

**PLANNING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Lorelei H. Oviatt, AICP, Director

2700 "M" STREET, SUITE 100
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301-2323
Phone: (661) 862-8600

FAX: (661) 862-8601 TTY Relay 1-800-735-2929

E-Mail: planning@co.kern.ca.us

Web Address: www.co.kern.ca.us/planning



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY

Ted James, AICP, DSA DIRECTOR

Planning and Community Development
Engineering, Surveying and Permit Services
Roads Department

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

DATE: June 30, 2011

To: See Attached Mailing List

FROM: Kern County Planning and Community
Development Department
Attn: Jacquelyn Kitchen, Planner III
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 862-8619

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT REPORT**

The Kern County Planning and Community Development Department as Lead Agency (per CEQA Guidelines Section 15052) has required that an Environmental Impact Report (per CEQA Guidelines Section 15161) be prepared for the project identified below. The Planning and Community Development Department solicits the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval of projects.

Due to the limits mandated by State law, your response must be received by **August 1, 2011 at 5pm**. In addition, comments can be submitted at a **scoping meeting** that will be held at the Kern County Planning and Community Development Department on **July 25, 2011 at 1:30pm** at the address shown above.

PROJECT TITLE: JRK 10-11; Alta Wind Infill II Project by Alta Windpower Development, LLC. (PP11292); General Plan Amendment No. 7, Map No. 197; Zone Change No. 11, Map No. 168; Zone Change No. 3, Map No. 179; Zone Change No. 47, Map 196; Zone Change No. 1, Map 196-31; Zone Change No. 49, Map 197; Zone Change No. 67, Map 198; Zone Change No. 27, Map 214; Conditional Use Permit No. 13, Map 197

PROJECT LOCATION: The Alta Wind Infill II Project is located west of Highway 14 and on the north and south side of Highway 58 in the Mojave Desert and is within the Tehachapi Wind Resource Area (TWRA) of eastern Kern County; Located within in San Bernardino Base Meridian in the following: T 10 North, R 13 West, within portions of Sections 1, 2, 11 and 12/ T 11 North, R12 West within portions of Sections 6, 29, 30, 31 and 32/ T 11 North, R 13 West, within portions of Sections 1, 11 through 15, 22 through 27, 30, 31, 35 and 36/ T 11 North, R 14 West, within portions of Sections 25, 26, 35 and 36 / T 12 North, R12 West, within portions of Section 31/ T 12 North, R 13 West, within portions of Section 36/ T 32 South, R 34 East, within portions of Section 36/ T 32 South, R 35 East, within portions of Sections 13 through 16, 21 through 24, 28, 29, 31, 32 and 35 / T 32 South, R36 East, within portions of Sections 5, 7 and 8.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project is located within and adjacent to the existing Alta Infill Wind Energy Project area, as well as in Subarea 2 (east of 60th Street) of the existing Alta Oak Creek Mojave (AOCM) Wind Energy Project area, and areas just east and north of the proposed Alta East project, all in the Tehachapi area of southeastern Kern County. The proposed project is a renewable energy development that would generate up to 750 megawatts (MW) of electricity through the use of up to 250 wind turbine generators on a 10,846-acre project site. The project applicant is requesting: changes in zone classification from the E (20) (Estate 20 acres) District, A-1 (Limited Agriculture) District, and the A (Exclusive Agriculture) District, to the A WE (Exclusive Agriculture, Wind Energy Combining) District and to the A FP (Exclusive Agriculture, Floodplain Combining) District in Maps 168, 179, 196, 196-31, 197, 198, and 214; and a conditional use permit to allow for the use of a temporary concrete batch plant during construction of the wind energy facility. The requested applications would also permit the construction of wind ancillary facilities and supporting infrastructure, as well as a concrete batch plant that is necessary to provide concrete and materials for turbine, substation, and building foundations. The project's permanent facilities would include WTGs, service roads, a power collection system, communication cables, overhead and underground transmission lines, electrical switchyards, project substations, meteorological towers, and operations and maintenance facilities.

Signature: _____ /S/
Name: Jacquelyn R. Kitchen, Planner III

Alta Infill Wind project / EIR 10-11.jrk
WO #PP11292 (agencies only)
I:\WP\LABELS\eir10-11jrk.nop_agencies
only.doc
sc 6/28/11

City of Arvin
P.O. Box 548
Arvin, CA 93203

Bakersfield City Planning Dept
1715 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Bakersfield City Public Works Dept
1501 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

California City Planning Dept
21000 Hacienda Blvd.
California City, CA 93515

City of Delano
P.O. Box 939
Delano, CA 93216

City of Maricopa
P.O. Box 548
Maricopa, CA 93252

City of McFarland
401 West Kern Avenue
McFarland, CA 93250

City of Ridgecrest
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

City of Shafter
336 Pacific Avenue
Shafter, CA 93263

City of Taft
Planning & Building
209 East Kern Street
Taft, CA 93268

City of Tehachapi
115 South Robinson Street
Tehachapi, CA 93561-1722

City of Wasco
764 E Street
Wasco, CA 93280

Inyo County Planning Dept
P.O. Drawer "L"
Independence, CA 93526

Kings County Planning Agency
1400 West Lacey Blvd, Bldg 6
Hanford, CA 93230

Los Angeles Co Reg Planning Dept
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Bernardino Co Planning Dept
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 1st Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0182

San Luis Obispo Co Planning Dept
Planning and Building
976 Osos Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Santa Barbara Co Resource Mgt Dept
123 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Tulare County Planning & Dev Dept
5961 South Mooney Boulevard
Visalia, CA 93291

