrimp as determined by the protocol surveys described above, the Applicant shall avoid filling or disturbing such pools to the maximum extent practicable. This includes avoiding any ground disturbance within 100 feet of the edges of such pools.</p> <p>To the extent that the fill or disturbance of ephemeral pools occupied by vernal pool fairy shrimp cannot be avoided, each acre, or fraction thereof, of occupied vernal pool habitat which is filled or disturbed shall be compensated by the preservation and management of 2 acres of occupied vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat (2:1 preservation ratio) and the creation, management, and preservation of 1 acre of vernal pool habitat (1:1 creation ratio) at a location approved and pursuant to authorization received from the USFWS. The Applicant may also satisfy this mitigation requirement through the purchase of credits at a USFWS-approved mitigation bank.</p>
BR-8.3	<p>Avoid seasonal depressions and known waterbodies. All known seasonal depressions and water bodies that have been verified to be occupied by listed fairy shrimp shall be shown on all applicable construction plans and submitted with the construction permit application. The Applicant shall avoid seasonal depressions known to support listed fairy shrimp (see Impact BR-20). A 100-foot buffer shall be placed around these seasonal depressions and known waterbodies to prevent equipment from entering these areas. This buffer shall be shown on all applicable construction plans (with a highly visible method easily identifiable by construction workers in the field). On-site delineation of this buffer shall be in place prior to the commencement of construction activities. The method used for delineating the buffer shall be kept in good working order for the duration of the construction period, and removed prior to final County inspection.</p> <p>If avoidance of known populations of listed fairy shrimp is not possible, consultation with the USFWS regarding the potential impacts to the species will be necessary.</p> <p>Milestone: Seasonal depressions and known waterbodies to be shown on construction plans. An on-site delineation of the buffer will be installed prior to commencement of construction activities and maintained throughout the construction period</p> <p>Monitoring: The environmental monitor will periodically check to ensure that the onsite delineation method is in good working order and that construction activities have remained outside of these areas.</p>
BR-9.1	<p>Conduct pre-construction surveys for California tiger salamander and implement avoidance measures. The Applicant shall perform pre-construction California tiger salamander surveys (see Interim Guidance on Site Assessment and Field Surveys for Determining Presence of a Negative Finding of the California Tiger Salamander (CDFW October 2003) for guidelines on survey techniques, limitations, and inference limits) prior to the construction of all project phases in areas within the project boundary fence line of suitable aestivation or breeding habitat within 1.2 miles of known or potential breeding ponds. Avoidance measures for California tiger salamander shall include those outlined in MM BR-G.2 (Implement Best Management Practices). The following measures shall also be required:</p> <p>Work shall be restricted to daylight hours or non-rain nighttime hours. During the</p>

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	<p>site construction phases, grading and subsurface disturbing activities, including pile driving on the project site, after dusk shall be prohibited unless coordinated through the County. If such activity is necessary, it should be conducted during nights without precipitation. If activity after dusk on a day with precipitation is still necessary, then one or more on-site qualified, County-approved biologists shall monitor these activities to ensure California tiger salamanders that may be active above ground are avoided.</p> <p>Inspect pipes and similar structures. All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures that are stored at a construction site for one or more overnight periods shall be thoroughly inspected for California tiger salamanders before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If a California tiger salamander is discovered inside or underneath a pipe, the salamander shall be removed by a qualified, County-approved biologist and placed in a mammal burrow in a designated safe area away from construction activities.</p> <p>Avoid disturbance to all ponds and in-stream pools. All ponds and in-stream pools on the project site may provide potential breeding habitat for California tiger salamanders. All ponds and in-stream pools on the project site shall be avoided unless they are completely dry. They should be avoided to the maximum extent possible to allow resident California tiger salamanders to continue using them after construction has ended.</p> <p>Translocate individual California tiger salamanders. Should individual California tiger salamanders be observed within the construction zone either during pre-construction surveys or during construction, a qualified biologist, as identified by the USFWS, shall move the animal out of harm's way and place the animal at the mouth of the closest protected burrow.</p> <p>Creation of new breeding habitat. The Applicant shall create new ponds on appropriate mitigation lands to offset any potential impacts to known or potential breeding habitat located on the project site (e.g., two ponds in Section 4 that historically supported CTS breeding plus any other ponds within the approved project fence line that are shown, after survey efforts, to support breeding) which will be subject to approval from the USFWS and CDFW. The size of the mitigation ponds shall be equal to those ponds impacted either directly or indirectly by the project.</p>
BR-10.1	<p>Conduct pre-construction surveys for blunt-nosed leopard lizard and implement avoidance measures. The Applicant shall perform preconstruction surveys prior to all construction activities that will result in permanent or temporary ground disturbance within 30 days prior to of construction for the entire construction footprint of the project. A County-approved, qualified biologist shall record the geographic coordinates of each blunt-nosed leopard lizard individual detected on the construction footprint of the project site. Implementation of avoidance measures will be described in detail in an approved BNLL Avoidance Plan. The final measures will be approved by USFWS and CDFW and will include the following:</p> <p>Buffers. The point location data shall be used to delineate buffers designed to encompass a 52.4 acre home range of each individual leopard lizard. A buffer would minimize the risk of direct or indirect take of blunt-nosed leopard lizard individuals in conjunction with avoidance and exclusion criteria as described below. A buffer of any size does not guarantee that take will not occur but provides a high degree of certainty that each individual leopard lizard will be adequately protected. All observed BNLL shall be avoided by a flagged 52.4-acre buffer as described in the BNLL Avoidance Plan.</p> <p>Avoidance. No construction activities or construction-related vehicular traffic shall be allowed within the identified buffers, and all movement corridors shall be delineated with fencing and signage identifying the buffers as off-limits to construction personnel. The fencing</p>

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	<p>around the buffers shall be elevated 5-6 inches off the ground surface to allow the passage of San Joaquin kit fox and other small mammals through the area. The Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor may also recommend additional protection measures around work areas (see Exclusion, below). All fencing will be actively maintained and repaired as directed by biological monitors and removed upon completion of that portion of project construction.</p> <p>Exclusion. All construction work and equipment use shall occur within areas that a Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor(s) has completed a preconstruction survey within 30 days of the activity. Construction work and equipment use will be limited to areas in which a Biological Monitor is able to actively monitor for changes to site conditions and the presence of protected species. Based on the discretion of the Designated Biologist or Biological Monitor, additional protection measures such as exclusion fencing may be used around work areas. If exclusion fencing is recommended, exclusion fencing for blunt-nosed leopard lizard shall be installed under the supervision of a qualified biologist in accordance with Mitigation Measure BR-G.4 (Implement Biological Construction Monitoring). If a blunt-nosed leopard lizard is found within a work area, all work in the portion of the work area as deemed necessary by the Designated Biologist shall cease, until the implementation measures below are implemented. Exclusion fencing shall be uninstalled upon conclusion of construction in each work area adjacent to the blunt-nosed leopard lizard exclusion zone.</p> <p>Implement protective procedures if a blunt-nosed leopard lizard is detected on the project site. If a blunt-nosed leopard lizard (live or dead) is discovered on the site by a biological monitor or anyone else, the following protocol shall be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project supervisors and biological monitor shall be immediately notified. • In the case of a live blunt-nosed leopard lizard, the Designated Biologist shall order the cessation of all work activities within t a buffer that will be determined at their discretion such that “take” of blunt-nosed leopard lizard is avoided. The following measures shall be implemented: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the direction of the Designated Biologist, an exclusion zone shall be marked by stakes and flagging 52.4 acres around the location in which the blunt-nosed leopard lizard was observed to protect the blunt-nosed leopard lizard from construction activities. To further protect the blunt-nosed leopard lizard, temporary exclusion fencing may be installed per “Exclusion”, above. 2. The Designated Biologist shall immediately notify the USFWS and CDFW via telephone or electronic mail when a blunt-nosed leopard lizard is encountered that may be in harm’s way. 3. Subject to the approval of USFWS and CDFW, the Designated Biologist shall identify the appropriate ongoing avoidance measures that will result in avoiding “take” of the observed blunt-nosed leopard lizard. <p>In the case that a blunt-nosed leopard lizard is killed or injured as a result of project related activities, all work activities within the project site shall immediately cease in order to ensure that no additional lizards are impacted by construction activities, and the biological monitor shall immediately notify the USFWS and CDFW via telephone or electronic mail. Work shall not resume until approved by both agencies and any other mitigation measures recommended by the agencies have been fully implemented.</p> <p>Areas known to be occupied by blunt-nosed leopard lizards and all areas where protocol level surveys have not been completed shall be completely avoided. All areas known to be occupied by blunt-nosed leopard lizards (i.e., the buffers and corridors established during the implementation of MM BR-10.3 and 10.4) and areas in which protocol-level surveys for the species have not been conducted shall be completely avoided during construction.</p> <p>Establish movement corridors to allow movement of isolated blunt-nosed</p>

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	<p>leopard lizards to and from areas of greater population density. Buffer areas established for isolated individuals discovered in the uplands of the project site, shall be connected with suitable movement corridors that link isolated buffers either to occupied or suitable habitat located off the project site. This connection may include ephemeral washes/drainages or to other movement corridors providing such linkage. Movement corridors must be at least 100 feet wide, and construction activities or vehicular traffic shall be prohibited in these areas. All movement corridors shall be delineated with fencing and signage identifying each corridor as off limits to construction personnel. The fencing shall be elevated to allow the passage of San Joaquin kit fox and small mammals. All fencing shall be actively maintained and repaired as directed by biological monitors and removed upon completion of the project.</p> <p>Avoid use of plastic monofilament netting. Tightly woven fiber netting or similar material shall not be used for erosion control or other purposes at the project site to ensure that blunt-nosed leopard lizards do not become entangled or trapped. This limitation shall be communicated to all contractors through use of Special Provisions included in the bid solicitation package.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the any site mobilization, documentation must be submitted to the County demonstrating completion of the required surveys. Mitigation for impacts, if required, must be completed prior to the issuance of grading permits.</p> <p>Monitoring: Applicant must implement monitoring as prescribed in the HMMP.</p>
BR-12.2	<p>Avoid and report California condors. Should a condor land within the project area all work shall be stopped within 500 feet of the condor until the bird has left the area on its own. If the bird fails to leave the area because of injury or other factors the Applicant shall contact the USFWS /CDFW and County for direction. All California condor sightings in the project area shall be reported directly to the USFWS/CDFW and County within 24 hours.</p>
BR-13.1	<p>Focused pre-construction burrowing owl surveys and implementation of avoidance measures. No more than 30 days and no less than 14 days prior to the commencement of initial ground disturbing activities, the Applicant shall implement focused pre-construction reconnaissance level surveys for burrowing owls. Surveys shall be conducted prior to the initiation of ground disturbance and be conducted by County-approved, qualified biologist(s) with experience surveying for burrowing owls. Surveys for burrowing owls shall be conducted in conformance with the <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation</i> (CDFG, 2012) protocols. Surveys shall be completed within all areas proposed for ground disturbance and shall include the following avoidance measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="477 1436 1430 1894">I. Occupied burrows shall not be disturbed during the nesting season (1 February through 31 August) unless a qualified County-approved biologist verifies through non-invasive methods that either the birds have not begun egg-laying and incubation or that juveniles from the occupied burrows are foraging independently and are capable of independent survival. Owls present on site after 1 February will be assumed to be nesting unless evidence indicates otherwise. If western burrowing owls are present at the site, a qualified biologist will determine whether an exclusion zone can be established in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012) protocols. This protected buffer area will remain in effect until 31 August, or based upon monitoring evidence, until the young owls are foraging independently or the nest is no longer active. If a buffer consistent with the staff report (CDFG, 2012) cannot be established, an experienced burrowing owl biologist will develop a site-specific plan (i.e., a plan that considers the type and extent of the proposed activity, the duration and timing of the activity, the sensitivity and habituation of the owls, and the dissimilarity of the proposed activity

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	<p>with background activities) to minimize the potential to affect the reproductive success of the owls. If a biologist experienced with burrowing owl determines the relocation of owls is necessary, a passive relocation effort may be conducted in coordination with CDFW as appropriate. During the nonbreeding season (generally 1 September–31 January), a qualified biologist may passively relocate burrowing owls found within construction areas in accordance with Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (CDFG, 2012). Prior to passively relocating burrowing owls, a Burrowing Owl Exclusion Plan shall be prepared by a qualified biologist in accordance with Appendix E of the <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation</i> (CDFW, 2012). The Burrowing Owl Exclusion Plan shall be submitted to the CDFW for review prior to implementation, or as otherwise required by the CDFW during the permitting process.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="475 688 1430 779">2. For burrowing owls present during the non-breeding season (generally 1 September to 31 January), a 150-ft buffer zone will be maintained around the occupied burrow(s). <li data-bbox="475 785 1430 1087">3. If there is any danger that owls will be injured or killed as a result of construction activity, during the non-breeding season, the birds may be Katz & Associates-evicted during the non-breeding season. Relocation of owls during the non-breeding season will be performed by a qualified biologist using one-way doors, which should be installed in all burrows within the impact area and left in place for at least two nights. These one-way doors will then be removed and the burrows excavated to ensure no burrowing owl is within the burrow and then backfilled immediately prior to the initiation of grading. To avoid the potential for owls evicted from a burrow to occupy other burrows within the impact area, one-way doors will be placed in all potentially suitable burrows within the impact area when eviction occurs. <p>Milestones: Prior to the commencement of construction activities the required surveys shall be conducted and any required buffers shall be established.</p> <p>Monitoring: Biological monitor shall ensure implementation of avoidance measures and that buffer delineations are kept in good working order.</p>
BR-14.1	<p>Implement Avian Power Line Interaction Committee guidelines (APLIC). The Applicant will be required to construct all transmission facilities, towers, poles and lines in accordance with and comply with all policies set forth in the <i>Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines: The State of the Art in 2006</i> (APLIC) and <i>Reducing Avian Collisions with Power Lines: State of the Art in 2012</i> (APLIC, 2012), to minimize avian electrocutions as a result of the construction of the project. Details of design components shall be indicated on all construction plans and measures to comply with APLIC policies and guidelines shall be detailed in a separate attachment, all of which will be submitted with the construction permit application. The Applicant shall be required to monitor for new versions of the APLIC guidelines and update designs or implement new measures as needed during project construction provided these actions do not require the purchase of previously ordered transmission line structures.</p> <p>Milestones: Designs and documentation of compliance with the APLIC guidelines to be submitted with the construction permit application. A review of compliance with submitted materials will be conducted prior to the final County inspection.</p> <p>Monitoring: None required.</p>
BR-14.2	<p>Prepare and Implement an Avian Conservation Strategy and Eagle Conservation Plan. Prior to the issuance of a construction permit, the Avian Conservation Strategy and Eagle Conservation Plans (which have been prepared by the Applicant in draft format) shall be reviewed and approved by the County. The final plans will be developed in consultation</p>

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	<p>with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). These plans have been prepared in general accordance with the USFWS Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines (USFWS 2012), Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance Module 1 – Land-based Wind Energy Version 2 Guidance (USFWS 2013) and with information provided in the Avian Protection Plan guidelines outlined by APLIC (2005).</p> <p>The details of the final plans are subject to the approval and conditions required by the wildlife agencies. The plan will require monitoring of (1) the death and injury of birds from collisions with facility features such feeder/distribution lines, solar panels, and (2) impacts to aquatic insects from polarized light from solar panels that may affect insectivorous (insect-eating) birds. The study design shall be approved by the County of San Benito in consultation with the CDFW and/or the USFWS.</p> <p>Bird mortality study. The bird mortality component of the Avian Conservation Strategy shall include at a minimum: detailed specifications on data, a carcass collection protocol, and a rationale justifying the proposed schedule of carcass searches. The study shall also include seasonal trials to assess bias from carcass removal by scavengers as well as searcher bias.</p> <p>Polarized light and insectivorous birds study. The study of polarized light impacts on insectivorous birds shall include at a minimum: detailed specifications regarding data requirements, including protocols for collection and identification of insect eggs found on solar panels, and a rationale for a data collection schedule.</p> <p>During construction and for one year following the beginning of the solar farm operation the biologist shall submit annual reports to the County describing the dates, durations, and results of monitoring and data collection. The annual reports shall provide a detailed description of any project-related bird or wildlife deaths or injuries detected during the monitoring study or at any other time and data collected for the study of polarized light impacts on insectivorous birds. The report shall analyze any project-related bird fatalities or injuries detected, and provides recommendations (in consultation with the County) for future monitoring and any adaptive management actions needed.</p> <p>Thresholds. Thresholds will be determined by the County in consultation with CDFW and/or USFWS. If the County determines that either (1) bird mortality caused by solar facilities is substantial and is having potentially adverse impacts on special-status bird populations, or that (2) the attraction of polarized light from solar panels is causing reproductive failure of aquatic insect populations at high enough levels to adversely affect insectivorous special-status birds, the Applicant shall be required to implement some or all of the mitigation measures below.</p> <p>Implementation Measures. To minimize bird mortality caused by solar facilities, the Applicant may be required to install additional bird flight diverters alterations to project components that have been identified as key mortality features, or implement other appropriate actions approved by the County and regulatory agencies based on the findings of the Avian Conservation Strategy and Eagle Conservation Plan.</p> <p>If mitigation actions are required, the annual reporting shall continue until the County, in consultation with CDFW and USFWS, determines whether more years of monitoring are needed, and whether additional mitigation and adaptive management measures are necessary. After the Avian Conservation Strategy and Eagle Conservation Plan is determined by the County to be complete, the Applicant shall prepare papers that describe the design and monitoring results of the two studies to be submitted to peer-reviewed scientific journals. Proof of submittal shall be provided to the County, CDFW and USFWS within one year of concluding the monitoring studies.</p> <p>Milestones: Avian Conservation Strategy and Eagle Conservation Plan shall be submitted to the County prior to the start of construction. The County will consult with CDFW and/or</p>

