

EBMUD Duffel Photovoltaic Renewable Energy Project

**Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative
Declaration Public Meeting**

September 11, 2019

Project Team



- EBMUD
 - Kathryn Horn, Community Affairs
 - David Briggs, P.E., Department Manager
 - David Rehnstrom, P.E., Division Manager
 - Ramona Gonzalez, P.E., Project Manager
- CEQA Consultant
 - Panorama Environmental, Inc.

Presentation Outline



- Purpose of the Public Meeting
- Project Purpose and Conceptual Site Plan
- Visual Simulations
- Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures
- Permits and Approvals
- Comments on the Draft IS/MND

Purpose of the Public Meeting



- Explain the Project
- Draft IS/MND analysis and process
 - Released 8/30/19 for review and comments
 - Obtain verbal comments - written comments on the Draft IS/MND due no later than 4:30 pm on 9/30/19

Project Objectives



Further EBMUD's energy policy goals

- Carbon emission free by 2040 (for indirect sources).
- Increase cost effective use of renewable energy.

Qualify for PG&E tariff

- Renewable generation can be used to offset energy from 50 EBMUD accounts with PG&E.
- Project on EBMUD property in the service area.

Project Location



What is the Project?



5-megawatt solar photovoltaic energy generation facility and includes:

- Solar panels/arrays
- Equipment pads
- Electrical control building
- Connection line to PG&E
- Perimeter fencing
- Access road

Conceptual Site Plan



Scale: 1:4,000
Aerial Imagery Flown 7/25/2017

Legend					
	Site Boundary		Staging Area		Existing Access Road
	Perimeter Fencing		Parking Area		Proposed Access Road
	Solar Development Area*		Electrical Control Building		Underground or Overhead Connection Line
	Relocated Corral		PG&E Transmission Tower		Existing Transmission Line
			Access Gate		City Boundary
			Potential Power Pole		Stream / Creek
			Existing Pole		Trail

PV Tracker illustration

Front View



Rear view



Visual Simulations



- 4 Key Observation Points (KOP's) used to analyze visual experience
- Visual simulations are provided in the IS/MND that show post-construction views of the Project site
- Planting of native shrubs and vegetation along Bear Creek Road and Oursan Trail
- Vegetation will provide screening of the Project from trail users and motorists

View Points for Visual Simulations



KOP = Key Observation Point, or View Point

Project Visuals (conceptual)



View from Bear Creek Rd traveling South-West into Orinda



Post Construction with Solar Development Area



After 5 years + native vegetation



Project Visuals (conceptual)



View from Bear Creek Rd traveling North-East out of Orinda



Post Construction with Solar Development Area



Requested underground service from PG&E to reduce pole count.

After 5 years + native vegetation



Project Visuals (conceptual)



Oursan Trail looking East toward PG&E Substation



Post Construction with Solar Development Area



Add educational placard along the Oursan Trail.

After 5 years + native vegetation



Add break in vegetation to view Project at educational placard.

Project Visuals (conceptual)



Existing view - Tappan Lane looking S-W



Post Construction with Solar Development Area



Environmental Impacts Defined in the Draft IS/MND



Impacts in the following resource areas are defined as **less than significant or no impact**

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Energy Use
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Wildfire

Environmental Impacts Defined in the Draft IS/MND



Impacts in the following resource areas are defined as **less than significant with mitigation**:

- Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- Biological Resources
- Land Use and Planning

Agricultural and Forestry Resources



Public Resource Code definition of forest land:

- Land that can support 10 percent native tree cover of any species, and
- Located on land managed for Water Quality

0.36 Acre Oak Woodland removal

- Mitigation Measure BIO-22
 - Replanting at 5:1 ratio



Existing Coast Live Oak and Valley Oak

Biological Resources



Potential for special-status species to occur on Project site

- Sensitive plants
- Alameda whipsnake
- California red-legged frog
- San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat
- Yellow legged frog
- Western pond turtle
- American badger
- Ring tailed cat
- Birds and bats



Alameda Whipsnake



California Red Legged Frog

Biological Resources Mitigation



- Exclusion fencing
- Designated biologist
- Preconstruction surveys
- Biological monitoring
- Worker training
- Erosion control
- Avoidance and minimization of wetlands
- Habitat compensation



Exclusion fencing

Land Use and Planning



1. Project site designated as *Utility-W* in the City of Orinda General Plan
 - Solar facility is a utility use
 - Adjacent to PG&E utility corridor and substation to minimize new power lines
 - Low intensity use (~8 worker trips per year)
 - *W* - Consistent with East Bay Watershed Master Plan as an acceptable watershed activity
2. Use allowed within the *Public, Semipublic, and Utility* zoning designation with a City of Orinda Conditional Use Permit

Permits and Approvals



Agency	Action
US Army Corps	Fill to waters of the U.S./wetlands
US Fish and Wildlife Service	Incidental take of federally listed species (AWS and CLRF)
CA Department Fish and Wildlife	Incidental take of state listed species (AWS)
SF Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	Fill to waters of the U.S./wetlands
State Water Resources Control Board Construction General Permit (CGP) and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)	Disturbance of more than 1 acre
Contra Costa County Encroachment	Overhead conductor installation
City of Orinda Use Permit	Utility use of the site
City of Orinda Tree Removal Permit	Tree removal

Project Schedule



Key Milestones	Date
Comments Due on IS/MND	September 30, 2019
Publish Final IS/MND	Fall /Winter 2019
EBMUD Board adoption of Final IS/MND and Project Approval	Fall /Winter 2019
Regulatory Permits	Spring 2020
Finalize Design	Spring 2020
City of Orinda Permits (CUP, Tree)	Spring 2020
Begin Construction	Summer 2020
Complete Construction	Summer 2021

Comments on Draft IS/MND



- Comments must be received or postmarked by **September 30, 2019**
- Written comments may be submitted today, by mail, or by email

By Mail	Duffel PV Renewable Energy Project Comments c/o Ramona Gonzalez, Associate Civil Engineer East Bay Municipal Utility District 375 11 th Street, MS 205 Oakland, CA 94607
By Email	DuffelPVREP@ebmud.com

Thank you



For additional information

www.ebmud.com/DuffelPV

Kathryn Horn, EBMUD
375 11th Street, MS 802
Oakland, CA 94607
510-287-2053