Ventura County RMA Planning Div
800 South Victoria Avenue, L1740
Ventura, CA 93009-1740

U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Caliente/Bakersfield
3801 Pegasus Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93308-6837

U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Ridgecrest Field Office
300 South Richmond Road
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

China Lake Naval Weapons Center
Tim Fox, RLA - Comm Plans & Liaison
429 E Bowen, Building 979
Mail Stop 4003
China Lake, CA 93555-6108

Edwards Air Force Base
AFFTC/XRX Bldg 0001, Room 110
#1 South Rosamond Blvd.
Edwards AFB, CA 93524-1936

Federal Aviation Administration
Western Reg Office/
Airport Div - AWP 600
P.O. Box 92007
Los Angeles, CA 90009

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003

U.S. Forest Service
Los Padres National Forest
6755 Hollister Avenue, Suite 150
Goleta, CA 93117

Nick Del Cioppo
Office of Historical Preservation
PO Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Tehachapi Resource Cons Dist
321 West "C" Street
Tehachapi, CA 93561-2011

Eastern Kern Resource Cons Dist
1525 North Norma Street, Ste C
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Antelope Valley Resource Cons Dist
44811 Date Avenue, #G
Lancaster, CA 93534-3136

Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX Office
75 Hawthorn Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

U.S. Dept of Agriculture/NRCS
5000 California Avenue, Ste 100
Bakersfield, CA 93309-0711

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attention Planning Division
1325 "J" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

U.S. Postal Service
Address Management Systems
28201 Franklin Parkway
Santa Clarita, CA 91383-9321

So. San Joaquin Valley Arch Info Ctr
California State University of Bkfd
9001 Stockdale Highway
Bakersfield, CA 93311

Caltrans/Dist 6
Planning/Land Bank Bldg.
P.O. Box 12616
Fresno, CA 93778

Caltrans/Dist 9
Planning Department
500 South Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514

State Clearinghouse
Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
CERTIFIED MAIL

State Dept of Conservation
Director's Office
801 "K" Street, MS 24-01
Sacramento, CA 95814-3528

State Dept of Conservation
Division of Oil & Gas
4800 Stockdale Highway, Ste 417
Bakersfield, CA 93309

California Energy Commission
James W. Reed, Jr.
1516 Ninth Street
Mail Stop 17
Sacramento, CA 95814

State Dept of Fish & Game
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710

California Highway Patrol
Planning & Analysis Division
P.O. Box 942898
Sacramento, CA 94298-0001

Public Utilities Comm Energy Div
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

California Regional Water Quality
Control Board/Lahontan Region
14440 Civic Drive, Suite 200
Victorville, CA 92392-2306

State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Ste 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

Kern County
Agriculture Department

Kern County Airports Department

Kern County Administrative Officer

Kern County Engineering, Surveying,
& Permit Svs/Floodplain

Kern County Engineering, Surveying,
& Permit Svs/Survey

Kern County
Env Health Services Department

Kern County Fire Dept
Nick Dunn, Fire Chief

Kern County Fire Dept
Brian Marshall

Kern County Fire Dept
Dave Goodell

Kern County Library/Beale
Local History Room

Kern County Library/Beale
Diane Duquette

Kern County Library
Mojave Branch
16916 1/2 Highway 14, Space D2
Mojave, CA 93501

Kern County Sheriff's Dept
Administration

Kern County Roads Department

Kern County
Waste Management Department

Mojave Unified School Dist
3500 Douglas
Mojave, CA 93501

Tehachapi Unified School Dist
400 South Snyder
Tehachapi, CA 93561

Kern High School Dist
5801 Sundale Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Kern County Superintendent of Schools
Attention Mary Baker
1300 17th Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301

KernCOG
1401 19th Street - Suite 300
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Local Agency Formation Comm/LAFCO
5300 Lennox Avenue, Suite 303
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Golden Hills Community Serv Dist
P.O. Box 637
Tehachapi, CA 93581

Mojave Public Utility Dist
15844 "K" Street
Mojave, CA 93501

Jodean M. Giese
Los Angeles Dept of Water and Power
111 North Hope Street, Rm 1121
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Antelope Valley-East Kern
Water Agency
6500 West Avenue N
Palmdale, CA 93551

Tehachapi-Cummings Co Water Dist
P.O. Box 326
Tehachapi, CA 93561

Kern County Water Agency
P.O. Box 58
Bakersfield, CA 93302-0058

Tehachapi Parks & Recreation Dist
P.O. Box 373
Tehachapi, CA 93561

East Kern Air Pollution
Control District

Mojave Airport
1434 Flightline
Mojave, CA 93501

East Kern Airport Dist
Attention Stuart Witt
1434 Flightline
Mojave, CA 93501

East Kern Airport Dist Engineer
3900 Ridgemoor Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93306

Northcutt and Associates
4220 Poplar Street
Lake Isabella, CA 93240-9536

Mountain Valley Airport
P.O. Box 100
Tehachapi, CA 93581

Aero Sports Skypark Corporation
P.O. Box 2567
Rosamond, CA 93560

Rosamond Skypark/Airport
P.O. Box 2617
Rosamond, CA 93560

Adams, Broadwell, Joseph & Cardozo
Attention: Janet M. Laurain
601 Gateway Boulevard, Suite 1000
South San Francisco, CA 94080

U.S. Air Force
Western Regional Environmental Officer
50 Fremont Street, Suite 2450
San Francisco, CA 94105-2230

U.S. Army
Dir of Public Works/Master Plan Div
P.O. Box 105097
Fort Irwin, CA 92310-5097