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BR-15.1	<p>USFWS on the proposed program prior to approval.</p> <p>Monitoring: Qualified biologist to monitor impacts to birds during construction and for one year after completion of construction.</p> <hr/> <p>Survey pre-construction maternity colony or hibernaculum for sensitive bats. The Applicant shall retain a County-qualified biologist, holding a CDFW collection permit and a Memorandum of Understanding with CDFW allowing the biologist to handle bats, to conduct pre-construction surveys for sensitive bats. Surveys shall be conducted at least 30 days prior to construction and preferably during the maternity season (1 March to 31 August) within 500 feet of project activities (where project personnel can secure right of entry and there is potential habitat for bat roosts) in order to document potential use of the site by special-status bat species and document the location of active and potential non-active maternity roost sites.</p> <p>If active maternity roosts or hibernacula are found, the structure, tree or tower feature occupied by the roost shall be avoided (i.e., not removed), if feasible. If avoidance of the maternity roost is not feasible, the biologist shall survey (through the use of radio telemetry or other CDFW approved methods) for nearby alternative maternity colony sites. If the biologist determines in consultation with and with the approval of the CDFW and the County that there are alternative roost sites used by the maternity colony and young are not present then no further action is required, and it will not be necessary to provide alternate roosting habitat. If no active roosts are found, then no further action is required. If active maternity roosts are absent, but a hibernaculum (i.e., a winter roost) is present, then MM BR-15.2 is not necessary, but MM BR-15.3 is required.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the commencement of construction activities, surveys will be conducted and the County will enforce compliance with the above avoidance measures.</p> <p>Monitoring: If a potential non-active maternity roost site is identified during preconstruction surveys performed outside of the maternity season (31 March to 31 August), a bat biologist, as defined as an individual holding a Memorandum of Understanding to handle bats in California, will conduct follow-up surveys during active construction during the next maternity season to determine if the roost is a maternity colony. The surveys will include a minimum of two counts per summer: one count in early summer during the prevalent period, or before the young of the year are able to fly, and a second count in late summer, during the postvolant period, after the young of the year are able to fly, but before the maternity colonies disperse.</p>
BR-15.2	<p>Provide substitute roosting habitat. If a maternity roost will be impacted by the Project, and no alternative maternity roosts are in use near the site, substitute roosting habitat for the maternity colony shall be provided on, or in close proximity to, the Project site no less than one year prior to the eviction of the colony. Alternative roost sites will be constructed in accordance with the specific bats requirements in coordination with the County. By making the roosting habitat available a year prior to eviction (MM BR-15.3), the colony will have a better chance of finding and using the roost. Alternative roost sites must be of comparable size and proximal in location to the impacted colony. The CDFW shall also be notified of any hibernacula or active nurseries within the construction zone. If construction of alternative roost sites is required, the biologist shall provide a written report, documenting the required coordination with CDFW as well as the location of roost sites. This report shall be provided to the County.</p> <p>Milestones: Construction of alternative roost sites as required for the duration of construction activities and submission of a written report detailing activities and submitted to the County prior to final County inspection.</p>

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	Monitoring: None required.
BR-15.3	<p>Exclude bats prior to eviction from roosts. If non-breeding bats are found in structures, towers or trees scheduled to be removed, the individuals shall be safely evicted, under the direction of a qualified biologist, by opening the roosting area to allow airflow through the cavity or other means determined appropriate by the bat biologist (e.g., installation of one-way doors). In situations requiring one-way doors, a minimum of one week shall pass after doors are installed and temperatures should be sufficiently warm for bats to exit the roost because bats do not typically leave their roost daily during winter months in southern coastal California. This action should allow all bats to leave during the course of one week. Roosts that need to be removed in situations where the use of one-way doors is not necessary in the judgment of the qualified biologist shall first be disturbed by various means at the direction of the bat biologist at dusk to allow bats to escape during the darker hours, and the roost tree shall be removed or the grading shall occur the next day (i.e., there shall be no less or more than one night between initial disturbance and the grading or tree removal).</p> <p>If an active maternity roost is located in an area to be impacted by the Project, and alternative roosting habitat is available, the demolition of the roost site must commence before maternity colonies form (i.e., prior to 1 March) or after young are flying (i.e., after 31 August) using the exclusion techniques described above.</p> <p>Milestones: Exclusion of non-breeding bats found in structures, towers or trees scheduled to be removed as needed for the duration of construction activities.</p> <p>Monitoring: None required.</p>
BR-15.4	<p>Implement management recommendations at known roosts. If maternity roosts are identified during pre-construction conducted under MM BR-15.1 or during routine inspections of the conservation lands as identified in the HMP (e.g. road surveys for invasive species, antelope squirrel and BNLL), protective measures would be implemented to protect those roosts. Management actions to be considered shall include measures that protect and/or provide suitable roosting opportunities, such as mine gate closures or protection of existing structures/riparian habitat that would support bat roosts within the Conservation Lands. These measures shall be incorporated into the HMP developed for the Conservation Lands per MM BR-G.6.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the commencement of construction activities, the Applicant must submit the HMP per MM BR-G.6 to the County for approval.</p>
BR-16.1	<p>Conduct focused pre-construction giant kangaroo rat burrow/precinct surveys and avoid. No more than 30 days prior to commencement of ground disturbing activities the Applicant shall retain a County-approved, qualified biologist to conduct pre-construction surveys for each phase of the project. If active giant kangaroo rat burrows/precincts are present, they shall be flagged, and ground-disturbing activities shall not occur within 50 feet of each active burrow/precinct. The setback shall be marked in the field to be easily visible by all construction personnel. The biological monitor shall periodically field check the mapped burrows/precincts to ensure that buffer delineation and flagging are all in good working order. All active burrows/precincts shall be mapped and incorporated into a GIS based figure for use by the on-site monitors and construction crews. Figures shall include each mapped burrow/precinct and buffer utilizing a highly visible method easily identifiable by construction workers and monitors in the field.</p> <p>If avoidance is not possible, the Applicant and qualified biologist will take the following sequential steps when working in such areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Giant kangaroo rats present in impact areas shall be live trapped and relocated to

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	<p>suitable habitat as described in an approved Giant Kangaroo Rat Relocation Plan (described below). The Final Giant Kangaroo Rat Relocation Plan will be developed in coordination with wildlife agencies (USFWS and CDFW). If the disturbance is temporary (< 1 day) trapped individuals may be held under suitable conditions, during the period of disturbance, and then released at the same location at which they were trapped. Other suitable locations include unoccupied burrow precincts within the habitat corridors (see MM BR-16.3) or on the mitigation lands. At least 30 days before the start of construction, a Giant Kangaroo Rat Relocation Plan shall be submitted to the County for approval. The plan shall include but not be limited to the following: the methods for capturing animals; the procedures for evaluating health of the animals; the location and methods for storing live animals; the methods for soft release (i.e., fencing); radio tagging; monitoring for survivorship; and remedial actions for injured or lost animals. The Giant Kangaroo Rat Relocation Plan would generally include these components; however the details of the final plan will be subject to the approval and conditions set forth by wildlife agencies.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Methods shall be taken to prevent entry to the burrow (e.g., one way doors) by giant kangaroo rat and other small mammal species until construction is complete in these areas. 3. Once construction activities are complete access to the burrows shall be restored where possible. If construction-related impacts would result in the crushing or destruction of a burrow then the burrow shall be excavated (either by hand or mechanized equipment under the direct supervision of the biologist, removing no more than 4 inches at a time or as described in the wildlife agency-approved Giant Kangaroo Rat Relocation Plan). If giant kangaroo rat burrows/precincts must be trapped from January through June (recognized breeding/mating season), the Giant Kangaroo Rat Relocation Plan includes protocol to be followed if a lactating female giant kangaroo rat or young are encountered. <p>If exclusion fencing for giant kangaroo rat is deemed necessary by the County's biological monitor, fencing shall be installed in accordance with Mitigation Measure BR-G.4 (Implement Biological Construction Monitoring).</p> <p>The Applicant shall document all giant kangaroo rat burrows/precincts abandoned or destroyed and provide a written report to the County of San Benito, prior to final County inspection that allows operation of each project phase.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the commencement of construction activities, pre-construction surveys shall be completed. Prior to the final County inspection that allows operation, the final report (as detailed above) shall be submitted to the County.</p> <p>Monitoring: On-site biological monitor will periodically survey for potential burrows and implementation of the above avoidance measures.</p>
BR-16.2	<p>Minimize impacts of foundation support installations. The Applicant shall evaluate and implement feasible foundation installation systems to minimize noise and vibration that would affect ground-dwelling wildlife.</p>
BR-16.3	<p>Preserve, manage, and maintain giant kangaroo rat habitat corridors across the project footprint. In order to preserve, manage, and maintain the ongoing functionality of the proposed giant kangaroo rat corridors (habitat corridors) on the Valley Floor Conservation Lands, the Applicant shall implement the following measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. To ensure the ongoing functionality of the habitat corridors, the habitat corridors shall satisfy the following requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The habitat corridors need not be of uniform width but at no point shall a corridor width be less than 100 feet on either side of the incised channel, or

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	<p>more than 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark where no incised channel is evident.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> b. A minimum of 50 active precincts shall occur within the habitat corridor at the time of corridor designation, and they shall be distributed throughout the length of the corridor to ensure connectivity. c. Habitat corridors shall conform to contours of natural ecological features in the landscape in which the ecological requirements of the species are the foremost consideration. d. Habitat corridors shall be fenced with 3-strand barbed wire. Fence locations shall be revised from those defined in the Final EIR for the proposed project and alternatives to be a maximum of 25 feet from edges of all panel installations. e. Project design shall incorporate road designation that avoids roads adjacent to the corridors (i.e., there shall be no driving on the side of any panel block adjacent to a designated habitat corridor). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. New construction of buildings, ornamental tree plantings, or other features not already identified in the Final EIR that would reduce available habitat and may provide perching opportunities for predatory birds shall not be permitted within or directly adjacent to the habitat corridors. 3. Prior to commencement of construction, habitat corridors shall be placed under a biological conservation easement to be preserved in perpetuity pursuant to Mitigation Measure BR-G.5, subject to the following restriction: driving or road building shall be prohibited across habitat corridors except where this provision conflict with the emergency access requirements of the CAL FIRE/San Benito County Fire Department. <p>Milestones: Conservation easement on habitat corridors shall be recorded prior to commencement of construction.</p> <p>Monitoring: Construction monitoring shall occur for the duration of construction and if the biologist determines that the corridors are not functional, adaptive management measures shall be implemented in consultation with USFWS and CDFW.</p>
BR-17.1	<p>Conduct pre-construction San Joaquin antelope squirrel surveys and implement avoidance measures. No more than 30 days prior to the commencement of ground disturbance activities the Applicant shall retain a County-approved, qualified biologist to conduct pre-construction surveys for each phase of the project. If present, active San Joaquin antelope squirrel burrows shall be flagged and ground-disturbing activities shall be avoided within a minimum of 50 feet surrounding each active burrow. If avoidance is not possible, the Applicant shall take the following sequential steps when working in such areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow for one night without disturbance to the burrow and surrounding area to allow the antelope squirrels to vacate the burrow 2. Antelope squirrels shall be live trapped and relocated out of impacted areas as described in a the San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel Relocation Plan. The Final San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel Relocation Plan shall be developed in coordination with wildlife agencies (USFWS and CDFW) and details of the plan will be subject to final agency authorization and conditions of approval 3. Methods shall be taken to prevent reentry to the burrow by antelope squirrels (and other small mammal species) until construction is complete in these areas. 4. Once construction activities are complete access to the burrows shall be restored. If construction-related impacts would result in the crushing or destruction of a burrow then the burrow shall be excavated (either by hand or mechanized equipment under the direct supervision of the biologist, removing no more than 4

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	<p>inches at a time) or as specified in the agency-approved San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel Relocation Plan.</p> <p>5. Antelope squirrel burrows shall not be disturbed from January to May (recognized breeding/mating season) unless a qualified biologist, utilizing video technology, verifies that no young are present in the burrow, or except following methods detailed in the agency-approved Antelope Squirrel Relocation Plan.</p> <p>The Applicant shall document all San Joaquin antelope squirrel burrows abandoned or destroyed and, prior to final County inspection, provide a written report to the County of San Benito, CDFW and USFWS.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the commencement of construction activities, pre-construction shall be completed. Prior to the final County inspection the final report, detailed above, shall be submitted to the County, CDFW and USFWS.</p> <p>Monitoring: On-site biological monitor will periodically survey for potential burrows requiring the above avoidance measures.</p>
BR-18.1	<p>Conduct focused pre-construction surveys for American badger surveys and implementation of avoidance measures. No more than 30 days prior to the commencement of construction activities, the Applicant shall retain a County-qualified biologist to conduct pre-construction surveys for American badger within suitable habitat on the project site. If present, occupied badger dens shall be flagged and ground-disturbing activities avoided within 50 feet of the occupied den. Maternity dens shall be avoided during puprearing season (15 February through 1 July) and a minimum 200-foot buffer established. The extent of buffers shall be flagged in the field utilizing a method highly visible by construction crews. Buffers may be modified with the concurrence of the CDFW. Maternity dens shall be flagged for avoidance, identified on construction maps, and a biological monitor shall be present during construction to monitor for adequate protection of all identified dens and to ensure that all flagging is kept in good working order.</p> <p>If avoidance of a non-maternity den (impacts to maternity dens is not allowed) is not feasible, badgers shall be relocated by slowly excavating the burrow (either by hand or mechanized equipment under the direct supervision of the biologist, removing no more than 4 inches at a time) before or after the rearing season (15 February through 1 July). Any passive relocation of badgers shall occur only after consultation with the CDFW and the biological monitor.</p> <p>Prior to the final County inspection or occupancy, whichever comes first, a written report documenting all badger related activities (e.g., den flagging, monitoring, badger removal) shall be provided to the County of San Benito. A copy of the report will also be provided to the CDFW.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to the commencement of construction activities pre-construction surveys will be conducted and prior to final County inspection, the County will conduct a review of compliance with the above avoidance measures.</p> <p>Monitoring: Biological monitor shall routinely inspect protected dens and ensure that delineation methods are in good working order.</p>
BR-19.1	<p>Conduct focused pre-construction San Joaquin kit fox surveys and implementation of avoidance measures, as detailed in the San Joaquin kit fox Conservation Measures document for the project. The San Joaquin kit fox Conservation Measures document shall be developed and implemented in coordination with the wildlife agencies (USFWS and CDFW). Though final details of the Conservation Measures will be subject to the approval authority of the wildlife agencies, typical measures include the following: Preconstruction surveys conducted by a County-qualified and USFWS approved biologist (no more than 30 days prior to construction), avoidance of ground disturbing</p>

