## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP (BPG)

\*\*\* 7 PM THURSDAY AUGUST 4TH, 2022— FINAL AGENDA/NOTICE FOR IN-PERSON MEETING COMMUNITY ROOM IN BACK AT 39919 RIBBONWOOD ROAD, BOULEVARD, CA, 91905\*\*\*

A. ROLL CALL (Determination of quorum): 1) Manuel Casanova; 2) Earl Goodnight 3) Kevin Keane; 4) Donna Tisdale; 5) Michael Coyne; 7) Nancy Good

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (optional):** 

C. ACT ON DRAFT MINUTES/ SUMMARY FOR JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup> MEETING:

<u>D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:</u> Opportunity for public comment on any subject matter within the Group's jurisdiction that is not on the posted agenda. No action can be taken on non-agenda items. Items can be added to future agendas.

**E. ACTION ITEMS (Agenda items may be taken out of order upon request):** 

- 1. 100 MW STARLIGHT SOLAR PLUS BATTERIES ON 570 ACRES JEWEL VALLEY AREA; MAJOR USE PERMIT (MUP) APPLICATION SCOPING LETTER: PDS2022-MPA-22-006: MUP is expected to be available in coming weeks:

  Project is industrial scale 100 MW solar facility with battery energy storage system (BESS), collector substation, transformers, inverters, gen-tie line, 24' internal roads, water tanks for fire protection, security fencing, lighting, and signage. South of I-8 and Old 80 and east of Tierra Del Sol Road. Project has eight solar array areas with approximately 300,000 PV modules on support structures. Gen-tie line will be mostly underground, on the east side of Tule Jim Lane. Will connect to the SE corner of the Boulevard Substation. Some of the gen-tie line will be overhead, with 50'-high steel poles, to cross Tule Jim Lane. Project access will be off of Jewel Valley Road and Tule Jim Lane connecting to Old Highway 80. Grading estimated at 280,000 cubic yards, balanced on-site. Pile driving and blasting is expected. Water for grading to be provided by Jacumba Community Service District.
- **2. RUGGED SOLAR COMMUNITY BENEFITS AGREEMENT (CBA):** The Rugged Solar Working Draft CBA was endorsed in concept. Now that the Planning Commission has recommended project approval, final discussion and recommendations should e made prior to the Board of Supervisors upcoming hearing.

## F. GROUP BUSINESS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1. EVEN NUMBERED SEATS (2-Goodnight; 4-Tisdale; 6-Coyne) ARE UP FOR ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> BALLOT: Candidate filing period for the November ballot will be July 18<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>. See details at this link: <a href="https://www.sdvote.com/content/rov/en/candidates-campaigns/filing.html">https://www.sdvote.com/content/rov/en/candidates-campaigns/filing.html</a>
- 2. REVITALIZATION & FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORTS:
- **3.** <u>INFLATION REDUCTION ACT OF 2022:</u> Renewable energy industry marked slowest quarter since 2019 with installations down 55%. That will change with passage of the federal Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 that includes \$369 billion for so-called energy security and climate change. It also modifies and extends tax credits for wind, solar, geothermal, energy storage, fuel cells and microgrid controllers. It increases the tax incentives for wind and solar projects built in low-income communities.
- **4.** AB 205 SIGNED BY GOVERNOR NEWSON: AB 205 shifts siting authority for solar, wind, and certain battery backup projects, from local governments to the California Energy Commission (CEC). They also delegate blanket authority to bypass local permitting to the Department of Water Resources (DWR), under the auspices of a Strategic Energy Reserve. <a href="https://www.californiaenvironmentallawblog.com/energy/effective-immediately-californiaenergy-commission-jurisdiction-expands-to-include-non-thermal-projects-greater-than-50-mw/">https://www.californiaenvironmentallawblog.com/energy/effective-immediately-californiaenergy-commission-jurisdiction-expands-to-include-non-thermal-projects-greater-than-50-mw/</a>

## **G. PROJECT UPDATES:**

- UPDATE ON SDG&E's BOULEVARD MICROGRID & STRATEGIC UNDERGROUNDING: CPUC approved the project on 6/23/22. It will serve selected Boulevard and Campo Reservation facilities. <a href="https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220624005050/en/SDGE-to-Add-Four-Microgrids-With-Energy-Storage-to-Further-Strengthen-Summer-Grid-Reliability-and-Advance-Clean-Energy-Goals">https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220624005050/en/SDGE-to-Add-Four-Microgrids-With-Energy-Storage-to-Further-Strengthen-Summer-Grid-Reliability-and-Advance-Clean-Energy-Goals</a>
- 2. 74 MW RUGGED SOLAR PDS2017-MUP-12-007W1 MAJOR USE PERMIT MODIFICATION APPROVED BY PLANNING COMMISSION 7/22: Current PDS Project Manager: Regina.Ochoa@sdcounty.ca.gov (619) 323-8090.