U.S. Army
Peter Rubin
B790 5th Street
Parks RFTA
Dublin, CA 94568

U.S. Navy
Steve Chung
1220 Pacific Highway, Bldg 127
San Diego, CA 92132

U.S. Marine Corps
Patrick Christman
Building 1164/Box 555246
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055

AT & T
5555 E. Olive Avenue, Cubicle 450F
Fresno, CA 93727

Kern Audubon Society
P.O. Box 3581
Bakersfield, CA 93385

Los Angeles Audubon
926 Citrus Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90036-4929

Center on Race, Poverty
& the Environmental
47 Kearny Street, Suite 804
San Francisco, CA 94108-5528

Center on Race, Poverty
& the Environmental/
CA Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
1302 Jefferson Street, Suite 2
Delano, CA 93215

Communities for a Better Environment
1904 Franklin Street, Suite 600
Oakland, CA 94612-2922

Defenders of Wildlife/
Cynthia Wilkerson, M.S.
California Representative
1303 "J" Street, Suite 270
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mojave Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 999
Mojave, CA 93502

Native American Heritage Council
of Kern County/Fay Van Horn
P.O. Box 1507
Bakersfield, CA 93302

Beth Boyst
Pacific Crest Trail Program Manager
1323 Club Drive
Vallejo, CA 94592

Anitra Kass
Pacific Crest Trail Association
P.O. Box 3398
Idyllwild, CA 92549

Brendan Taylor
Pacific Crest Trail Association
645 East Ridgecrest Blvd, Apt B
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Sheppard Mullin
Attn: Kendra Joy Casper
333 South Hope Street
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Sierra Club/Kern Kaweah Chapter
Arthur Unger

*****PUT IN BUCKET*****

Smart Growth - Tehachapi Valleys
P.O. Box 1894
Tehachapi, CA 93581-1894

Southern California Edison
Planning Dept.
421 West "J" Street
Tehachapi, CA 93561

Southern California Gas Co
1510 North Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Southern California Gas Co
Transportation Dept
9400 Oakdale Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91313-6511

Verizon California, Inc.
Attention Engineering Department
520 South China Lake Boulevard
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Chumash Council of Bakersfield
P.O. Box 902
Bakersfield, CA 93302

David Laughing Horse Robinson
P.O. Box 1547
Kernville, CA 93238

Kern Valley Indian Council
Attn: Bob Robinson
P.O. Box 1010
Lake Isabella, CA 93240

Kern Valley Indian Council
Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 401
Weldon, CA 93283

Santa Rosa Rancheria
Clarence Atwell, Chairperson
P.O. Box 8
Lemoore, CA 93245

Tejon Indian Tribe
Kathy Morgan, Chairperson
2234 4th Street
Wasco, CA 93280

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians
623 Hazel Street
Bakersfield, CA 93307-2523

Tubatulabals of Kern County
P.O. Box 226
Lake Isabella, CA 93240

Tule River Indian Tribe
Neal Peyron, Chairperson
P.O. Box 589
Porterville, CA 93258

Julia Levin
Audubon of California
4225 Hollis Street
Emeryville, CA 94605

Cuddy Valley Statistical
11667 Steinhoff Road
Frazier Park, CA 93222

Eight Bar Ranch
Jon and Helen Lantz
11300 Cameron Canyon Road
Mojave, CA 93501

Eric Anderson
1309 Leisure Lane
Frazier Park, CA 93225

Native American Heritage Council
of Kern County/Fay Van Horn
P.O. Box 1507
Bakersfield, CA 93302

Glenn Baumann
785 Tucker Road, No. G243
Tehachapi, CA 93561

Janice Armstrong
25101 Bear Valley Boulevard
PMB 20
Tehachapi, CA 93561

Joyce LoBasso
P.O. Box 6003
Bakersfield, CA 93386

Metrostudy
5001 California Avenue, Suite 210
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Thomas Roads Improvement Program
PARSONS/Dave Clark
900 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 201
Bakersfield, CA 93301

URS Corporation
Planning Department
3500 Porsche Drive, Suite 300
Ontario, CA 91764

Vestas
Sarah Adams
1881 Southwest Naito Parkway
Portland, OR 97201

Patti Murphy
CHZMHILL
155 Grand Avenue, Suite 1000
Oakland, CA 94612

Anne Mudge
Cox, Castle, & Nicholson, LLP
555 California Avenue, 10th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94104

Kelly Group
Kate Kelly
P.O. Box 868
Winters, CA 95694

Terra-Gen
Steve Yatsko
11512 El Camino Real, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92130

Renewal Resources Group
Holding Company
Rupal Patel
5700 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 330
Los Angeles, CA 90036

Sempra Generation
Marilyn Burke
101 Ash Street HQ-14A
San Diego, CA 92101

Element Power Solar Dev, LLC
John Gaglioti
864 Portola Drive
Monterey, CA 93940

Congentrix Sunshine, LLC
Rick Neff
9405 Arrowpoint Blvd
Charlotte, NC 28273

Fotowatio Renewable Ventures
Sean Kiernan
44 Montgomery Street, Suite 2200
San Francisco, CA 94104

Horizon Wind Energy
Charlie Turlinski
1600 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 222
Berkeley, CA 94709

Nautilus Solar
Paul Steinway
P.O. Box 188
Fort Lupton, CO 80621

First Solar
Rick Williams
18300 Von Karman Ave, Ste 930
Irvine, CA 92612

Gary Izing
enXco, Director of Land and Title
5000 Executive Parkway, Suite 140
San Ramon, CA 94583