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	<p>activities around active dens (with a buffer to be determined by the qualified biologist, typically 100-feet), flagging to identify den locations and buffer areas, and regular monitoring by the qualified biological monitor during construction. No more than 30 days prior to commencement of construction activities the Applicant shall retain a County-qualified and USFWS approved biologist to conduct pre-construction surveys for each phase (construction of each solar array) of the project. If determined to be active, San Joaquin kit fox dens will be fenced and ground-disturbing activities shall be avoided within a minimum of 100 feet surrounding each active den. Fencing shall encircle each den at the appropriate buffer distance and should not prevent access to the den by San Joaquin kit fox. Construction activities may occur in the area once it has been determined the fox has moved out of the construction area. Atypical dens will require a 100-foot buffer demarcated by flagging. The flagging shall consist of 4 to 5 flagged stakes 100 feet from the den entrance(s) to sufficiently identify the den location. All on-site flagging and buffer delineations shall be kept in good working order for the duration of each construction phase. The biologist shall routinely monitor all dens flagged for protection to ensure they are not disturbed during the construction phase.</p> <p>If occupied natal dens are found within 1000 feet of project activities the USFWS shall be contacted immediately, all project related activities within a 200-foot radius shall stop until the pups have left the den, and/or all measures detailed in the agency-approved SJKF Conservation Measures will be implemented. Avoidance of natal dens is mandatory. Details of the SJKF Conservation Measures will be subject to the approval authority of the wildlife agencies. Typical measures are included below. The SJKF will implement equivalent measures in a similar manner, at the discretion of the wildlife agencies. If avoidance of potential or known dens is not possible, the Applicant shall take the following sequential steps (or as specified by the SJKF Conservation Measures approved by the wildlife agencies) when working in such areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Allow for three consecutive days of monitoring to determine the occupancy status of each den. Activity at the den shall be monitored by using tracking medium at the entrance to the den or stationary infrared beam cameras and by spotlighting. If no activity is observed actions described below under step 3 may be implemented. If kit fox activity is observed the den shall be monitored for an additional 5 days from the date of observance. Use of the den during this time can be discouraged by partially plugging its entrance(s) with soil in such a manner that any resident animal can escape easily. If kit fox are still present after 5 days, den excavation, discussed below under step 3 may proceed when, in the judgment of the qualified/approved biologist it is temporarily vacant.2. Once the kit fox has vacated the den methods (e.g., one way doors) shall be taken to prevent reentry to the burrow by kit fox (and other mammal species) until construction is complete in these areas. Once construction activities are complete access to the burrows shall be restored3. Once it has been confirmed that the dens have been vacated, if construction-related impacts would result in the crushing or destruction of a den then the den shall be excavated. Excavation shall be done only hand and under the direct supervision of the biologist, removing no more than 4 inches at a time or as specified in the agency-approved San Joaquin kit fox conservation measures. If at any time during excavation a San Joaquin kit fox is discovered inside the den all activity will cease immediately and monitoring described above under step 1 shall be resumed. As indicated above, natal dens shall not be disturbed at any time. <p>Collaring of individual SJKF, for location monitoring, may be used as an impact avoidance measure.</p>

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	<p>The biologist shall document all kit fox dens abandoned, destroyed or avoided/protected. Prior to final County inspection or occupancy, whichever comes first, the biologist shall prepare a written compliance report for County review and approval.</p> <p>Prior to the completion of construction in each phase of the project the Applicant shall replace all excavated kit fox dens with artificial dens on a 2:1 basis. The location and design of the artificial dens will be approved by the County prior to installation.</p> <p>Additionally, upon completion of each phase of construction activities, escape dens shall be installed in areas between the arrays to facilitate movement of individuals through the project area as specified in the SJKV Conservation Measures. These dens will measure 8 inches across, be constructed of PVC pipe and be installed with rebar to restrict the opening to 6 inches to prevent use by badgers or coyotes. The 8-inch-diameter PVC pipe should be at least 25 feet long, placed flat on the ground surface and covered with soil for thermal protection. A minimum of one escape den per quarter mile shall be required. Locations of all escape dens shall be indicated on all constructions plans submitted with the construction permit package and be approved by the County prior to installation.</p> <p>As required by the FEIR, lands permanently affected by the proposed Project will be mitigated at a 4:1 acreage ratio by conservation lands. This 4:1 ratio will be broken down into high and moderate suitability habitat. A 2:1 acreage ratio will consist of high suitability habitat, and another 2:1 acreage ratio will consist of moderately suitable habitat, as described in detail in the SJKF Conservation Measures.</p> <p>Milestones: Prior to commencement of construction activities conduct pre-construction surveys. Prior to the final County inspection a review of compliance with measures and documentation of mitigation will be required.</p> <p>Monitoring: Dens present on the current construction phase shall be monitored by the biological monitor during construction.</p>
BR-22.1	<p>Fence temporary pond to exclude wildlife. The perimeter of the pond shall be surrounded by a barrier fence (or combination of fencing) designed to keep wildlife species out. The temporary chain link fence shall be tall enough (6 feet) to keep out large mammals, and additional fine material exclusionary fencing shall be buried at least 2 feet, to keep out amphibians, reptiles, and small and medium sized mammals. This mitigation measure will be effective because the barrier methods employed will reduce wildlife exposure. The monitoring shall at a minimum include the following:</p> <p>A designated biologist shall regularly survey the ponds at least once per month starting with the first month of construction of the ponds. If special species are observed dead, entangled or attempting to breach the exclusion fence, the designated biologist will take immediate steps to remedy these problems in coordination with CDFW and USFWS. The designated biologist shall report the death of any special status species within 24 hours of discovering the carcass to the CDFW and USFWS; non-special status birds or other wildlife deaths shall be reported within two days of discovering the carcass. Prepare reports for the County, CDFW, and USFWS. No less than 30 days prior to operation of the evaporation ponds, the project owner shall provide to the County engineered drawings of the ponds. The designated biologist shall submit annual monitoring reports to the County, CDFW, and USFWS describing the dates, durations, and results of monitoring conducted at the ponds. The annual reports shall fully describe any wildlife death, entanglements, or observed attempts by wildlife to breach the exclusion fence and shall describe actions taken to remedy these problems. The report shall be submitted to the County, CDFW, and USFWS no later than January 30th of every year for construction of the project.</p>
BR-23.1	<p>Create conservation easement on all project areas retired from the</p>

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	<p>development footprint. Prior to the start of construction, the Applicant shall record a permanent biological conservation easement on the entire footprint of the approved project that requires preservation in perpetuity of project areas retired from the development footprint at the time they are retired. The Applicant shall provide funds for a “qualified land trust” (defined below) to acquire appropriate conservation easement(s), or shall donate appropriate conservation easement(s) to a qualified land trust or to an appropriate mitigation bank. The Applicant could also purchase a conservation easement, rather than fee title, from a landowner. A qualified land trust is defined as one that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has substantial experience managing conservation easements that are created to meet mitigation requirements for impacts to special-status species• Has substantial experience managing conservation easements on rangeland• Has adopted the Land Trust Alliance’s <i>Standards and Practices</i>• Has a stewardship endowment fund to pay for its perpetual stewardship obligations. <p>The County shall determine whether a proposed conservation easement holder meets these requirements.</p> <p>The Applicant shall also be responsible for donating to the land trust fees sufficient to cover: (1) Administrative costs incurred by the land trust in the creation of the conservation easement (appraisal, documenting baseline conditions, etc.) and (2) provide funds in the form of a non-wasting endowment to cover the cost of monitoring and enforcing the terms of the conservation easement in perpetuity. The amount of these administrative and stewardship fees shall be determined by the land trust in consultation with the County.</p> <p>Conservation easement(s) shall also be subject to the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The locations of acceptable conservation easement(s) shall be developed with approval of CDFW and USFWS.• The primary purpose of the conservation easement(s) shall be conservation of impacted species and vegetative communities, but the conservation easement(s) shall also allow livestock grazing when and where it is compatible with or deemed beneficial for the habitat needs of impacted species. <p>Conservation easement(s) shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be held in perpetuity by a qualified land trust (defined above).• Be subject to a legally binding agreement that shall: (1) Be recorded with the County Recorder(s) along with a recorded “notice of conservation easement”; (2) Include “conservation easement” in the title of the recorded agreement(s); (3) Name CDFW or another organization to which the conservation easement(s) will be conveyed if the original holder is dissolved.• Be subject to the management requirements outlined in Mitigation Measure BR-G.6 (Develop and implement a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan for mitigation lands). <p>In addition to recordation of a conservation easement, the following requirement related to project repowering shall be met: if the approved project is repowered at a future time, the repowered project footprint shall be no greater than that of the approved project.</p> <p>Milestones: Conservation easement on approved project footprint shall be recorded prior to commencement of construction.</p> <p>Monitoring: Documentation of recorded conservation easement shall be submitted to the San Benito County Department of Planning and Building.</p>

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Cultural and Paleontological Resources	
CR-2.1	<p>Conduct cultural resource monitoring during construction. A professional archaeologist shall monitor subsurface construction disturbance as required by the County (with the exception of direct-driven support pipes beneath PV panels). The number of monitors present per day will be at the discretion of the County Department of Planning and Building, but shall be proportional to the amount of equipment actively excavating and shall reflect knowledge gained over the course of the project. Archaeological monitoring shall be directed by a Registered Professional Archaeologist familiar with the types of archaeological resources that could be encountered within the project area. At locations sensitive for Native American remains (i.e., within 200 meters of Panoche Creek and Las Aguilas Creek), a Native American monitor shall be present. The County Department of Planning and Building shall ensure compliance with and effectiveness of the cultural resources monitoring program. Any unanticipated discovery shall be documented by the archaeologist on a Department of Parks and Recreation Primary Record and Archaeological Site Record (DPR 523) and further treated in accordance with MM CR-2.2 below. The Applicant shall fully fund all monitoring and documentation activities.</p>
CR-2.2	<p>Treat previously unidentified archaeological resources discovered during construction. If archaeological remains are discovered during construction, the Applicant shall immediately cease all work activities within 100 feet of the discovery and notify the County within 24 hours. Work shall not resume in the affected area until a Registered Professional Archaeologist familiar with the resources of the region inspects the discovery and determines whether further investigation is required to evaluate the significance and CRHR eligibility of the site, including performing additional test excavation or other studies, as necessary, to fully evaluate the significance of the discovered resource. If the site meets California Register of Historic Resources significance criteria and further damage cannot be avoided, then a data recovery plan shall be developed and implemented prior to resuming ground disturbance in the affected area. The data recovery plan shall make provisions for data collection, laboratory processing and technical analyses, final reporting, and curation of archaeological remains, and shall be reviewed and approved by the County Department of Planning and Building prior to implementation. All such work shall be fully funded by the Applicant.</p>
CR-2.3	<p>Inadvertent discovery of human remains. If human remains are uncovered, or in any other case when human remains are discovered during construction, the San Benito County Coroner is to be notified immediately to arrange their proper treatment and disposition and the Applicant shall immediately cease all work activities within 300 feet of the discovery. If the remains are identified — on the basis of archaeological context, age, cultural associations, or biological traits — as those of a Native American, California Health and Safety Code 7050.5 and Public Resource Code 5097.98 require that the coroner notify the NAHC within 24 hours of discovery. The NAHC will then identify the Most Likely Descendent, who will determine the manner in which the remains are treated.</p>
CR-2.4	<p>Implement workers environmental awareness program. All construction personnel shall be trained regarding the recognition of possible buried cultural remains and protection of all cultural resources, including prehistoric and historic resources during construction, prior to the initiation of construction or ground-disturbing activities. Training shall inform all construction personnel of the procedures to be followed upon the discovery of archaeological materials, including Native American burials. All personnel shall be instructed that unauthorized collection or disturbance of artifacts or other cultural materials within or outside the project area by the Applicant, their representatives, their contractors, or their</p>

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	<p>employees will not be allowed. Violators will be subject to prosecution under the appropriate State and federal laws, and violations will be grounds for removal from the project. Unauthorized resource collection or disturbance may constitute grounds for the issuance of a stop work order. The following issues shall be addressed in training or in preparation for construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All construction contracts shall include clauses that require construction personnel to attend training so they are aware of the potential for inadvertently exposing buried archaeological deposits, their responsibility to avoid and protect all cultural resources, and the penalties for collection, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction of cultural resources. • Upon discovery of potential buried cultural materials by archaeologists or construction personnel, work in the immediate area of the find shall be diverted and the Applicant’s archaeologist notified. Once the find has been inspected and a preliminary assessment made, the applicant’s archaeologist shall consult with the County, as appropriate, to make the necessary plans for evaluation and treatment of the find(s). <p>The Applicant shall provide to the County a list of construction personnel who have completed the cultural resources identification training prior to start of construction, and this list shall be updated as required when new personnel start work. No construction worker may work in the field without first participating in the training program.</p>
PA-1.1	<p>Implement site-specific paleontological recovery. The Applicant shall identify and implement procedures to recover and preserve unknown and accidentally discovered significant fossils within the paleontologically sensitive areas on site. Recovery shall include: salvage of significant fossils; washing of representative samples of sediments that are likely to contain the remains of small fossil invertebrates and vertebrates; preparation of recovered specimens to a point of identification and permanent preservation; identification, curation, and accession of specimens into a museum repository with permanent retrievable storage; preparation of a report of findings with an appended itemized inventory of specimens. The report, inventory, and record of accession shall be submitted to the County and the curation facility. This mitigation shall be implemented pursuant to a Paleontologic Monitoring and Recovery Plan prepared prior to construction by a qualified Principal Paleontologist, following the guidelines of the Society for Vertebrate Paleontology (1995) and submitted to the County for review and approval prior to ground disturbance.</p>
PA-1.2	<p>Monitor grading and excavation for unknown and accidentally discovered paleontological resources. A qualified paleontological monitor under the supervision of a Registered Professional Geologist shall monitor grading, trenching, and other earth disturbance that may affect the Pleistocene Older Alluvium (Qoa), mapped in a small segment within the western portion of the project area. If fossils are encountered, then paleontological recovery shall be carried out. All work shall be consistent with the Paleontologic Monitoring and Recovery Plan prepared pursuant to MM PA-1.1 and shall be fully funded by the Applicant. Recovery shall include: salvage of significant fossils; washing of representative samples of sediments that are likely to contain the remains of small fossil invertebrates and vertebrates; preparation of recovered specimens to a point of identification and permanent preservation; identification, curation, and accession of specimens into a museum repository with permanent retrievable storage; preparation of a report of findings with an appended itemized inventory of specimens. The report, inventory, and record of accession shall be submitted to the County and the curation facility, and its submission shall signify completion of the program to mitigate impacts to paleontological resources.</p>

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Geology, Mineral Resources, and Soils	
GE-4.1	<p>Implement Geotechnical Report recommendations. All earthwork operations, including site preparation, and the selection, placement, and compaction of fill materials shall be performed in accordance with the recommendations and the project specifications set forth in the Geotechnical Report (ENGEO, 2010) to ensure the safety of people and structures. Earthwork recommendations relative to adverse soil conditions are summarized below, and shall be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further corrosion testing shall be performed by a Professional Geologist to better characterize the site and properly design piles to withstand corrosion prior to approval of final foundation plans. • A Professional Geologist shall review the final grading and foundation plans and specifications prior to construction to determine whether ENGEO's recommendations have been implemented, and to provide additional or modified recommendations, if necessary, to verify whether changes have occurred in the nature, design, or location of the proposed improvements. • Construction monitoring should occur to check the validity of the assumptions in preparing the geotechnical report. All earthwork operations should be performed under the observation of a Professional Geologist to ensure that the site is properly prepared, the selected fill materials are satisfactory, and placement and compaction of the fills has been performed in accordance with the report recommendations and project specifications. Sufficient notification prior to earthwork shall be given. • Clean and backfill excavations extending below the planned finished site grades with suitable material compacted to the recommendations presented in the geotechnical report.
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	
HZ-5.1	<p>Cease work during Red Flag Warning. During a Red Flag Warning issued for the zone encompassing the proposed project, all grading, welding, soldering, and smoking shall cease at the project site. In addition, vehicles shall remain on designated access roads or laydown areas cleared of vegetation.</p>
PS-1.1	<p>Develop and implement service agreement with San Benito County Fire Department. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Public Services, Utilities, and Service Systems.</p>
HZ-7.1	<p>Prohibit standing water. In order to eliminate the risk of generating disease vectors at the site, during project construction and operations the Applicant shall ensure that open containers be inverted and construction ditches not be allowed to accumulate water. Construction and maintenance operations shall not generate standing water, except for stormwater management ponds and temporary water storage ponds. Naturally occurring depressions, drainages, and pools at the site shall not be drained or filled without consulting with the appropriate resource agency (San Benito County, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game) and obtaining the appropriate permits.</p>
HZ-7.2	<p>Protect Workers and Public from Valley Fever. The Applicant shall implement the following measures to reduce the likelihood that construction workers and the public are infected with Valley Fever:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant shall prepare a detailed informational brochure explaining Valley Fever, its cause, and its symptoms, and the populations most at risk for the disease.