- Planning Commission recommended approval on 7/22/22. Project documents posted at: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/ceqa/MUP-12-007W1.html
- 3. TERRA-GEN'S 252 MW-60 TURBINE CAMPO WIND PROJECT. APPEAL OF FEDERAL APPROVALS OF CAMPO WIND FILED IN 9<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT APPEAL ON 2-22-22: Approved for Campo Reservation land by Dept of Interior April 2020. Federal lawsuit filed 7-8-20. On August 6, 2021, the federal judge granted the Campo Band's Motion to Dismiss the case. In 2021, the FAA approved project for second time despite SO CAL TRACON objections over significant aviation impacts. An appeal of FAA approval is in process at the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit.
- 4. TERRA-GEN'S BOULDER BRUSH SUBSTATION FACILITIES PDS2019-MUP-19-002; PDS2019-ER-19-16-001; APPROVED BY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 3-17-21. CEQA CHALLENGE FILED. DEC 15 MERITS HEARING SET WITH JUDGE FRAZIER. FAA APPROVED TRANSMISSION TOWERS IN FEB-MARCH 2022: Boulder Brush Facilities include 3.5 miles of overhead 230 kilovolt generation transmission (gen-tie) line on private land, approximately 32 steel poles at a maximum height of 150 feet, a high voltage substation, a switchyard, in/out connection to the existing Sunrise Powerlink. These facilities will connect Terra-Gen's 60-4.2 MW Campo Wind turbines on the Campo Reservation to Sunrise Powerlink via new substation and switchyard: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/ceqa/BoulderBrush.html
- 5. 90 MW JACUMBA VALLEY RANCH ENERGY PARK (JVR SOLAR); APPROVED BY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON 8-18-21. CEQA LAWSUIT CHALLENGING APPROVAL WAS FILED ON 9-20-21: 90 megawatt (MW) solar energy facility and a battery energy storage system of up to 90 MW (360 MWh) on 613 acres. Project documents are posted at: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/ceqa/MUP-18-022.html.
- 6. TERRA-GEN'S 126 MW TORREY WIND PROJECT WITH 30-4.2 MW TURBINES: PDS2018-MUP-18-014: No project progress reported since approximately 2018. Torrey Wind will rely on Campo Wind's approved but not yet built Boulder Brush Substation. Terra-Gen was granted another project time extension through September 24, 2022. <a href="https://www.sandiegocounty.gov//content/sdc/pds/ceqa/TorreyWindNOP.html">https://www.sandiegocounty.gov//content/sdc/pds/ceqa/TorreyWindNOP.html</a> The CAISO Grid Queue report (#2177) shows a Boulder Brush Hybrid with 105.8 MW wind and 314 MW battery storage with an online date of 6/1/25: <a href="https://www.caiso.com/PublishedDocuments/PublicQueueReport.xlsx">http://www.caiso.com/PublishedDocuments/PublicQueueReport.xlsx</a>
- 7. <u>TULE WIND PHASE II-69MW:</u> Currently permitted to erect up to 24 new turbines on State land and the Ewiiaapayaap Reservation, with a capacity of 69 megawatts, as expansion to existing 131.1 MW Tule Wind I with 57 -2.3 MW turbines. No progress since approximately 2016: <a href="https://www.eastcountymagazine.org/state-approves-tule-wind-phase-ii-opponents-voice-concern-eagles-wildlife-residents">https://www.eastcountymagazine.org/state-approves-tule-wind-phase-ii-opponents-voice-concern-eagles-wildlife-residents</a>
- 8. <u>BOULEVARD ENERGY STORAGE PDS2017-ZAP-17-006:</u> 100 MW battery storage project proposed to connect to Boulevard Substation is on the County's idle project list. If it remains inactive for another 12 months from the time of the new ordinance and does not request an extension, they will be automatically withdrawn. In addition, Starlight Solar proposes to use some of the same parcels. Boulevard Energy Storage application will need to be withdrawn from processing when Starlight Solar MUP application comes forward.
- 9. 60 MW 420 ACRE BOULEVARD SOLAR MUP12-010TE PDS2012-3300-12-00 @ 796 Tierra Del Sol Road; No project progress reported. Approved in 2014 and terminated by Soitec Solar in March 2015. Invenergy withdrew from project in 2018. The absentee owner still promoting it. Permit reportedly expires in July 2022.
- 10. ENERGIA SIERRA JUAREZ (ESJ) WIND II-EXPANSION COMMENCES OPERATIONS: FEB 8, 2022: Sempra commenced operations of their 108 MW (26-Vestas V150-4.2MW) expansion of existing 155 MW ESJ Wind I project (47-3.3 MW turbines) on 13,000 acres south of the border just east of Jacumba and Ejido Jacume. Energy is exported cross border to SDG&E's ECO Substation. Full capacity at build out is 1,000-1,200 MW.

## H. ADJOURNMENT: NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JULY 7TH, 2022.

For More information contact Donna Tisdale, Chair at 619-766-4170 or <a href="mailto:tisdale.donna@gmail.com">tisdale.donna@gmail.com</a>; Current and past meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted on the County website @ <a href="http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html">http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html</a>

\*Disclaimer Language included as directed by San Diego County PDS: Public Disclosure: We strive to protect personally identifiable information by collecting only information necessary to deliver our services. All information that may be collected becomes public record that may be subject to inspection and copying by the public, unless an exemption in law exists. In the event of a conflict between this Privacy Notice and any County ordinance or other law governing the County's disclosure of records, the County ordinance or other applicable law will control. Access and Correction of Personal Information: You can review any personal information collected about you. You may recommend changes to your personal information you believe is in error by submitting a written request that credibly shows the error. If you believe that your personal information is being used for a purpose other than what was intended when submitted, you may contact us. In all cases, we will take reasonable steps to verify your identity before granting access or making corrections.