Wind Stream, LLC
Albert Davies
1275 - 4th Street, No. 107
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Darren Kelly
Sr. Business Manager
Terra-Gen Power, LLC
565 - 5th Avenue, Floor 27
New York, NY 10017

Bill Barnes
Dir of Asset Mgmt AES Wind Gen
4542 Ruffner Street, Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92111

Cash Long
Mogul Energy
7201 Panorama Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93306

Jeff Ciachurski, CEO
Western Wind Energy Corp/
Aero Energy
Box 1041
Vancouver, BC V6C 3E8

T. Alana Steele
General Counsel
Western Wind Energy Corporation
3500 Glenrose Avenue
Altadena, CA 91001

PG&E
Steven Ng, Manager
Renewal Dev, T&D Intercon
77 Beal Street, Room 5361
San Francisco, CA 94105

Wayne Mayes
Iberdrola Renewables
Dir Tech Serv
1125 NW Couch St, Ste 700, 7th Fl
Portland, OR 97209

Michael Strickler
Iberdrola Renewables, Sr Proj Mgr
1125 NW Couch St, Ste 700, 7th Fl
Portland, OR 97209

Recurrent Energy
Seth Israel
300 California Street, 8th Floor
San Francisco, CA 92109

U.S. Forest Service
Sequoia National Forest/Kern River
PO Box 3810
Lake Isabella, CA 93240-3810

Mountain Meadows
Community Service Dist.
c/o Stephen D. Schuett
Deputy County Counsel

Audubon Society - Sacramento
765 University Avenue, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95825

SBC California
Attention Cindy Lee
1250 East Ashlan Avenue
Fresno, CA 93704

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians
Delia Dominguez
981 North Virginia
Covina, CA 91722

Leroy Cass
202 Minner Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Solveig A. Thompson
29200 Woodview Court
Tehachapi, CA 93561-7484

Kern Wind Energy Association
Attention Linda Parker
P.O. Box 41616
Bakersfield, CA 93384

Suzanne Wilson
PCTA Southern California
Representative
P.O. Box 798
Idyllwild, CA 92549

David Laughing Horse Robinson
Kawaiisu Tribe
P.O. Box 20849
Bakersfield, CA 93390

Liz Bergeron
Pacific Crest Trail Association
5325 Elkhorn Boulevard #256
Sacramento, CA 95842

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P. O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613

For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH # _____

Project Title: EIR JRK 10-11 Alta Wind Infill II Project by Alta WindPower, LLC.

Lead Agency: Kern County Planning Department Contact Person: Jacquelyn R. Kitchen

Mailing Address: 2700 "M" Street Suite 100 Phone: (661) 862-8619

City: Bakersfield Zip: 93301-2323 County: Kern

Project Location: County: Kern City/Nearest Community: City of Tehachapi

Cross Streets: 2 miles west of the intersection of Highway 58 and Highway 14 in the Mojave Desert Zip Code: 93501

Lat. / Long.: 35° 5' 1" N / 118° 14' 3" W Total Acres: 10,000

Assessor's Parcel No.: Multiple Section: Multiple Twp.: Multiple Range: Multiple Base: SBB&M

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: SR 58 & SR 14 Waterways: Los Angeles Aqueduct

Airports: Mojave Airport Railways: n/a Schools: Mountain View Cont.

Document Type:

- | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|--|-------|------------------------------------|--------|---|
| CEQA: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOP | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIR | NEPA: | <input type="checkbox"/> NOI | Other: | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Document |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Early Cons | <input type="checkbox"/> Supplement/Subsequent EIR | | <input type="checkbox"/> EA | | <input type="checkbox"/> Final Document |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Neg Dec | (Prior SCH No.) _____ | | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIS | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Mit Neg Dec | Other _____ | | <input type="checkbox"/> FONSI | | |

Local Action Type:

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Update | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rezone | <input type="checkbox"/> Annexation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Amendment | <input type="checkbox"/> Master Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Prezone | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Element | <input type="checkbox"/> Planned Unit Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use Permit | <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Permit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Site Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Development Type:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential: Units _____ Acres _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation: Type _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Mining: Mineral _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Power: Type <u>Wind</u> _____ MW <u>750</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste: Type _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetic/Visual | <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation/Parks | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vegetation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Land | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood Plain/Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Schools/Universities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Land/Fire Hazard | <input type="checkbox"/> Septic Systems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Supply/Groundwater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archeological/Historical | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geologic/Seismic | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Capacity | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetland/Riparian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minerals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildlife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Zone | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste | <input type="checkbox"/> Growth Inducing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drainage/Absorption | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing Balance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic/Hazardous | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic/Jobs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Services/Facilities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Circulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cumulative Effects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | | |

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Zoned: A-1 (Limited Agriculture) and E 20 (Estate Residential, 20 acres) Designated: 1.1 (State or Federal Land); 8.3 (Extensive Ag, 20 acre min); 8.4 (Mineral and Petroleum, Minimum 5 Acre Size); 8.5 (Resource Management, min 20 acre); 1.1/2.4 (Steep Slope); 8.4 /2.4; 8.5 /2.4; 8.5/2.5 (Flood Hazard)

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary) The proposed project is a renewable energy development that would generate up to 750 megawatts (MW) of electricity through the use of wind power on a 10,000-acre project site. the project applicant is requesting: (a) a change in zone classification from the E (20) (Estate 20 acres) District and the A-1 (Limited Agriculture) District to the A (Exclusive Agriculture) District, to the A WE (Exclusive Agriculture, Wind Energy