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	<p>The brochure shall incorporate information provided the California Department of Public Health (DPH) (http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Pages/Coccidioidomycosis.aspx) and shall be reviewed by a DPH for adequacy at least 30 days before the start of construction. The brochure will identify methods for controlling the spread of the illness, such as changing clothing daily, using respiratory protection, applying water the soil, and cleaning equipment and materials. The approved brochure shall be provided to all residents of the Panoche Valley and all families of students at the Panoche Valley School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant shall make breathing protection gear available to all workers, at their request and at no cost to workers. • As part of the Safe Worker Environmental Awareness Program, the Applicant shall educate workers to recognize the symptoms of Valley Fever, and to promptly report suspected symptoms of work-related Valley Fever to a supervisor. • Sign will be posted onsite alerting visitors to the threat of this illness.
Land Use and Recreation	
LU-1.1	<p>Establish construction liaison. The Applicant shall provide a toll-free general phone number and the name and contact information for a local public liaison to all property owners within a one-mile radius of the project’s boundaries. The toll-free access number and the identified local public liaison shall act as points of contact between property owners and construction crews. The local public liaison shall be available both in person and by phone, as necessary, for at least 30 days prior to the start of any construction-related activities and for up to one year following construction. During construction, the local public liaison shall respond to all construction-related questions and concerns within 72-hours. Post-construction responses shall be made within 1 week.</p> <p>The Applicant shall provide summary documentation of all comments and concerns communicated to the liaison monthly for the duration of construction and for one year following the completion of construction. The compliance documentation shall include the name and address of the person (if known) contacting the local public liaison, the date of contact, and what actions were taken to rectify and/or address the comments or concerns expressed. The compliance documentation shall be submitted to the County of San Benito Planning and Building Department on a quarterly basis throughout the duration of construction and for one year following construction.</p>
LU-1.2	<p>Provide advance notice of construction. Prior to and during construction, the Applicant shall give at least 30 days advance notice of the start of any construction-related activities for each phase (Phases 1 through 5) to all residences located within 5 miles of the project phase boundary, the Principal of the Panoche Elementary School, and the Bureau of Land Management Hollister Field Office. The notification shall include the toll-free general phone number and contact information for the local public liaison (Mitigation Measure LU-1.1, Establish construction liaison). Notification shall be provided by: (1) mailing notices to all property within a five-mile radius of the project site’s boundaries; (2) placing notices in local newspapers; (3) mailing to the Principal of the Panoche Elementary School; (4) website posting with a link from the County website, and (4) signs shall be posted at the project site in areas accessible to the public. The announcement shall state where and when construction would occur; provide tips on reducing noise intrusion (e.g., closing windows facing the planned construction); and provide a point of contact for any noise complaints. The Applicant shall provide to the Department of Planning and Building within 72 hours of any complaints received a report that documents the complaints and the strategy for resolution</p>

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Mitigation No.	Measure by Issue Area
	of any noise complaints.
LU-1.3	<p>Provide quarterly construction updates. Following publication/transmittal of the advance notification of construction (Mitigation Measure LU-1.2, Provide advance notification of construction), the Applicant shall provide all property owners within a one-mile radius of the project site’s boundaries with updates and changes to all of the information provided in the pre-construction notification. The updates shall be provided every quarter for the duration of all construction-related activities. The updates shall continue to provide the toll-free number and the name and phone number of the local public liaison to respond to all construction-related questions and concerns. The local public liaison shall continue to respond to all questions and complaints within a 72-hour period during construction and within one week for post-construction activities (Mitigation Measure LU-1.1, Establish construction liaison).</p>
Noise	
NS-1.1	<p>Shield construction staging areas. Prior to using noisy equipment during construction and decommissioning activities, the Applicant shall install adequate temporary noise barriers around the construction staging areas to reduce noise levels associated with deliveries to these areas and construction equipment staging to meet County noise level standards (45 dBA hourly Leq daytime; 35 dBA hourly Leq nighttime at the project’s property line). Temporary noise barriers include noise-attenuating shields, shrouds, or portable barriers or enclosures that block the line of sight between the activity and the sensitive use, which would include schools, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, parks, and campgrounds. Temporary noise barriers may include wood fencing, hay bales, or noise curtains. Noise control shields shall be made of a durable, flexible composite material featuring a noise barrier layer bonded to a weather-protected, sound-absorptive material on the construction-activity side of the noise shield. Noise levels shall be monitored during construction at the project’s property line closest to the construction staging areas. Should hourly noise level standards be exceeded as a result of work occurring at a staging area, all noise-related work at that staging area shall stop until adequate noise attenuation measures are installed to meet these standards. Any measure installed shall remain in good working order during the duration of the noisemaking activity.</p>
NS-1.2	<p>Implement noise-reducing features and practices for construction noise. Prior to work commencing, the Applicant shall employ and clearly specify in its contractors’ specifications the following noise-suppression techniques to minimize the impact of temporary noise associated with construction and decommissioning activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trucks and other engine-powered equipment shall be equipped with noise reduction features, such as intake and exhaust mufflers and engine shrouds, which are no less effective than those originally installed by the manufacturer. Engine shrouds shall be closed during equipment operations. • Trucks and other engine-powered equipment shall be operated in accordance with posted speed limits (see Air Quality Mitigation Measure AQ-1.1) and limited engine idling requirements (see Air Quality APM AQ-2). • Truck engine exhaust (“jake”) brake use shall be limited to emergencies. • Back-up beepers for all construction equipment and vehicles shall be adjusted to the lowest noise levels possible, provided that OSHA and Cal OSHA’s safety requirements are not violated. These settings shall be retained for the life of the project. • Vehicle horns shall be used only when absolutely necessary, as specified in the contractors’ specifications.

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Mitigation No.	Measure by Issue Area
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radios and other “personal equipment” shall be kept at low volume.
NS-1.3	<p>Provide advance notice of construction. The Applicant shall provide advance notice of construction and decommissioning between two and four weeks prior to the start of construction or decommissioning activities to all residences located within 5 miles of the project phase boundary, and the Principal of the Panoche Elementary School. The notices shall be mailed directly to residences and the Principal of the Panoche Elementary School, as well as posting signs at the project site in areas accessible to the public. The announcement shall state where and when construction would occur; provide tips on reducing noise intrusion (e.g., closing windows facing the planned construction); and provide a point of contact for any noise complaints. The Applicant shall provide to the Department of Planning and Building (Environmental Monitor) within 48 hours of any complaints received a report that documents the complaints and the strategy for resolution of any noise complaints, which may include limiting the hours of construction in the particular location of concern, putting up additional noise barriers, or otherwise implementing means to reduce and resolve to the extent feasible the issue brought forth. The County’s Environmental Monitor shall verify implementation of agreed upon strategy.</p>
NS-1.4	<p>Limit pile driving activities. The Applicant shall employ the following limitations on pile driving activities to reduce noise levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete pile driving activities in as short a period as feasible. Use and operate sonic or vibratory pile drivers at reduced driving force where feasible soil conditions occur instead of impact pile drivers. If several pile drivers are to be used, the pile driving activities shall be arranged so that no two pile driving are driving simultaneously within 160 feet of each other.
BR-16.2	<p>Minimize impacts of foundation support installations. Full text of the mitigation measure may be found under Biological Resources.</p>
NS-2.1	<p>Limit decommissioning activities to daytime. During decommissioning, construction-related activities shall be limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. such that these activities are exempted from Section 25.37.035(E)(2) of the San Benito County Code.</p>
NS-4.1	<p>Locate PV inverters and transformers away from the project’s property line. Locate PV inverters and transformers at least 180 feet from the project’s property line and at least 300 feet apart from each other or as needed to meet the County’s daytime hourly noise level standard of 45 dBA Leq at the project’s property line. Should hourly daytime noise level standards (45 dBA Leq) be exceeded or ambient noise levels increase by more than 5 dBA Ldn, enclosures or other noise attenuation measures will be installed to meet these requirements. Any measure installed shall remain in good working order throughout project operations.</p>
NS-5.1	<p>Limit panel washing activities. Panel washing activities shall be restricted to Monday through Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. excluding federal holidays, when occurring within 1,900 feet of the project’s property line, such that these activities would be exempt from the County’s noise level standards when the potential exists to exceed the standards. At greater distances from the project’s property line, the County’s noise level standards would be met and panel washing activities may occur any time during daylight hours. If noise complaints are received during panel washing activities occurring outside of the exempted times, the County shall monitor noise levels at the project’s property line. Should the hourly daytime noise level standard of 45 dBA Leq be exceeded, all noise-related work shall stop in that area and be resumed during the exempted time period.</p>

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Mitigation No.	Measure by Issue Area
Public Services, Utilities, and Service Systems	
PS-1.1	<p>Develop and implement service agreement with firefighting entities (Supersedes APM PUS-5). The Applicant shall enter into an agreement with a qualified firefighting entity (the Hollister Fire Department, CAL FIRE, or private providers). A fully executed agreement shall be submitted to the Department of Planning and Building, which documents the Applicant's agreement to pay the firefighting providers an agreed upon fee based on actual costs to fund additional personnel needed to serve the project site during construction.</p> <p>To address operational impacts, the Applicant shall ensure that either (a) a sufficient number of permanent employees are trained as volunteer fire fighters or (b) the Applicant will provide fire protection training to its permanent employees. This will allow the project's on-site work force to combat and be first responders to any potential fires occurring on-site or within the vicinity of the project site prior to back up by the appropriate fire department or entity.</p>
Transportation and Circulation	
TR-1.1	<p>Prepare and implement Traffic Control Plan. Prior to the start of construction and decommissioning, the Applicant shall submit a Traffic Control Plan (TCP) to San Benito County for its review and approval and to Caltrans. The TCP shall include the following components and requirements that the Applicant shall implement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the locations of project access points and location and timing of any temporary lane closures; • Identify and make provision for circumstances requiring the use of flag persons, warning signs, lights, barricades, cones, and etcetera to provide safe work areas in the vicinity of the project site and to warn, control, protect, and expedite vehicular and pedestrian traffic; • Implement traffic control (flag persons, signage, barricades, cones, etc.) along all roadway segments that have substandard width (less than 18 feet); • Include signage placed along all proposed construction haul routes and alternate haul routes at appropriate intervals notifying drivers of the presence of construction traffic on those roadways; • Restrict use of Panoche Road from SR-25 to private automobiles and trucks with no more than two axles, only; • Address the potential for construction related traffic to impede emergency response vehicles (in conjunction with Mitigation Measure PS-1.1 [Develop and implement service agreement with San Benito County Fire Department]) and present a specific training and information program for construction workers to ensure awareness of emergency procedures from project-related accidents or wildfires; • Preclude all construction traffic (personal vehicles and all trucks) from using the unpaved portion of Panoche Road from Interstate 5 to the project site. The TCP shall include a Truck and Bus Safety Plan that ensures: • Construction deliveries (including heavy/combo trucks with more than two axles and single-unit trucks with two axles) would be restricted to traveling to and from the project site via Interstate 5 and Little Panoche Road only and would be precluded from using Panoche Road or SR-25; • That construction material and equipment deliveries requiring pilot cars are limited to traveling along Little Panoche Road during daylight hours; • All construction truck and bus drivers are informed of and required to adhere to the designated traffic haul routes.

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TR-1.2	<p data-bbox="428 321 1422 443">The measures included in the TCP shall be consistent with any applicable guidelines outlined in the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, and the Work Area Traffic Control Handbook.</p> <p data-bbox="428 464 1422 520">Rehabilitate, protect and monitor roadway pavement, bridges and culverts. Prior to the start of construction and decommissioning, the Applicant shall:</p> <ul data-bbox="477 533 1422 842" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="477 533 1422 621">• Implement pavement repairs required to achieve a traffic index of 7.0 on Little Panoche Road between Interstate 5 and Panoche Road, and along Panoche Road between Highway 25 and Little Panoche Road if required;<li data-bbox="477 632 1422 720">• Rehabilitate roadway striping along Little Panoche Road between Interstate 5 and Panoche Road, and along Panoche Road between Highway 25 and Little Panoche Road if required.<li data-bbox="477 730 1422 842">• Repair sections of deteriorated pavement along Little Panoche Road between Interstate 5 and Panoche Road, including the 4.1 through 5.5 mile segment of Little Panoche Road, in accordance with applicable loading standards and to the satisfaction of the County of San Benito Department of Public Works; <p data-bbox="428 852 1105 879">During construction the project shall require its contractor to:</p> <ul data-bbox="477 892 1422 1451" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="477 892 1422 980">• Coordinate with the affected jurisdictions (Caltrans, San Benito and Fresno), and implement appropriate wheel load weight distribution to ensure bridge and culvert crossing are adequately protected.<li data-bbox="477 991 1422 1171">• Monitor the two culverts along Little Panoche Road that are not located at sufficient depths weekly throughout construction activities for damage to the culverts themselves or dips in the pavement. In the event of any damage that impairs culvert function or presents safety hazards to vehicle travel, project deliveries shall be postponed until the damage is repaired. Any repairs shall be the responsibility of the Applicant.<li data-bbox="477 1182 1422 1270">• In addition to any other local and State requirements relating to oversized loads, the hauling contractor shall place a ¾-inch-thick section of steel plate over the pavement above the culverts prior to hauling the transformers to the project site.<li data-bbox="477 1281 1422 1451">• Conduct ongoing monitoring and evaluation of pavement conditions on Panoche Road between Highway 25 and Little Panoche Road, and on Little Panoche Road between Interstate 5 and Panoche Road at appropriate intervals (as determined by the County of San Benito Department of Public Works) throughout the five-year construction period and undertake roadway repairs as necessary to ensure it safely accommodates the projected construction traffic load.

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TR-1.3	<p>Repair roadway damage. The Applicant shall restore all public roads, easements, rights-of-way and infrastructure (such as signs, utility poles, and cattle guards) within the public road rights-of-way (including Interstate 5 access ramps on Little Panoche Road, Little Panoche Road between Interstate 5 and Panoche Road, Panoche Road between State Route 25 and Little Panoche Road, and State Route 25 between Hollister and Panoche Road) that have been damaged due to project-related construction or decommissioning activities or traffic. Restoration shall be to roadway conditions that existed prior to commencement of construction or decommissioning and shall be undertaken in a timely manner, in consultation with the County of San Benito and Caltrans and Fresno (if applicable), as appropriate.</p> <p>At least 30 days prior to construction or decommissioning, the Applicant shall photograph or video record all construction route public roads, easements, and right-of-way segment(s), intersections, and shall provide the County of San Benito, the County of Fresno if applicable), and Caltrans (if applicable) with a copy of these images.</p> <p>Within 60 days of completion of construction or decommissioning, the project owner shall meet with the County of San Benito, the County of Fresno (if applicable), and Caltrans (if applicable) to identify sections of public right-of-way to be repaired. At that time, the project owner shall establish a schedule to complete the repairs and to receive approval for the action(s). Following completion of any public right-of-way repairs, the project owner shall provide a letter signed by the County of San Benito, the County of Fresno, and Caltrans stating their satisfaction with the repairs.</p>
TR-1.4	<p>Ensure Traffic Safety. The Applicant shall ensure traffic safety through a two pronged approach: first, the development of a mandatory Traffic Safety Plan (TSP) including the components defined below, and second, a flexible response program throughout construction implemented by the Applicant in coordination with County, the California Highway Patrol (CHP), and the San Benito County Sheriff. These two sets of actions will ensure: (a) the ability of emergency service providers to access the Panoche Valley region during project construction, and (b) the safety of the public and project traffic using regional roads during peak construction traffic conditions.</p> <p>The TSP shall include all the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Applicant shall consult with the CHP and develop Project Speed Limits that apply to delivery trucks, and install signage along Little Panoche Road for information of project drivers.▪ The Applicant shall establish a contact list of heavy tow responders to facilitate fast response to accidents and minimize road closure time.▪ As part of orientation, the Applicant shall require each construction worker and driver to attend a project-specific Safe Driving Program developed by the Applicant, prior to starting work on the project. The program shall specifically define work hours, existing speed limits and project speed limits, road conditions presenting safety concerns, communication protocols, and approach to allowing emergency vehicles to access the project area.▪ The Applicant shall provide a written copy of “PVSP Safe Travel Rules” to all project drivers entering the Panoche Valley more than once, and each driver shall acknowledge that he/she has attended the Safe Driving Program, and has read and understood the rules and project speed limits. Written records of attendance shall be maintained by the Applicant at the project site.▪ The Applicant shall implement a reimbursement agreement with the County Sheriff allowing stationing of additional emergency personnel at the project site during construction. The number, location, and timing of additional personnel shall be

