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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT

January 2, 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County of San Diego is circulating for public review a draft Environmental Impact Report in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the following project(s). These draft Environmental Impact Report(s) can be reviewed on the World Wide Web at http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/pds/ceqa_public_review.html, at the Planning & Development Services (PDS), Project Processing Counter, 5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 110, San Diego, California 92123 and at the public library(ies) listed below. Comments on these draft Environmental Impact Report(s) must be sent to the PDS address listed above and should reference the project numbers and name.

SOITEC SOLAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, LOG NO. PDS2012-3910-120005 (ER); 3800-12-010 (GPA); TIERRA DEL SOL, 3300-12-010 (MUP); 3600-12-005 (REZ); 3921-77-046-01 (AP); RUGGED SOLAR, 3300-12-007 (MUP); SCH NO. 2012121018

The project proposes the development of four solar energy projects: Tierra del Sol, Rugged Solar, LanWest, and LanEast. Collectively the projects include approximately 1,473 acres of Concentrated Photovoltaic (CPV) trackers that would generate approximately 168.5 megawatts of electricity. The Tierra del Sol and Rugged Solar sites are evaluated at a project-specific level of CEQA analysis, and LanEast and LanWest are evaluated at a program level. The projects include applications for two Major Use Permits (Tierra del Sol and Rugged), and a Rezone and Disestablishment of an Agricultural Preserve (Tierra del Sol). The project is currently consistent with the County General Plan. However, due to an ongoing court case related to recent changes to the Boulevard Chapter of the Mountain Empire Subregional Plan (GPA 12-003), the applicant has also filed a General Plan Amendment in case the courts void GPA 12-003. The project sites are located in the Mountain Empire Subregional Plan Area and Boulevard Subregional Planning Area within the unincorporated area of San Diego County. The draft Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) identified significant environmental impacts to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Land Use, and Noise. Comments on this draft Program EIR must be received no later than **February 17, 2014 at 4:00 P.M.** (a 45-day public review period). This draft Program Environmental Impact Report can also be reviewed at the Campo-Morena Village Library and Jacumba Library, located at 31356 Highway 94, Campo, CA 91906, and 44605 Old Hwy. 80, Jacumba, CA 91934, respectively. County staff will attend the Boulevard Community Planning Group meetings on January 2, 2014 to present a brief overview of the draft Program EIR to the community, and again on February 6, 2014 to make a more detailed presentation and to answer questions and receive comments. Boulevard Community Planning Group meetings are held in the Boulevard Fire Training / Community Room at 39919 Ribbonwood Road, Boulevard, CA 91905 at 7:00 P.M. In addition, the Tierra del Sol and Rugged Solar components of this project have received approval under the Jobs and Economic Improvement Act of 2011 (AB 900) and have been determined by the Governor, with concurrence from the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, to meet the criteria set forth in Public Resources Code § 21178 et seq. As part of this approval (pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21186(a) and (b)) the County as Lead Agency has prepared the administrative record (to date) and posted it on the internet at the following webpage: http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/pds/ceqa/SOITEC_SOLAR_DEVELOPMENT_ADMINISTRATIVE_RECORDS.html The administrative record will be updated pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21186(d) through (f) and the project is subject to expedited judicial review pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21185. For additional information, please contact Robert Hingtgen at (858) 694-3712 or by e-mail at Robert.Hingtgen@sdcounty.ca.gov.