Combining) District and to the A FP (Exclusive Agriculture, Floodplain Combining) District in Map 168, (b) a change in zone classification from A-1 to A and A WE in Map 180, (c) a change in zone classification from E (20) to A and A WE in Map 180, (d) a change in zone classification from A-1 to A and A WE in Map 179, (e) a change in zone classification from A-1 to A in Map 197, and (f) a conditional use permit to allow for the use of a temporary concrete batch plant during construction of the wind energy facility. The requested applications would also permit the construction of wind ancillary facilities and supporting infrastructure, as well as a concrete batch plant that is necessary to provide concrete and materials for turbine, substation, and building foundations. The project's permanent facilities would include up to 250 wind turbine generators (WTGs), service roads, a power collection system, communication cables, overhead and underground transmission lines, electrical switchyards, project substations, meteorological towers, and operations and maintenance facilities.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

- | | |
|--|--|
| <u> x </u> Air Resources Board | <u> </u> Office of Emergency Services |
| <u> </u> Boating & Waterways, Department of | <u> </u> Office of Historic Preservation |
| <u> x </u> California Highway Patrol | <u> </u> Office of Public School Construction |
| <u> </u> CalFire | <u> </u> Parks & Recreation |
| <u> S </u> Caltrans District # <u>6 & 9</u> | <u> </u> Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| <u> </u> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | <u> x </u> Public Utilities Commission |
| <u> </u> Caltrans Planning (Headquarters) | <u> S </u> Regional WQCB # <u>Lahontan</u> |
| <u> </u> Central Valley Flood Protection Board | <u> </u> Resources Agency |
| <u> </u> Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy | <u> </u> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission |
| <u> </u> Coastal Commission | <u> </u> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers and Mtns Conservancy |
| <u> </u> Colorado River Board | <u> </u> San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| <u> </u> Conservation, Department of | <u> </u> Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy |
| <u> </u> Corrections, Department of | <u> </u> State Lands Commission |
| <u> </u> Delta Protection Commission | <u> </u> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| <u> </u> Education, Department of | <u> </u> SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <u> x </u> Energy Commission | <u> </u> SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <u> S </u> Fish & Game Region # <u>Fresno</u> | <u> </u> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <u> S </u> Food & Agriculture, Department of | <u> </u> Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <u> </u> General Services, Department of | <u> </u> Water Resources, Department of |
| <u> </u> Health Services, Department of | <u> </u> Other _____ |
| <u> </u> Housing & Community Development | <u> </u> Other _____ |
| <u> x </u> Integrated Waste Management Board | |
| <u> S </u> Native American Heritage Commission | |

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date June 30, 2011 Ending Date August 1, 2011

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: _____ Applicant: _____
 Address: _____ Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____ City/State/Zip: _____
 Contact: _____ Phone: _____
 Phone: _____

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: /S/ **Date:** 6/29/2011

INTENTIONALLY BLANK

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report
to the Alta-Oak Creek Mojave Project (SCH No. 2008121044)
for the Alta Wind Infill II Project

Alta Wind Infill II Project
by Alta Windpower Development, LLC

General Plan Amendment No. 7, Map 197
Zone Change No. 11, Map No. 168
Zone Change No. 3, Map No. 179
Zone Change No. 47, Map 196
Zone Change No. 1, Map 196-31
Zone Change No. 49, Map 197
Zone Change No. 67, Map 198
Zone Change No. 27, Map 214
Conditional Use Permit No. 13, Map 197

(PP11292)

LEAD AGENCY:



Kern County Planning and Community Development Department
2700 M Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2370

*Contact: Ms. Jacquelyn Kitchen
(661) 862-8619
Kitchenj@co.kern.ca.us*

June 2011

A. Introduction

This Notice of Preparation is being circulated pursuant to Section 15087 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, and serves to notify responsible agencies of the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the Alta-Oak Creek Mojave Project for the Alta Wind Infill II Project (SCH No. 2008121044). The Supplemental EIR will modify the previously certified Alta-Oak Creek Mojave Project EIR pursuant to Section 15163 of the CEQA Guidelines.

In 2008, Alta Windpower Development, LLC (AWD or project proponent) filed applications for zone changes and conditional use permits with the Kern County Planning and Community Development Department (County) for the proposed Alta-Oak Creek Mojave (AOCM) Wind Energy Project. The AOCM Project included construction and operation of a commercial wind energy generation facility capable of generating up to 800 megawatts (MW) of electricity on 9,120 acres. The County prepared an EIR and the Kern County Board of Supervisors approved a 710 MW portion the AOCM Project on December 15, 2009, and certified the EIR as being in compliance with the requirements of CEQA.

In 2009, a subsequent application for a lot line adjustment was filed with the County by AWD to adjust a parcel boundary within the project site and to include an additional 65 MW on 1,420 acres adjacent to and within the original AOCM project boundary. This project was analyzed in Addendum No. 1 to the AOCM Project EIR prepared in April 2010, which was approved by the Kern County Board of Supervisors in May, 2010.

In 2010, subsequent applications for zone changes and conditional use permits were filed with the County by AWD to include an additional 330 MW on 4,600 acres adjacent to and within the original AOCM project boundary. This project was analyzed in an Addendum (Addendum No. 2) to the AOCM Project EIR prepared in July 2010. The EIR Addendum was approved in December 2010. The AOCM projects are partially operational and partially under construction, with the portion under construction scheduled to commence operation in late 2011.