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	<p>determined by the Sheriff, considering changing levels of construction activity and local resident needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Applicant shall provide funding for additional CHP units to patrol Panoche Road, Little Panoche Road, and Highway 25 during project construction duration. The precise number, location, and timing of additional patrols shall be determined by the Commanders of CHP's Los Banos and Hollister/Gilroy Area Offices ▪ The Applicant shall implement an escort and caravan program along Little Panoche Road for delivery trucks during the 12-month period with greatest delivery traffic. The program shall be submitted to the County and CHP for review and approval at least 30 days before the start of construction. The program shall include maps with definition of gathering areas, a process for allowing private vehicles priority passage where safe, and a detailed description of the proposed escort process. ▪ The Applicant shall implement staggered work hours for construction employees when the total number of workers onsite exceeds 100 people. The construction workforce traffic shall start and finish each workday in at least 2 separate groups with start times separated by at least 30 minutes. ▪ The Applicant shall prohibit project construction delivery truck traffic from using Little Panoche Road, Panoche Road, and Highway 25 during normal commuting timeframes. Truck travel will commence a half hour after the morning commute and cease a half hour before the evening commute commences. ▪ No truck deliveries may be made to the project site on weekends except if scheduled 7 days in advance with the County. Occasional Saturday deliveries may be permitted without 7-days advance notice to the County in the event of an unforeseeable event. Notice will be made to the County as soon as practicable for these unscheduled weekend deliveries. ▪ The Applicant and contractors shall endeavor to ensure that traffic delays related to project construction shall not exceed 30 minutes. If road closures and traffic delays more than 30 minutes are anticipated, the Applicant shall ensure that signs are posted at work sites and public locations at least one week in advance warning workers and the public to anticipate delays. This information shall also be available on a Project website and on signs visible from SR 25 and on Little Panoche Road at the intersection of I-5. ▪ The Applicant shall coordinate with the County to properly sign and control traffic at each end of the one-way segment of Panoche Road to reduce the risk of collision in this segment. ▪ The Applicant shall encourage worker carpooling by providing each worker a map of public parking and waiting areas along the major commuting routes for informal carpooling. These defined parking and waiting areas shall not block or delay other traffic or obstruct parking established for other purposes. ▪ The Applicant shall provide quarterly documentation to the County, in compliance with its APM AQ-2, summarizing incentives provided by the Applicant for workers to carpool. Such documentation shall be provided within 30 days of the end of each calendar quarter. <p>Monthly Traffic Safety Meetings. In order to be resolve additional traffic safety issues that may arise during construction, the Applicant shall host a monthly meeting with County staff, CHP, and County Sheriff staff, to discuss the following issues that may arise, and any others that occur, and to define potential additional requirements that the County determines are necessary to impose on the Applicant.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Traffic Incidents. The Applicant shall inform the County about each reported traffic incident involving project vehicles within 24 hours of its occurrence or as soon as possible, and include a recommendation for how each accident could have been avoided within 5-7 days once all facts surrounding the event have been gathered. This information shall be used to develop Adaptive Strategies to improve safety during the construction process. The Applicant shall recommend strategies for consideration by the County, the CHP, and the Sheriff. ▪ Additional Carpooling. If either traffic conditions or traffic incidents show impacts of concern to the County, CHP, or Sheriff's Office, the Applicant shall endeavor to increase the level of worker carpooling to reduce vehicles on the public roads. The Applicant shall develop and offer incentives to encourage carpooling (e.g., onsite meals). ▪ Assess Traffic Delays. Each known traffic delay of more than 30 minutes shall be reported to the County and the CHP, and all events shall be discussed in the next monthly meeting. Solutions to unforeseen repeated delays shall be developed and the County may require implementation of these solutions based on evaluation of data provided during construction.

Water Resources

WR-1.1	<p>Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting Plan. The applicant shall prepare and submit a Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting Plan to San Benito County for review and approval 60 days prior to commencing project-related pumping activities. The Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting Plan shall document the location of project well(s) and well construction details (diameter, total depth, depth of screen interval, depth of sanitary seal, pumping equipment).</p> <p>The Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting Plan shall identify the procedures to install and monitor a water meter on a daily basis. The meter shall be equipped with a flow totalizer at each project well, and shall include requirements to document the gradient and directional flow of groundwater.</p> <p>The Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting Plan shall also provide detailed methodology for monitoring groundwater levels in the valley based on readings taken on at least a monthly basis. The primary objective for the monitoring is to establish pre- and post-construction groundwater level trends that can be quantitatively compared against observed and calculated trends near the project pumping wells and near potentially impacted existing private wells. The monitoring wells shall include a minimum of three new or existing on site or off-site down-gradient wells near the southern project boundary.</p> <p>Monthly reports summarizing daily pumping and monthly (minimum) water level monitoring data shall be submitted to San Benito County throughout construction. Annual reports shall be submitted for the following three years. Each report shall include, at a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Daily water usage, monthly range of usage, and monthly average of daily water usage in gallons per day; ▪ Total water used on a monthly and annual basis in acre-feet; summary of all water level data; and ▪ Identification of trends that indicate potential for off-site wells to experience deterioration of water level. <p>If results of the monthly trend analyses indicate that the project pumping has resulted in</p>
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**Table C-2
Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan**

Mitigation No.	Measure by Issue Area
WR-1.2	<p>water level decline of 5 feet or more below the baseline trend at nearby private wells, the applicant shall be prohibited from using the well(s) as a water source for the project, or shall reduce groundwater pumping until water levels stabilize or recover.</p> <p>At the conclusion of project construction (the time of highest groundwater demand) the project owner and San Benito County shall jointly evaluate the effectiveness of the Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting Plan and determine if monitoring frequencies or procedures should be revised, extended into the operation period, or eliminated.</p> <p>Aquifer Testing and Well Interference Analysis. Prior to pumping or making operational any existing wells or construction of any new wells south of Well #19 (as depicted on Figure C.15-2), the applicant shall prepare and submit an Aquifer Testing and Well Interference Analysis Plan to San Benito County for review and approval 14 days prior to commencing the aquifer testing. The Aquifer Testing and Well Interference Analysis Plan shall discuss the methodology for conducting a 72-hour aquifer test, analysis of aquifer parameters, and the analysis of well interference at nearby private wells. The primary objective of the aquifer test and well interference analysis is to evaluate potential adverse well interference effects prior to the onset of sustained pumping for the project.</p> <p>The aquifer test duration shall be a minimum of 72-hours and will include measurement of water level drawdown and recovery in the pumping well and a minimum of two downgradient observation wells. Additional observation wells, including cross-gradient locations may be included. The use of existing wells for pumping or water level observation shall include research of well construction records to identify well depth, screen interval, and aquifer depth and thickness. Video surveys shall be performed on all existing wells lacking available well construction records (well depth and screen intervals). The aquifer test shall be performed at a pumping rate that will “stress” the aquifer and result in measurable drawdown at the nearest observation well after two to four hours. Drawdown and recovery water level data collected from the pumping and observation wells shall be analyzed to determine the local aquifer parameters that will in turn be used to calculate water level drawdown at nearby off-site wells. The calculation shall use the Theis equation or other acceptable approach to estimate water level lowering due to project pumping.</p> <p>The results of the aquifer test and well interference analysis shall be submitted to San Benito County for review and approval of the proposed well for project water supply 15 days prior to the onset of sustained pumping for the project. If a new or existing well located south of existing Well #19 is approved for project use, the Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting Plan (Mitigation Measure WR-1.1) shall be amended to identify monitoring wells near the new project supply well.</p>
WR-6.1	<p>Accidental spill control and environmental training. The Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to be prepared for the proposed project shall include procedures for quick and safe cleanup of accidental spills. The Construction SWPPP shall prescribe hazardous materials handling procedures for reducing the potential for a spill during construction, and shall include an emergency response program to ensure quick and safe cleanup of accidental spills. Additionally, an environmental training program shall be established to communicate environmental concerns and appropriate work practices, including spill prevention and response measures, and SWPPP measures, to all field personnel. A monitoring program shall be implemented to ensure that the plans are followed during all construction, operations, and maintenance activities.</p>

Table C-2
Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan

Mitigation No.	Measure by Issue Area
WR-6.2	Store fuels and hazardous materials away from sensitive water resources. Storage of fuels and hazardous materials will be prohibited within 200 feet of groundwater supply wells. If community or municipal wells are present on the project site or immediate vicinity, storage of fuels and hazardous materials will be prohibited within 400 feet.
WR-6.3	Maintain vehicles and equipment. All vehicles and equipment, including all hydraulic hoses, shall be maintained in good working order so that they are free of any and all leaks that could escape the vehicle or contact the ground. A vehicle and equipment maintenance log shall be updated and provided by the Applicant to the County of San Benito on a monthly basis for the duration of project construction.

**Table C-3
PG&E Avoidance & Minimization Measures (AMMs)**

AMM Number	Measure by Issue Area
Aesthetics	
AMM AES-1	Treat structure surfaces. “Dulled” metal finish structures will be used to reduce visual impacts on new microwave towers and steel transmission structures.
Air Quality	
AMM AQ-1	<p>Minimize fugitive dust. Consistent with the applicable Air Quality Management District’s CEQA Guidelines, PG&E will minimize dust emissions during construction by implementing the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water all active construction areas at least twice daily. • Cover all trucks hauling soil, sand, and other loose materials or require all trucks to maintain at least two feet of freeboard. • Pave, apply water three times daily, or apply (non-toxic) soil stabilizers on all unpaved access roads, parking areas, and staging areas at construction sites. • Sweep daily (with water sweepers) all paved access roads, parking areas, and staging areas at construction sites. • Sweep streets daily (with water sweepers) if visible soil material is carried onto adjacent public streets. • Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact regarding dust complaints. This person will respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The applicable Air Quality Management Districts’ phone numbers will also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations. <p>Note that implementation of the first measure listed above would not apply to paved areas with no exposed soil or when rains are occurring.</p>
AMM AQ-2	Limit equipment idling. Limit idling times on trucks and equipment used during construction.
Biological Resources	
AMM BR-PGE-1	Worker Environmental Training. Personnel will receive ongoing environmental education. Training will include review of environmental laws and guidelines that must be followed by all personnel to reduce or avoid effects on covered species during work activities.
AMM BR-PGE-2	Park vehicles and equipment in disturbed areas. Vehicles and equipment will be parked on pavement, existing roads, and previously disturbed areas to the extent practicable.
AMM BR-PGE-3	Work during daylight hours. Work will occur only during daylight hours, unless required to occur at night due to line clearances for worker safety.
AMM BR-PGE-4	Minimize disturbance from vehicle access. The development of new access and ROW roads will be minimized, and clearing vegetation and blading for temporary vehicle access will be avoided to the extent practicable.
AMM BR-PGE-5	Speed limit. Vehicles will not exceed a speed limit of 15 mph in the ROWs or on unpaved roads within sensitive land-cover types.
AMM BR-PGE-6	Trash dumping, firearms, open fires, hunting, and pets will be prohibited at the work activity sites.
AMM BR-PGE-7	Fire prevention. During fire season in designated State Responsibility Areas (SRAs), all motorized equipment will have federal or state approved spark arrestors; a backpack pump filled with water and a shovel will be carried on all vehicles; and fire-resistant mats and/or windscreens will be used when welding.

**Table C-3
PG&E Avoidance & Minimization Measures (AMMs)**

AMM Number	Measure by Issue Area
AMM BR-PGE-8	Fire prevention during “red flag” conditions. In addition, during fire “red flag” conditions as determined by California Department of Forestry (CDF), welding will be curtailed, each fuel truck will carry a large fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 40 B:C, and all equipment parking and storage areas will be cleared of all flammable materials.
AMM BR-PGE-9	Restoration and erosion control. Upon completion of any Project component, all areas that are significantly disturbed and not necessary for future operations, shall be stabilized to resist erosion, and re-vegetated and re-contoured if necessary, to promote restoration of the area to pre-disturbance conditions.
AMM BR-PGE-10	Special-status amphibians and reptiles. If suitable habitat for listed amphibians and reptiles is present, and protocol-level surveys have not been conducted, a qualified biologist will conduct preconstruction surveys prior to activities involving excavation. If necessary, barrier fencing will be constructed around the worksite to prevent reentry by the covered amphibians and reptiles. A qualified biologist will stake and flag an appropriate exclusion zone around the potentially occupied habitat. No monofilament plastic will be used for erosion control in the vicinity of listed amphibians and reptiles. Barrier fencing will be removed upon completion of work. Crews will also inspect trenches left open for more than 24 hours for trapped amphibians and reptiles. A qualified biologist will be contacted before trapped amphibians or reptiles (excluding blunt nosed leopard lizard and limestone salamander-which will not be handled) are moved to nearby suitable habitat.
AMM BR-PGE-11	Avoid giant kangaroo rat and San Joaquin antelope squirrel. Personnel shall avoid occupied or potentially occupied burrows identified by a qualified biologist within two core-areas for San Joaquin antelope squirrel and giant kangaroo rat identified by CDFW. If occupied or potentially occupied burrows in the core areas cannot be avoided, a qualified biologist shall stake and flag an appropriate work-exclusion zone and remain on-sight as a biological monitor, or the biologist shall stake and flag an appropriate work exclusion zone around active burrows prior to covered activities at the job site. If work must proceed in the exclusion zone, crews will pursue techniques to minimize direct mortality including using approved biologists to trap and hold the species in captivity, and excavating and closing burrows. The approved biologist will hold an ESA Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit for the species. The approved biologist will release the mammals as soon as possible when the work is complete. If active (occupied or potentially occupied) burrows for San Joaquin antelope squirrel or giant or Tipton kangaroo rat are present outside the two core areas identified by CDFW, a qualified biologist will stake and flag an appropriate exclusion zone and remain on-site as a biological monitor, or the biologist shall stake and flag an appropriate work exclusion zone around the burrows prior to work activities on the job site.
AMM BR-PGE-12	Avoid San Joaquin kit fox and American badger dens if possible. If San Joaquin kit fox or American badger dens are present, their disturbance and destruction will be avoided where possible. However, if dens are located within the proposed work area and cannot be avoided during construction, qualified biologists will determine if the dens are occupied. If unoccupied, the qualified biologist will remove these dens by hand excavating them in accordance with USFWS procedures for kit fox (USFWS, 1999), which can also be applied to badger dens. Exclusion zones for kit fox will be implemented following USFWS procedures (USFWS, 1999) or the latest USFWS procedures. The radius of these zones will follow current standards or will be determined on a case-by-case basis in coordination with USFWS and CDFW. If badger dens are present, occupied badger dens shall be flagged and ground-disturbing activities avoided within 50 feet of the occupied den. Maternity dens shall be avoided during pup-rearing season (15 February through 1 July) and a minimum 200-foot buffer established.

