



**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Duffel Photovoltaic Renewable Energy Project**

Project Title: Duffel Photovoltaic Renewable Energy Project (Project)

Lead Agency: East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD)

Project Location: 518 Bear Creek Road, City of Orinda and Contra Costa County, California.

Project Description: The Project involves construction and operation of a 5-megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) solar system and includes the following components: solar panels mounted on tracking support structures with controllers and motors; equipment pads housing transformers and inverters with underground cabling between equipment; electrical control building; connection line to Pacific Gas & Electric’s (PG&E) electrical system, including up to five power poles with overhead power line; PG&E substation upgrades; site security and perimeter fencing; access roads; stormwater drainage system and detention basin; and a relocated livestock corral.

Project Objective: The Project’s objectives are to: 1) assist EBMUD in meeting its Energy Policy goals for increasing the cost-effective use of renewable energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and 2) produce renewable energy that qualifies for the PG&E Renewable Energy Self-Generation Bill Credit Transfer tariff.

Schedule: Key milestones for project implementation are summarized as follows:

Complete Environmental Review	Fall 2019
Obtain Environmental Permits	Spring 2020
Finalize Design	Spring 2020
Begin Construction	Summer 2020
Complete Construction	Summer 2021

Environmental Determination: Pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act, an Initial Study was prepared for the Project. Based on the results of the Initial Study, it was determined that project-related construction work could potentially generate environmental impacts to biological resources, agricultural and forestry resources, and land use and planning. Long-term solar system operation will not generate significant impacts. Proposed mitigation measures will be incorporated into the Project to ensure that the Project will not generate a significant adverse impact on the environment. Based on this assessment, a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared.

Environmental Mitigation: All impacts will be reduced to Less than Significant levels by implementation of proposed mitigation measures.

Public Comment/Review: The Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for review at:

- East Bay Municipal Utility District, 375 11th Street, Oakland, CA 94607
- EBMUD website (www.ebmud.com/DuffelPV)
- City of Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

In accordance with Section 15073 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, this Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for public review from August 30, 2019 through September 30, 2019. Written comments on this proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on September 30, 2019. Please address comments to Duffel PV Renewable Energy Project Comments, c/o Ramona Gonzalez, Associate Civil Engineer, East Bay Municipal Utility District, 375 11th Street, MS 205, Oakland, California 94607, or email to DuffelPVREP@ebmud.com.

8/29/19
Date

Clifford C. Chan

Director of Operations and Maintenance