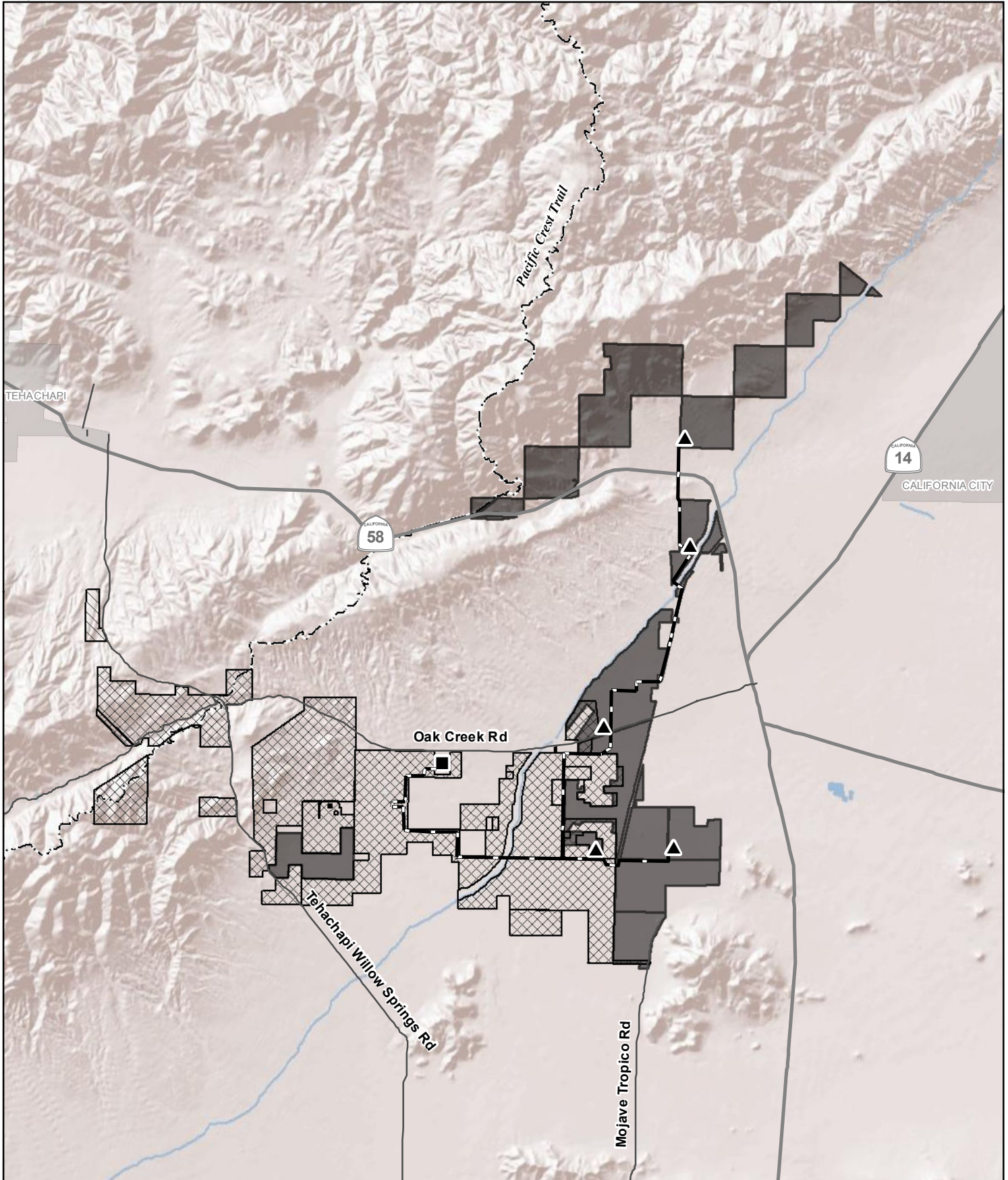
Collectively, the original certified EIR, Addendum I and Addendum II are referred to as the approved AOCM Wind Energy project.

In 2011, AWD submitted additional applications to the County to further increase the capacity of the AOCM Project by 750 MW on an additional ten thousand acres adjacent to and north of Subarea 2 of the original AOCM Project area. As lead agency (per CEQA Guidelines Section 15052), the Lead Agency is requiring a Supplement to the AOCM Project EIR be prepared for the proposed expansion. At this time, the Lead Agency solicits comments by your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to either your agency's statutory responsibilities or opinion in connection with the project.

Due to the limits mandated by State law, please respond by **Monday, August 1, 2011, at 5pm**. In addition, comments can be submitted at a scoping meeting that will be held at the Kern County Planning and Community Development Department on **Monday, July 25, 2011**, at the address below.

Please send written comments on the scope and content of the Supplemental EIR to:

Kern County Planning and Community Development Department
Attn: Jacquelyn Kitchen, Planner III
2700 "M" Street, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved Project Certified EIR Boundary Proposed Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed Substations Windhub Substation Proposed Transmission Line 	<p>Figure 1</p> <p>Alta Wind Infill II Project Location</p>
<p>0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles</p>				

B. Project Location

The project would be located entirely on private land and would encompass multiple parcels totaling just over 10,000 acres, located 3 miles west of the unincorporated area of Mojave, 6 miles north of the unincorporated area of Rosamond, and 11 miles east of the city of Tehachapi. The area is generally bounded to the north by the Tehachapi Mountains, to the west by Tehachapi-Willow Springs Road, to the south by Reed Avenue, and to the east by State Route (SR) 14 in the Oak Creek area of southeastern Kern County (Figure 1). Access to the project site is anticipated to be from Tehachapi Willow Springs Road, Oak Creek Road, and SR-58.