**Table C-3
PG&E Avoidance & Minimization Measures (AMMs)**

AMM Number	Measure by Issue Area
AMM BR-PGE-13	<p>Exclusion zones for blunt-nosed leopard lizard. If activities take place within the range of the species and outside the road shoulder, a qualified biologist will identify if burrows are present and if work can avoid burrows. If work cannot avoid the burrows, a qualified biologist will evaluate the site for occupancy and stake and flag an appropriate exclusion zone around the burrows prior to activities at the job site.</p>
AMM BR-PGE-14	<p>Report dead or injured listed species. Personnel will be required to report any accidental death or injury of a listed species or the finding of any dead or injured listed species to a qualified Biologist. Notification of CDFW and/or USFWS of any accidental death or injury of a listed species shall be done in accordance with standard reporting procedures.</p>
AMM BR-PGE-15	<p>Exclusion zones for special-status plants. If a covered plant species is present following special-status plant surveys, a qualified biologist will stake and flag exclusion zones of 100 feet around plant occupied habitat (both the standing individuals and the seed bank individuals) of the covered species prior to performing the activities. If an exclusion zone cannot extend the specified distance from the habitat, the biologist will stake and flag a restricted activity zone of the maximum practicable distance from the exclusion zone around the habitat. This exclusion zone distance is a guideline that may be modified by a qualified biologist, based on site-specific conditions (including habituation by the species to background disturbance levels).</p>
AMM BR-PGE-16	<p>Conduct preconstruction surveys for active Swainson’s hawk nests and implement avoidance measures if necessary. If construction activities are anticipated to occur during the nesting season for Swainson’s hawks (generally March through July), PG&E will retain a qualified wildlife biologist to conduct preconstruction surveys within 0.50 miles of construction activities that occur within or near suitable breeding habitat for nesting Swainson’s hawks. The biologist will also consult with CDFW and species experts to determine if there are any known active Swainson’s hawk nests or traditional territories within 0.50 miles of the work areas. If no active Swainson’s hawk nests are detected, a report documenting survey methods and findings will be submitted to CDFW, and no further mitigation is required.</p> <p>If an active Swainson's hawk nest occurs within 0.50 miles of a planned work area, a 0.50-mile restricted activity buffer will be established around the nest. Biologists will monitor the nest and coordinate with local CDFW representatives to designate nest-specific areas of avoidance and restricted activities based upon the location of the nest relative to project activities and the type and duration of construction activities planned during the nesting season.</p>
AMM BR-PGE-17	<p>Conduct preconstruction surveys and avoidance of active western burrowing owl burrows. PG&E will retain a qualified biologist to conduct preconstruction surveys for active burrows no more than 30 and no less than 14 days prior to the start of construction in accordance with the <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation</i> (CDFG, 2012).</p> <p>If western burrowing owls are present at the site, a qualified biologist will work with staff to determine whether an exclusion zone can be established in accordance with the <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation</i> (CDFG, 2012). If it cannot, an experienced burrowing owl biologist will develop a site-specific plan (i.e., a plan that considers the type and extent of the proposed activity, the duration and timing of the activity, the sensitivity and habituation of the owls, and the dissimilarity of the proposed activity with background activities) to minimize the potential to affect the reproductive success of the owls. If a biologist experienced with burrowing owl determines the relocation of owls is necessary, a passive relocation effort may be conducted as described below, in coordination with CDFW as appropriate. During the nonbreeding season (generally 1 September–31 January),</p>

**Table C-3
PG&E Avoidance & Minimization Measures (AMMs)**

AMM Number	Measure by Issue Area
	<p>a qualified biologist may passively relocate burrowing owls found within construction areas. Prior to passively relocating burrowing owls, a Burrowing Owl Exclusion Plan shall be prepared by a qualified biologist in accordance with Appendix E of the <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation</i> (CDFW, 2012). The Burrowing Owl Exclusion Plan shall be submitted to the CDFW for review as required.</p> <p>The biologist shall accomplish such relocations using one-way burrow doors installed and left in place for at least two nights; owls exiting their burrows will not be able to re-enter. Then, immediately before the start of construction activities, the biologists shall remove all doors and excavate the burrows to ensure that no animals are present the burrow. The excavated burrows shall then be backfilled. To prevent evicted owls from occupying other burrows in the impact area, the biologist shall, before eviction occurs, (1) install one-way doors and backfill all potentially suitable burrows within the impact area, and (2) install one-way doors in all suitable burrows located within approximately 50 feet of the active burrow, then remove them once the displaced owls have settled elsewhere. When temporary or permanent burrow-exclusion methods are implemented, the following steps shall be taken:</p> <p>Prior to excavation, a qualified biologist shall verify that evicted owls have access to multiple, unoccupied, alternative burrows, located nearby (within 250 feet) and outside of the projected disturbance zone. If no suitable alternative natural burrows are available for the owls, then, for each owl that is evicted, at least two artificial burrows shall be installed in suitable nearby habitat areas. Installation of any required artificial burrows preferably shall occur at least two to three weeks before the relevant evictions occur, to give the owls time to become familiar with the new burrow locations before being evicted. The artificial burrow design and installation shall be described in the Burrowing Owl Exclusion Plan per Appendix E of the <i>Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation</i> (CDFW, 2012).</p> <p>Passive relocation of burrowing owls shall be limited in areas adjacent to Project activities that have a sustained or low-level disturbance regime; this approach shall allow burrowing owls that are tolerant of Project activities to occupy quality, suitable nesting and refuge burrows. The use of passive relocation techniques in a given area shall be determined by a qualified biologist who may consult with CDFW, and shall depend on existing and future conditions (e.g., time of year, vegetation/topographic screening, and disturbance regimes).</p>
AMM BR-PGE-18	<p>Wetland and Other Waters Avoidance and Minimization. Impacts to wetlands and other waters shall be avoided to the extent feasible. The Project shall be designed, constructed and operated to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands and other waters to the extent feasible. General Project staging and laydown activities shall not occur within wetlands during construction. To avoid unnecessary egress into waterways and wetlands, all wetlands and waters in the Project impact area shall be clearly marked with highly visible flagging, rope, or similar materials in the field. Access allowed within these features for the purposes of construction in and near such features (e.g., road crossings) shall be clearly delimited, and be staked in the field, to prevent construction personnel from causing impacts to areas outside of work limits. Where necessary, silt fencing or other measures may be used to protect adjacent wetlands and waterways from sediment transport or other indirect impacts that could result from adjacent construction. Wetlands and other waters within construction areas that are to be avoided shall be fenced or flagged for avoidance prior to construction, and a biological monitor shall be present to ensure compliance with off-limits areas. Additionally, the following measures are proposed to further minimize project impacts on wetland and other waters during construction activities:</p>

**Table C-3
PG&E Avoidance & Minimization Measures (AMMs)**

AMM Number	Measure by Issue Area
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grading and construction activities should be done during dry conditions. However, if grading and construction must be conducted during wet conditions, then the site specific best management practices (BMPs) for erosion will be implemented. • All work within waters that have only low or intermittent flow shall be performed when the channel is dry or at its lowest flow. Work within channels with perennial flow shall be performed during times when there is no flow to the extent practical. • Activities near wetland and waters that have the potential to degrade water quality will be conducted during the dry season. If work activities are necessary during the rainy season, they shall be conducted during dry spells between rain events. • All drainage patterns and grades will be returned to preconstruction conditions • Unanticipated temporary impacts to wetlands and other waters shall be mitigated through onsite restoration, if impacts are restored within a single year, with most restoration expected to occur at the onset of the rainy season to enhance germination success (i.e., areas impacted in a given year must be restored prior to 1 March of the following year to be considered temporary and require no additional mitigation). Areas of construction access-related temporary impacts that cannot be restored prior to 1 March the following year and would remain exposed during the dry season shall be restored the following fall. Compensatory mitigation for temporarily impacted areas that are not restored within a year shall be provided at a ratio acceptable to the agency(ies) with jurisdiction over that wetland or water feature.
Cultural Resources	
AMM CR-1	<p>Pre-construction worker cultural resources training. Prior to construction, PG&E will design and implement a Worker Cultural Resources Training Program for all project personnel who may encounter and/or alter historical resources or unique archaeological properties. Construction supervisors, workers, and other field personnel will be required to attend the training program prior to their involvement in field operations. The program will be conducted in conjunction with other environmental awareness training and education for the project. The cultural resources training session will be led by a qualified instructor meeting the Secretary of Interior’s Professional Qualification Standards as listed beginning on page 44716 of Volume 48 of the Federal Register and as may be updated by the National Park Service.</p> <p>This Program will minimally include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of the environmental setting (prehistory, ethnography, history) associated with the project; • A review of Native American cultural concerns and recommendations during project implementation; • A review of applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances governing cultural resources and historic preservation , including notification of the appropriate public agencies; • A review of what constitutes prehistoric or historical archaeological deposits and what the workers should look out for; • A discussion of site avoidance requirements and procedures to be followed in the event unanticipated cultural resources are discovered during construction; including notification of the appropriate public agencies where applicable; • A discussion of procedures to follow in the event human remains are discovered during construction , including notification of the appropriate public agencies where applicable; • A discussion of disciplinary and other actions that could be taken against persons violating historic preservation laws and PG&E policies; and

**Table C-3
PG&E Avoidance & Minimization Measures (AMMs)**

AMM Number	Measure by Issue Area
AMM CR-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A statement by the construction company or applicable employer agreeing to abide by the program conditions, PG&E policies, and applicable laws and regulations. <p>Pre-construction worker cultural resources training. There are no known archaeological or historical resources within the direct impact areas defined for the PG&E Upgrades. In keeping with the intent of the NHPA and CEQA, PG&E's preferred approach for archaeological resources and historical resources is avoidance of impacts to significant (or unevaluated) resources. Where avoidance is not feasible, potential impacts to significant cultural resources must be treated in a way that is acceptable to PG&E, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and if applicable, the local Native American community and the BLM. Treatment might include data recovery excavations, public interpretation/education, or other measures. If there is an unanticipated discovery of a buried archaeological deposit or human remains, PG&E will implement AMM CR-4, and -5.</p>
AMM CR-3	<p>Cultural construction monitoring. A qualified archaeologist field technician working with and reporting to an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards will monitor all project-related excavation that is within an area of moderate to high sensitivity for prehistoric or historical buried resources. This shall include monitoring areas within 167 feet (50 meters) of recorded or previously identified prehistoric and historical-era sites or features, AMM CR-3 will be guided by an Archaeological Monitoring and Inadvertent Discovery Plan, which will include the framework for evaluation and treatment of any unanticipated discoveries described in AMM CR-4.</p>
AMM CR-4	<p>Unanticipated discoveries of cultural resources. In the event that previously unidentified archaeological, cultural, or historical sites, artifacts, or features are uncovered during implementation of the project, work will be suspended within 100 feet (30 meters) of the find and redirected to another location. PG&E's cultural resources specialist or designated representative will be contacted immediately to examine the discovery and determine if additional work is needed. If the unanticipated discovery is on public lands, work must be suspended immediately and a BLM cultural resources specialist, or designated representative, must be contacted to examine the discovery and determine the appropriate course of action. If the discovery can be avoided or protected and no further impacts will occur, the resource will be documented on California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 forms and no further effort will be required.</p> <p>If the resource cannot be avoided and may be subjected to further impacts, PG&E or their representative will evaluate the significance of the discovery following federal and state laws and implement data recovery or other appropriate treatment measures if warranted. Evaluation of historical-period resources will be done by a qualified historical archaeologist while evaluation of prehistoric resources will be done by a qualified archaeologist specializing in California prehistoric archaeology. Evaluations may include archival research, oral interviews, and/or field excavations to determine the full depth, extent, nature, and integrity of the deposit.</p>
AMM CR-5	<p>Unanticipated discovery of human remains. If human remains or suspected human remains are discovered during construction, work within 100 feet of the find will stop immediately and the construction foreman shall contact the PG&E cultural resources specialist, who will then call the San Benito or Fresno County Coroner, as appropriate. There shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site, or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains, until coroner has determined that the remains are not subject to provisions of Section 27491 of the Government Code. If the coroner determines the remains to be Native American, he/she shall contact the NAHC within 24 hours. The NAHC will appoint a Most Likely Descendent for recommendations on the treatment and disposition of the remains (Health and Safety Code Sect. 7050.5,</p>

**Table C-3
PG&E Avoidance & Minimization Measures (AMMs)**

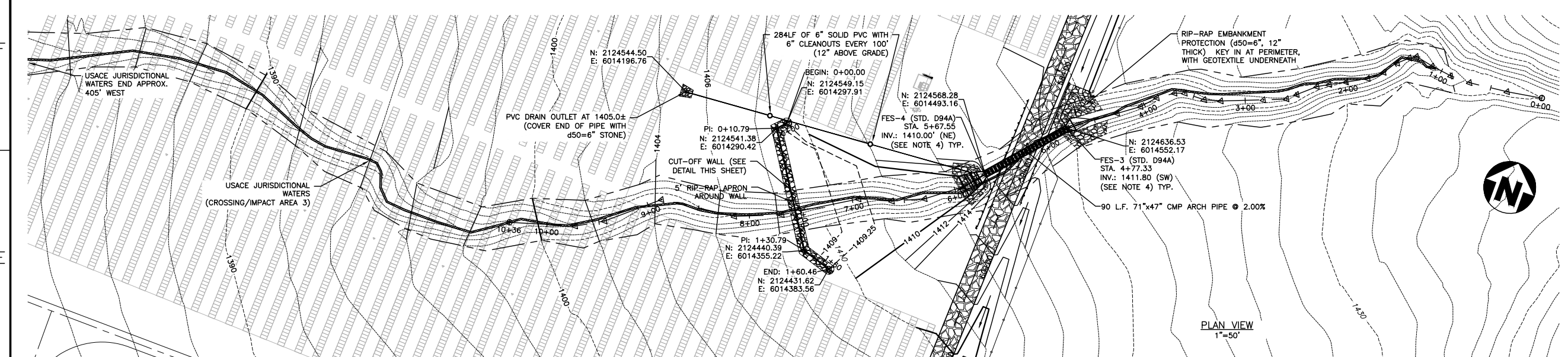
AMM Number	Measure by Issue Area
	Public Resources Code Sect. 5097.24). If the unanticipated discovery is on public lands, a BLM cultural resources specialist, or designated representative, must also be contacted to report the discovery and determine the appropriate course of action
Hazards	
AMM HAZ-1	Proper storage and disposal of waste and hazardous materials. Hazardous materials shall not be drained onto the ground or into streams or drainage areas. Totally enclosed containment shall be provided for all trash, as well as recyclable materials. All construction waste, including trash and litter, garbage, other solid waste, petroleum products, and other potentially hazardous materials, shall be removed to a disposal facility authorized to accept such materials.
AMM HAZ-2	Curtail work during red flag conditions. During fire “red flag” conditions as determined by California Department of Forestry (CDF), welding will be curtailed, each fuel truck will carry a large fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 40 B:C, and all equipment parking and storage areas will be cleared of all flammable materials.
AMM HAZ-3	Fire season preparedness. During fire season in designated State Responsibility Areas (SRAs), all motorized equipment will have federal or state approved spark arrestors; a backpack pump filled with water and a shovel will be carried on all vehicles; and fire-resistant mats and/or windscreens will be used when welding.
AMM HAZ-4	Reduce Risk for Valley Fever. Implement the following measures to reduce the likelihood that construction workers and the public are infected with Valley Fever: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide to all workers a detailed informational brochure explaining Valley Fever, its cause, and its symptoms, and the populations most at risk for the disease. The brochure shall incorporate information provided the California Department of Public Health (http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/discond/Pages/Coccidioidomycosis.aspx) and shall be reviewed by a DPH for adequacy before the start of construction. • If working in dusty environments, make breathing protection gear available to all workers, at their request and at no cost to workers. • As part of a Safe Worker Environmental Awareness Program, educate workers to recognize the symptoms of Valley Fever, and to promptly report suspected symptoms of work-related Valley Fever to a supervisor.
Transportation and Circulation	
AMM TR-1	Develop and Implement Traffic Control Plan. The PG&E Traffic Control Plan shall include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of compliance with the California Joint Utility Traffic Control Manual; • The dates of any planned road closures (full or partial); • A plan for providing public notice of anticipated road closures and traffic delays; and • Measures to ensure that no traffic delays exceed 30 minutes (e.g., using flaggers and signage, timing road closures to minimize impacts on traffic).
Water Resources	
AMM WR-1	Hazardous material spill prevention and response plan. PG&E will implement construction controls, training and communication to minimize the potential exposure of the public and site workers to potential hazardous materials during all phases of project construction. <p>These construction practices include construction worker training appropriate to the site worker’s role, containment and spill control practices in accordance with the SWPPP, and emergency response to ensure appropriate cleanup of accidental spills. If it is necessary to store chemicals, they will be managed in accordance with all applicable regulations. Material safety data sheets will be maintained and kept available on site, as applicable. The project</p>

Table C-3
PG&E Avoidance & Minimization Measures (AMMs)

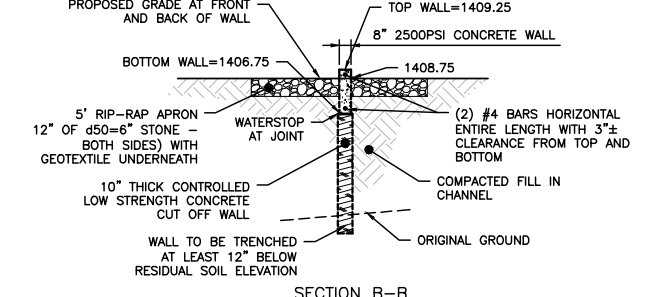
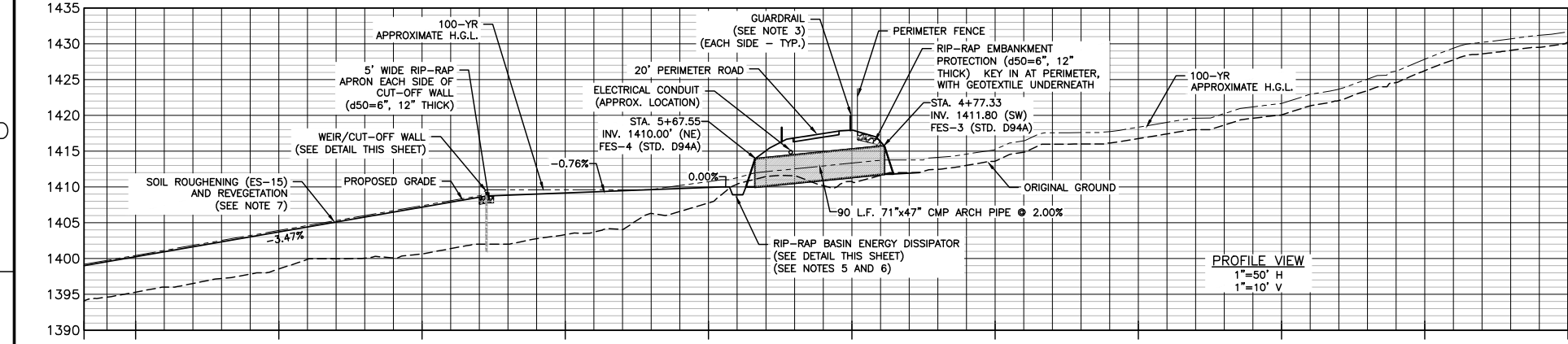
AMM Number	Measure by Issue Area
	SWPPP will identify areas where refueling and vehicle-maintenance activities and storage of hazardous materials, if any, will be permitted. All vehicles and equipment, including all hydraulic hoses, shall be maintained in good working order so that they are free of any and all leaks that could escape the vehicle or contact the ground. A monitoring program shall be implemented to ensure that the plans are followed during all construction, operations, and maintenance activities.

Appendix D
Drainage Crossing Drawings

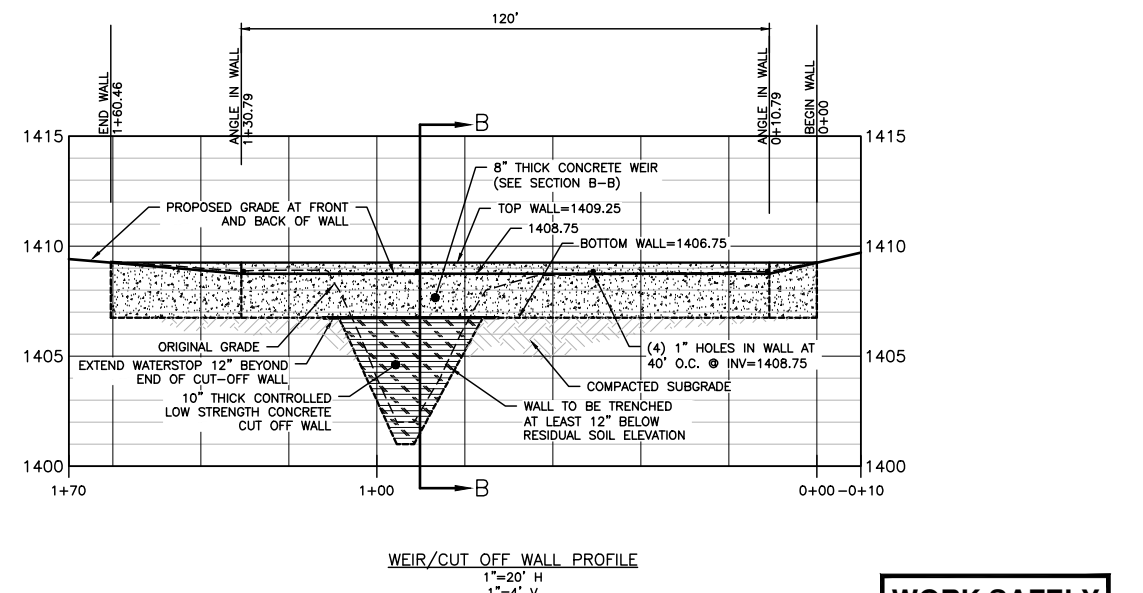
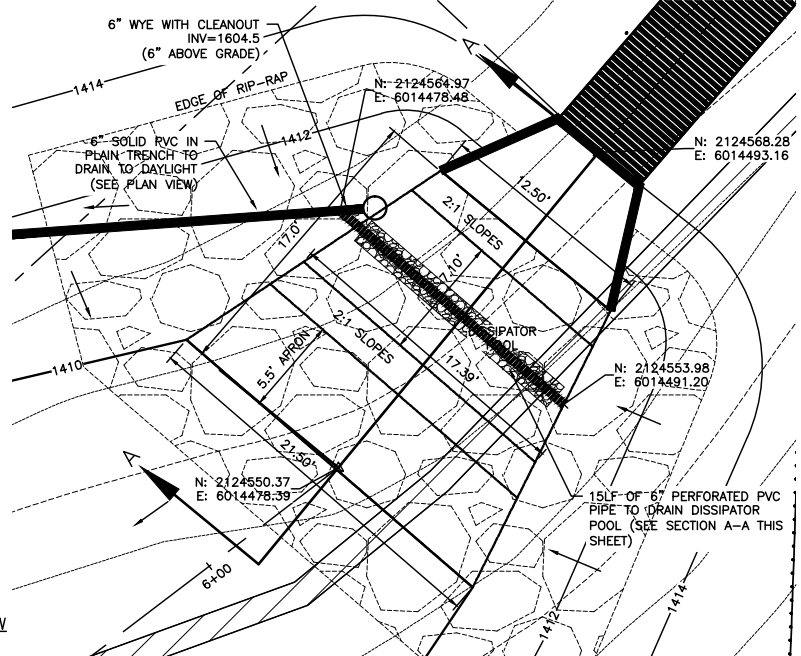
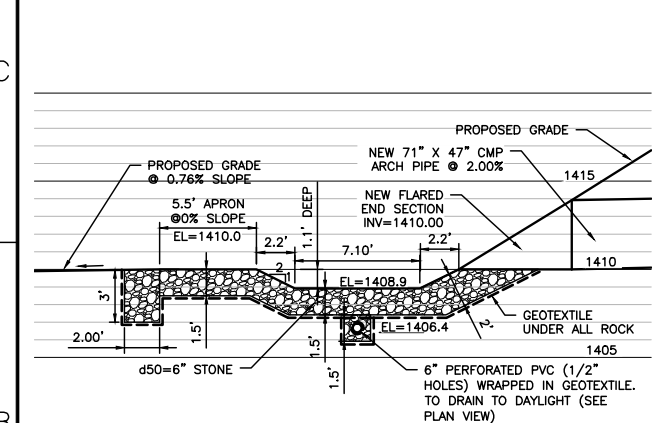
Crossing 3



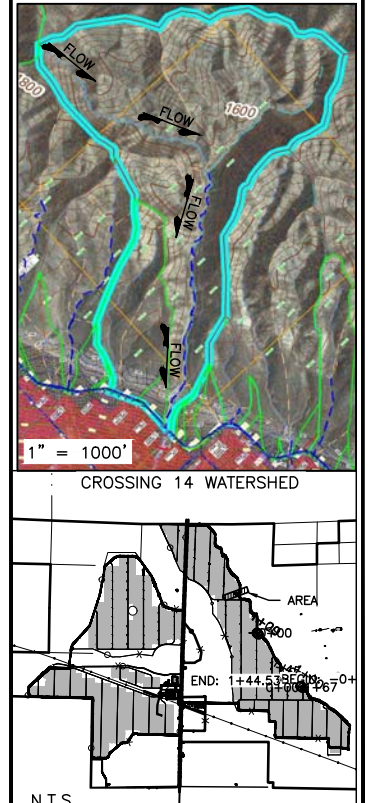
- NOTES**
- FOR GENERAL NOTES SEE DRAWING D-000-C-0002.
 - ALL CONTRACTORS SHALL ADHERE TO AND FOLLOW RULES AND GUIDELINES SET FORTH WITHIN THE LAKE AND STREAMBED ALTERATION AGREEMENT NOTIFICATION NO. XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XX, ISSUED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE.
 - GUARDRAIL SHALL BE MIDWEST GUARDRAIL SYSTEM STANDARD RAILING SECTION (STEEL POST WITH NOTCHED WOOD OR NOTCHED RECYCLED PLASTIC BLOCK) IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STANDARDS. SEE DWG. D-000-C-0086.
 - THE FLARED END SECTION, FES, OF THE CMP PIPE ARCH SHALL BE TYPE III IN ACCORDANCE WITH CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STANDARD, D94A. SEE DWG. D-000-C-0085.
 - HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS OF THE CMP PIPE ARCH AND RIP RAP BASIN ENERGY DISSIPATOR COMPLETED WITH THE USE OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION PROVIDED SOFTWARE, HY-B VERSION 7.30.
 - THE RIP RAP BASIN ENERGY DISSIPATOR IS DESIGNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH HYDROLOGIC ENGINEERING CIRCULAR, HEC 14, CHAPTER 10, SECTION 10.1 RIP RAP CHANNEL.
 - RE-VEGETATION OF THE BACKFILLED EXISTING CHANNEL IS PARAMOUNT. CONTRACTOR SHALL ENSURE THAT AREA OF BACKFILL HAS A GOOD STAND OF VEGETATION. RE-VEGETATION OF THE OPEN SPACE JUST DOWN STREAM OF THE PROPOSED WEIR SHALL ALSO BE OF A GOOD VEGETATED STAND. CONTRACTOR AND OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE SHALL NOT MOW THE OPEN AREA DOWNSTREAM OF THE WEIR UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY CALIFIE OR THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.
 - FOR AREAS AND VOLUMES OF CIVIL SITE DEVELOPMENT WORK WITHIN THE FULL EXTENTS OF THE USAGE OHM AND WITHIN THE TOP OF BANK PLEASE REFER TO THE 404(b)(1) DRAFT.
 - CROSSING 14 HYDROLOGY CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING TO THE CMP PIPE ARCH:
 - DRAINAGE AREA = 208.1 ACRES
 - CONSISTS OF THREE SUB-BASINS AT 32.5, 2.8, AND 172.8 ACRES
 - COMPOSITE CN = 69
 - SOILS CONSISTS OF HYDRAULIC SOIL GROUPS A&B
 - TIME OF CONCENTRATION = 18.4 min.
 - L.TIME OF REACH = 2.5 min.
 - PEAK FLOW RATE DETERMINED BY SCS METHOD, TIME INTERVAL 2 min. STORM DISTRIBUTION, TYPE 1
 - 100-YR PEAK FLOW RATE = 62.71 CFS
 - BROAD CRESTED WEIR HYDRAULIC INFORMATION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING, VALUES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 100 YR FLOW RATE + 2.29 CFS TO ACCOUNT FOR ADDITIONAL RUNOFF DOWNSTREAM FROM CMP PIPE ARCH:
 - FLOW RATE FOR WEIR CALCULATIONS = 65 CFS
 - BROAD CRESTED WEIR COEFFICIENT, C = 2.78
 - FLOW DEPTH JUST UPSTREAM AND ABOVE TOP OF WEIR, h = 0.33'
 - CRITICAL FLOW DEPTH ALONG BROAD CRESTED WEIR, d_c = 0.20'
 - BRINK FLOW DEPTH ALONG BROAD CRESTED WEIR JUST PRIOR TO NAPPE, d_B = 0.14'
 - HORIZONTAL LENGTH OF NAPPE FROM BROAD CRESTED WEIR = 0.28'
 - FLOW DEPTHS UPSTREAM OF PIPE ARCH IN EXISTING CHANNEL: < 1.8' AT Q = 36.10 CFS, V = 5.1 FT/S
 - FLOW DEPTHS DOWNSTREAM OF BROAD CRESTED WEIR < 0.2' AT Q = 65 CFS, V < 2.0 FT/S



- NOTES:**
- TOP OF WALL TO BE WITHIN 1/8" OF ELEVATION 1049.25
 - ALL VERTICAL SURFACES TO BE FORMED
 - VERTICAL SURFACES DOWN FROM 2" BELOW UNDISTURBED SOIL MAY BE PLACED AGAINST NEAT CUT IF APPROVED BY ENGINEER AND CONCRETE WILL NOT MORE THAN 1" BEYOND THEORETICAL FACE.
 - ALL EXPOSED SURFACES TO BE STRIPPED GREEN AND TROWEL FINISHED.
 - COMPACT GRADES ADJACENT TO WEIR TO BE 95% MODIFIED PROCTOR.



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REV	DDMMYY	REVISION / ISSUE DESCRIPTION	DRN	CHK	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP	REF	NUMBER	TITLE

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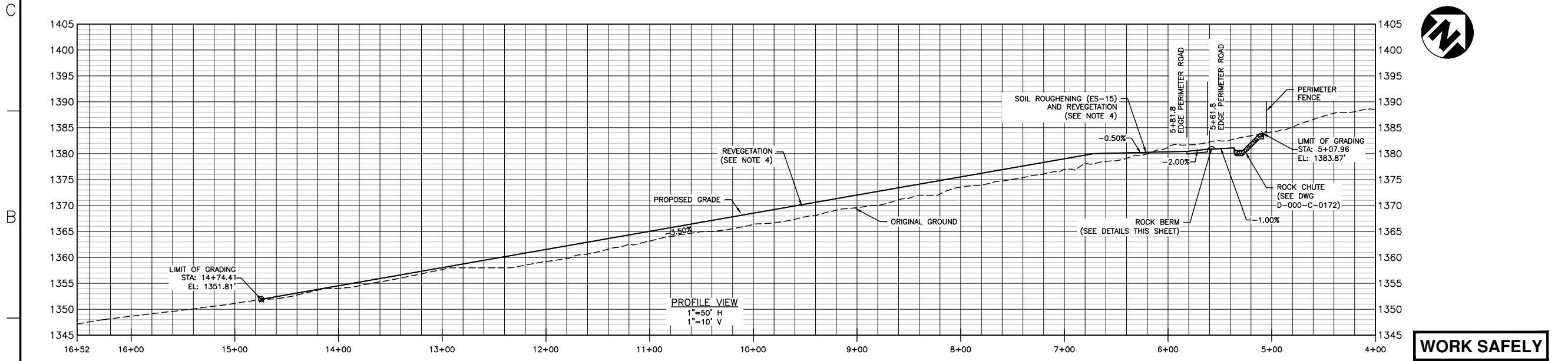
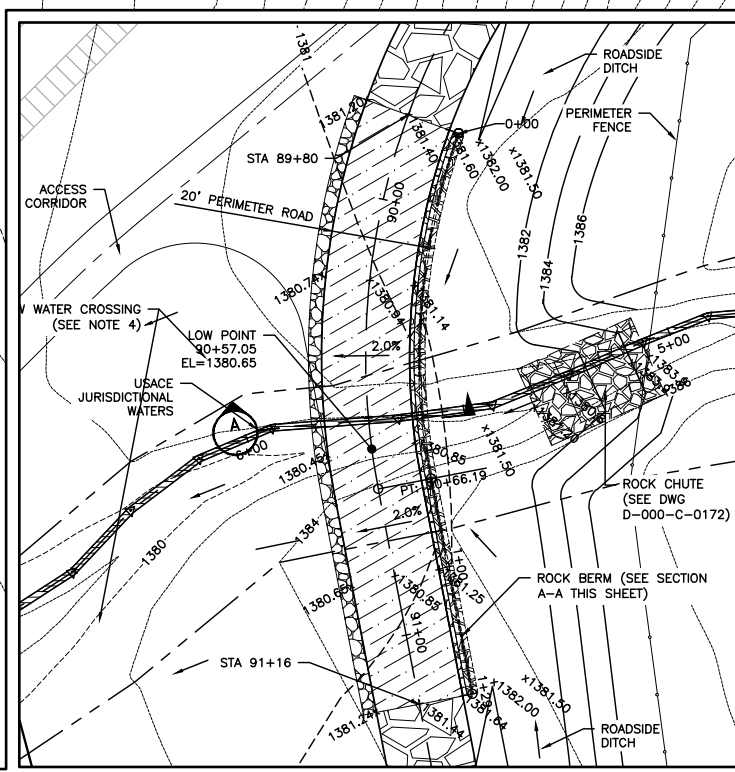
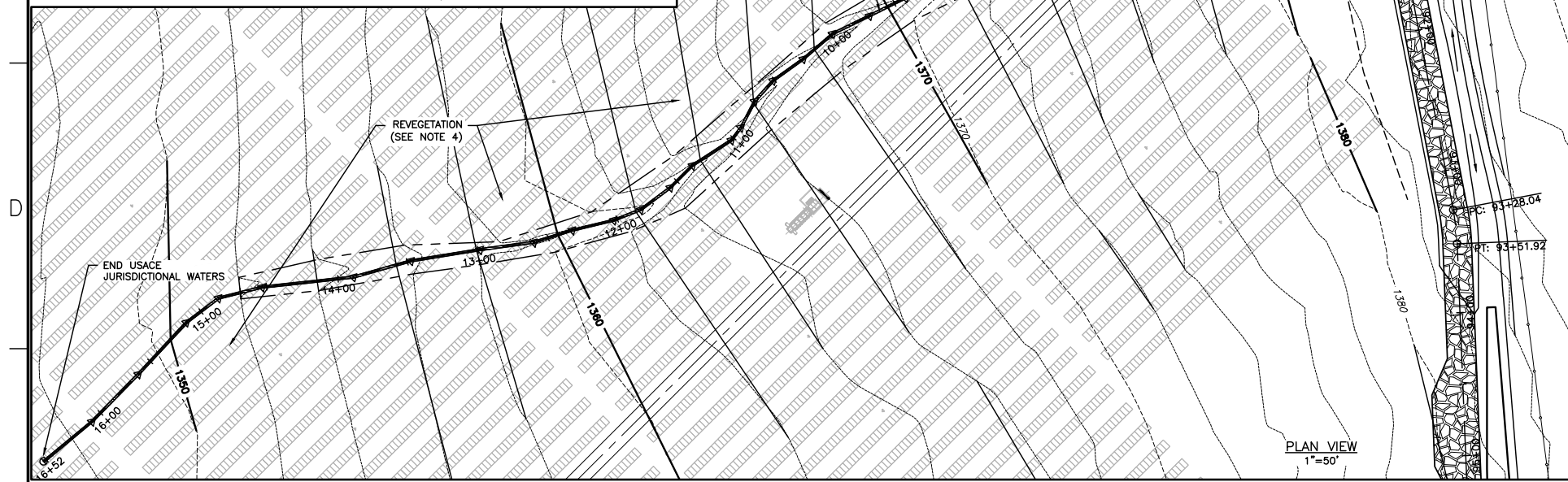
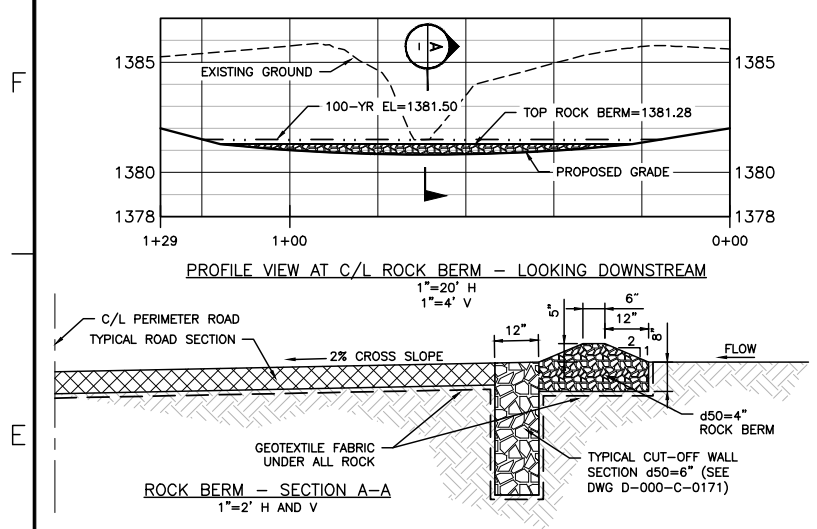
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APPROVED FOR REVIEW		DRE		HRM	
CLIENT PROJECT MGR. DEPARTMENT MGR. PROJECT MGR.					
PROJECT PHASE					
PANOCHO VALLEY SOLAR PROJECT					
PROJECT NO.	ACTIVITY NO.	BY	DDMMYY	SUBJECT	
176055		JCS/MTG	01JUL14	CIVIL PERIMETER ROAD DETAILS CROSSING 14	
SCALE	PACKAGE CODE	DRN	MTG/JTW	01JUL14	
AS SHOWN		CHK	APP		