The project is located in multiple Sections, Townships, and Ranges, including:

- Township 10 North, Range 13 West, within portions of Sections 1, 2, 11 and 12
- Township 11 North, Range 12 West within portions of Sections 6, 29, 30, 31 and 32
- Township 11 North, Range 13 West, within portions of Sections 1, 11 through 15, 22 through 27, 30, 31, 35 and 36
- Township 11 North, Range 14 West, within portions of Sections 25, 26, 35 and 36
- Township 12 North, Range 12 West, within portions of Section 31
- Township 12 North, Range 13 West, within portions of Section 36
- Township 32 South, Range 34 East, within portions of Section 36
- Township 32 South, Range 35 East, within portions of Sections 13 through 16, 21 through 24, 28, 29, 31, 32 and 35
- Township 32 South, Range 36 East, within portions of Sections 5, 7 and 8

C. Environmental Setting

The project is located at the base of the Tehachapi Mountains in the Western Mojave Desert within the Tehachapi Wind Resource Area (TWRA) in Eastern Kern County. The project area is vacant, with open creosote bush scrub and Joshua tree woodland. Elevations in the area range between 2,800 and 3,800 feet above mean sea level.

The project vicinity within the TWRA is heavily developed with operating wind energy facilities and several more proposed and pending wind energy projects. Utility infrastructure (water, natural gas) and several transmission lines (e.g., Sage Brush 230 kilovolt (kV) line; two 66 kV Southern California Edison lines) exist near the project area.

Other land uses in the region include industrial, agricultural, recreation, and low-density residential. Mining and cement manufacturing (Cal Portland Cement [CPC] – Mojave Quarry) is located 4 miles west of the project site. Agricultural uses primarily include sheep and cattle grazing. Recreational uses include the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (3 miles northwest of the project area), horseback riding, a gun club, and off-highway vehicle use. Residential uses include low-density, large-lot single-family homes, mainly along Camelot Boulevard and Douglas Avenue.

The unincorporated area of Mojave is located 3 miles to the east, the unincorporated area of Rosamond is located 6 miles to the south, and the city of Tehachapi is located 9 miles to the northwest of the project expansion area. Major transportation corridors in the region include SR-14 (north-south) and SR-58 (east-west), which intersect about 3 miles east of the project site in Mojave. Three commercial airports are located within 10 miles of the project site: Mountain Valley Airport, Tehachapi Municipal Airport, and Mojave Air and Space Port. The runway for Edwards Air Force Base is located 15 miles to the southeast.

D. Project Description

The project would expand the previously approved AOCM Wind Energy project to generate an additional 750 MW of electricity through wind power. Table 1 presents a summary of the project features, previously

approved project features, project features under construction, operational project features, and a total combination of all approved and proposed project features.

Table 1. Project Features			
Total Project Size (acres)	Proposed WE Zoning (acres)	Maximum No. of Wind Turbine Generators	Total MW
Proposed Project Features			
10,846	5,114	250	750
Previously Approved Project Features			
13,730	4,325	386	1,071
Project Features Under Construction			
4,610	2,695	138	361
Operational Project Features			
9,120	1,630	248	710
Total (Previously Approved and Proposed)			
24,576	9,439	636	1,821

Specifically, AWD is requesting: (a) a change of base zone designation from existing zone districts to the A WE (Exclusive Agriculture – Wind Energy Combining) District, the A (Exclusive Agriculture) District, and the A FP (Exclusive Agriculture – Floodplain Combining) District; (b) an amendment of the Circulation Element Map #10 of the Kern County General Plan; (c) an amendment of the Circulation Element of the Soledad Mountain-Elephant Butte Specific Plan; (d) a franchise route agreement; (e) vacation of public easements; and (f) a conditional use permit to allow for the use of a temporary concrete batch plant for the construction of the wind energy facility. Figure 1 displays the project area and the areas therein that are proposed for incorporation of the WE District.

The project would expand the previously approved AOCM projects and would construct of up to 250 wind turbine generators (WTG), permanent service roads and temporary access roads, communication cables, up to three high-voltage overhead transmission lines, low- and medium-voltage underground and overhead collection lines, up to five new power collection system substations, laydown areas, two warehouses, and a temporary concrete batch plant. Major components are described in the following sections.

Wind Turbine Generators

The project would construct up to 250 WTGs capable of generating up to 750 MW of electricity. The WTGs would be between 388 feet and 492 feet tall, measured from the top of the foundation to the blade tip in vertical position. Ground clearance for blades at the lowest point of rotation would be between 115 feet and 136 feet. Spacing between WTGs would be no less than the length of 1.2 rotor diameters, but may be spaced further apart for environmental or engineering considerations.

WTGs would be composed of a foundation and pad area, tower, nacelle hub, blades/rotor, and controller. Foundations would have one of three designs, depending on geotechnical constraints and other factors: Patrick and Henderson, Inc. patented post-tensioned foundation, rock anchor, or spread-footing. For all designs, the exposed concrete pad would be 18 inches in diameter and extend less than 1 foot above grade. The monopole, tubular tower portion of each WTG extends from the concrete foundation to the nacelle. The tower would be between 344 feet and 262 feet, light grey and non-reflective, and 10 feet in diameter at the base. The nacelle is an aerodynamic structure that contains the inner workings of the turbine (power-

generating components (driveshaft/generator), transformer, blade pitch control, cooling system, yaw drive). The hub sits on the front of the nacelle and attaches the blades to the main drive shaft. WTGs typically have three large blades bolted to the hub; the blades and the hub together are called the rotor. WTGs are also equipped with a microprocessor, known as a controller, which automatically regulates operation of the WTG.

Safety features include a breaking system to facilitate automatic shut-down if operational characteristics of turbines deviate outside set limits, lightning protection system, and Federal Aviation Administration-compliant lighting.