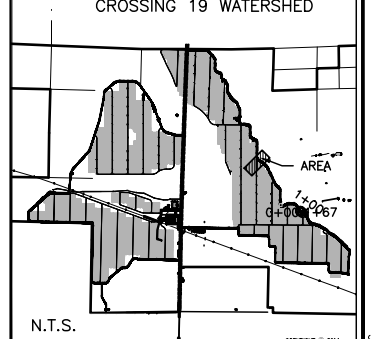
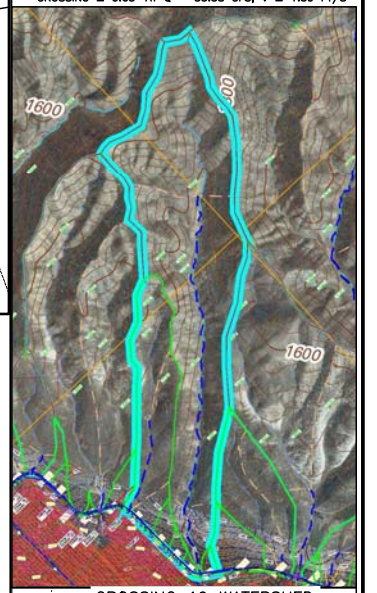
PANOCHO VALLEY SOLAR LLC	
SUBJECT	
CIVIL PERIMETER ROAD DETAILS CROSSING 14	
AREA	CLIENT DWG. NO.
	D-000-C-0155

amec	
AREA	CLIENT DWG. NO.
	D-000-C-0155
DRAWING NO.	
D-000-C-0155	
DATE: 12-Dec-14 10:19 AM PLOTTED: 12-Dec-14 10:54 AM USER: STEPHAN CHARLES	

Crossing 4



- NOTES**
- FOR GENERAL NOTES SEE DRAWING D-000-C-0002.
 - ALL CONTRACTORS SHALL ADHERE TO AND FOLLOW RULES AND GUIDELINES SET FORTH WITHIN THE LAKE AND STREAMBED ALTERATION AGREEMENT NOTIFICATION NO. XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XX, ISSUED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE.
 - HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS OF THE ROCK LINED LOW WATER CROSSING IS DESIGNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HYDROLOGIC ENGINEERING CIRCULAR, HEC 15, CHAPTER 6, RAP, COBBLE, AND GRAVEL LINING DESIGN AND USDA FOREST SERVICE TECHNICAL MANUAL.
 - RE-VEGETATION OF THE BACKFILLED EXISTING CHANNEL IS PARAMOUNT. CONTRACTOR SHALL ENSURE THAT AREA OF BACKFILL HAS A GOOD STAND OF VEGETATION. RE-VEGETATION OF THE OPEN SPACE JUST DOWN STREAM OF THE LOW WATER CROSSING SHALL ALSO BE OF A GOOD VEGETATED STAND. CONTRACTOR AND OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE SHALL NOT MOW THE OPEN AREA DOWNSTREAM OF THE LOW WATER CROSSING UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY CALIFORNIA OR THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.
 - FOR AREAS AND VOLUMES OF CIVIL SITE DEVELOPMENT WORK WITHIN THE FULL EXTENTS OF THE USACE OHWM AND WITHIN THE TOP OF BANK PLEASE REFER TO THE 404(b)(1) DRAFT.
 - CROSSING 19 HYDROLOGY CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING TO THE CMP PIPE ARCH:
 - DRAINAGE AREA = 114.5 ACRES
 - CONSISTS OF THREE SUB-BASINS AT 25.4, 0.8, AND 88.3 ACRES
 - COMPOSITE CN = 71, SOILS CONSISTS OF HYDRAULIC SOIL GROUPS A&B
 - TIME OF CONCENTRATION = 14.6 min.
 - PEAK FLOW RATE DETERMINED BY SCS METHOD, TIME INTERVAL 1 min. STORM DISTRIBUTION, TYPE 1
 - 100-YR PEAK FLOW RATE = 35.58 CFS
 - FLOW DEPTHS UPSTREAM OF LOW WATER CROSSING IN PROPOSED ROCK CHUTE $\leq 0.26'$ AT $Q = 24.4$ CFS, $V = 5.9$ FT/S
 - FLOW DEPTHS AT OUTLET OF ROCK CHUTE $\leq 0.18'$ AT $Q = 35.58$ CFS, $V \leq 1.53$ FT/S
 - BROAD CRESTED WEIR HYDRAULIC CALCULATIONS FOR THE SMALL ROCK BERM CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING, VALUES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 100 YR FLOW RATE:
 - FLOW RATE FOR WEIR CALCULATIONS = 35.58 CFS
 - BROAD CRESTED WEIR COEFFICIENT, C = 2.80
 - FLOW DEPTH JUST UPSTREAM AND ABOVE TOP OF WEIR, $H = 0.22'$
 - CRITICAL FLOW D. AT BROADCRESTED WEIR, $d_c = 0.14'$
 - BRINK FLOW DEPTH ALONG BROAD CRESTED WEIR JUST PRIOR TO NAPPE, $d_b = 0.10'$
 - HORIZONTAL LENGTH OF NAPPE FROM BROAD CRESTED WEIR = 0.28'
 - VELOCITY ACROSS THE WEIR IS AT 1.33 FT/S
 - FLOW DEPTHS ACROSS THE ROCK LOW WATER CROSSING $\leq 0.63'$ AT $Q = 35.58$ CFS, $V \leq 1.39$ FT/S



WORK SAFELY

REV		DDMMYY	REVISION / ISSUE DESCRIPTION	DRN	CHK	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP	APP		
JCS MBE											REF NUMBER		TITLE			
11DEC14 ISSUED FOR INFORMATION 11DEC14 ISSUED FOR INFORMATION 11DEC14 ISSUED FOR INFORMATION																

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APPROVED FOR REVIEW
 DRE HRM
 CLIENT PROJECT MGR. DEPARTMENT MGR. PROJECT MGR.
PANOCH VALLEY SOLAR LLC

PROJECT PHASE
 PANOCH VALLEY SOLAR PROJECT

PROJECT NO. 176055	ACTIVITY NO.	BY JCS/MTG	DDMMYY 24NOV14	SUBJECT CIVIL PERIMETER ROAD CROSSING 19
SCALE AS SHOWN	PACKAGE CODE	DRN JCS/JTW	DDMMYY 24NOV14	

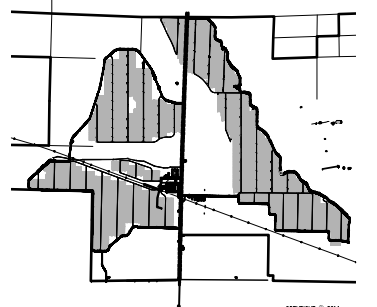
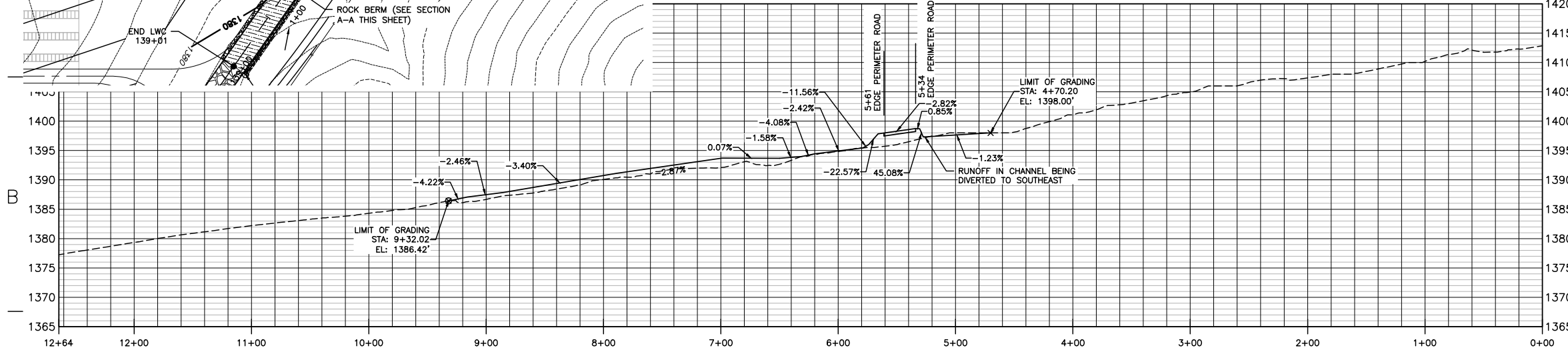
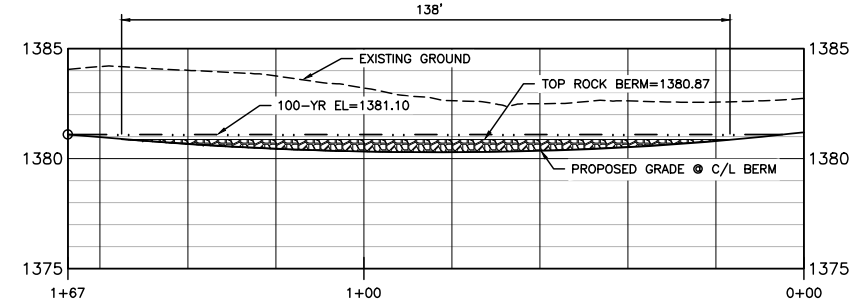
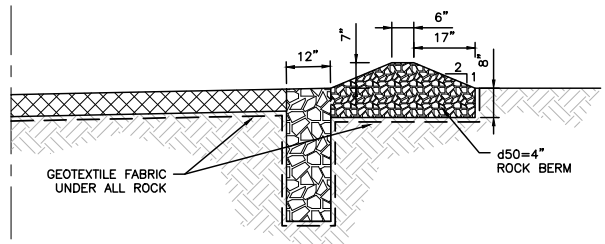
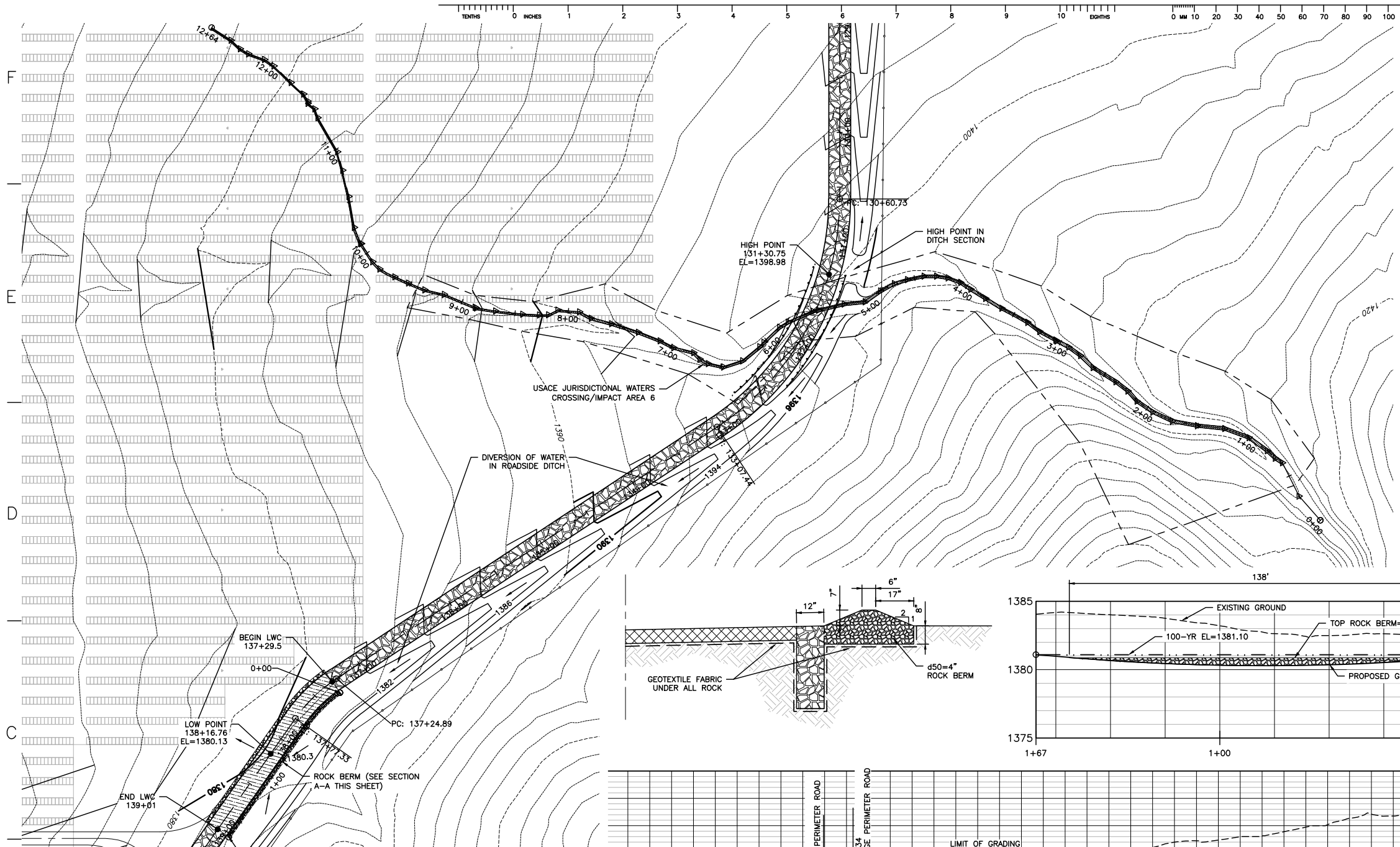
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AREA		CLIENT DWG. NO.	
DRAWING NO. D-000-C-0158		REV. A	

AREA		CLIENT DWG. NO.	
DRAWING NO. D-000-C-0158		REV. A	

Crossing 6



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