Electrical Collection and Interconnection

The project would include overhead and underground transmission and collection lines, electrical switchyards, and up to six collector substations (see Figure 1). A transformer at each WTG would boost the WTG voltage of 500 to 1,000 volts to the collector system voltage of 34.5 kV. Electricity from the transformer would then be transmitted from the WTG to one of five newly proposed collector substations (for 206 WTGs) or the existing AOCM Substation 3A (for 44 WTGs) via a new underground collection system. Underground electrical cables would be installed in trenches 3 to 5 feet deep for each cable circuit. In cases where the distance to the substation is excessive, or where terrain or obstacles dictate such, the underground cables may connect to an overhead collection system on wood or steel poles to transport the power to the collector substations.

At each collector substation, the voltage would be increased again from 34.5 kV to the 230 kV grid interconnection voltage. The entire project would interconnect to the electrical grid via as many as three new 230 kV overhead transmission lines that will interconnect to the Southern California Edison Windhub Substation (which is part of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, currently under construction).

A portion of the WTGs would interconnect at existing collector substation 3A which was identified in both the AOCM EIR and Alta Infill Wind Energy Project Addendum and thus would share certain existing infrastructure with those projects. Substation 3A is owned and operated by affiliates of AWD and is located approximately 3 miles southeast of the Windhub substation.

A new overhead 230 kV transmission line extending southward from a grouping of project WTGs through privately-owned land, and crossing the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) aqueduct in Section 31, Township 12 north, and Range 12 west. The transmission line would parallel Pipeline Road, and in a stair-step pattern head west at 45th Street West and south at 50th Street West to cross Oak Creek Road. After Oak Creek Road, the transmission line would turn west along Big Inch Pipeline Road and then head southward to meet Sunset Avenue, following Sunset Avenue to the west, and in a stair-step pattern extending north just after 80th Street West eventually following 90th Street West to pass adjacent to Substation 3A using the shared AOCM utility corridors to connect into the Windhub Substation.

Another substation and associated 230kv transmission line may originate in Section 26, Township 11 North, Range 13 West. The transmission line would travel south across private land until reaching the shared AOCM utility corridors where it would then connect into the Windhub Substation. A substation may also be located in Section 30, Township 11 North, Range 12 West. From here, the transmission line would utilize a franchise route and private land until reaching the shared AOCM utility corridor where it would then connect into the Windhub Substation. The fifth substation and associated 230kv transmission line may originate in Sections 13 or 14, Township 11 North, Range 13 West. From here, the transmission line would travel south across private land until reaching the shared AOCM utility corridors where it would then connect into the Windhub Substation. The final substation would be located adjacent to the Windhub substation; an aboveground 230 kv transmission line would utilize a franchise route connecting into this substation extending along the south side of Oak Creek Road.

Appurtenant Facilities

Meteorological towers, communication cables, two warehouse facilities, and a concrete batch plant would also be constructed as a part of the project. Project operations staff would use the new warehouse facilities as well as the existing operations and maintenance (O&M) facility evaluated in the certified AOCM EIR. The project would use the existing laydown areas and concrete batch plants identified in both the AOCM EIR and EIR Addendum No. 2. Construction of project facilities would require an additional temporary concrete batch plant to provide concrete and materials for construction.

Access Roads

Access to the project site during construction and operation would be from Oak Creek Road, Mojave Tropico Road, and Tehachapi Willow Springs Road.

Temporary access roads would be established for use during construction to access areas within the project site and would be restored after construction. Additionally, permanent maintenance roads would be constructed for use during operation to access project facilities for maintenance. The northern portion of the project would involve construction of either a bridge across the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power aqueduct or an access road west of the aqueduct, one of which would be required in order to provide site access.

Because of topography, grading of access roads would, in some limited cases, disturb an area of 40 to 50 feet or more on either side of the centerline to accommodate appropriate cut or fill slopes to allow for the necessary road width and to comply with percent slopes per County grading requirements and manufacturer specifications of construction and installation equipment. Some roads intended for permanent use would be temporarily widened to 36 feet and engineered to support heavy cranes and delivery vehicles. Following completion of construction, the temporarily widened portions of these roads would be restored, leaving 20- to 24-foot-wide permanent maintenance roads.

In some very steep areas, the road could be paved. Water bars, similar to speed bumps, would be cut into the roads in areas where needed, to allow for natural drainage of water over the road surface and to prevent road washout. V-ditches and culverts would be installed where necessary to handle excess drainage water.

Construction Schedule

Project construction is scheduled to begin in May 2012 and would be completed by the end of December 2012.

Operation and Maintenance

Operation and maintenance (O&M) personnel would conduct maintenance activities for WTGs as required by the routine maintenance schedule provided by the turbine supplier or as required to keep the equipment in operation. On average, each WTG will require 8 to 16 hours of scheduled mechanical and electrical maintenance per year. Routine maintenance may include, but will not be limited to, replacing lubricating fluids, checking parts for wear and replacing as required, and recording data from data-recording chips in all pertinent equipment including anemometers. O&M personnel will also inspect and maintain access roads, crane and turbine pads, erosion control systems, and parameter fencing areas regularly and maintain them to ensure minimal degradation.

The WTGs will also be monitored continuously by the project SCADA system, which communicates major aspects of turbine operation through communication lines and notifies the Operations Group if operational characteristics of turbines deviate outside set limits. The WTGs will be equipped with an automatic braking system to shut down the turbines and slow or stop blade rotation in such an event until addressed by O&M personnel.

E. Environmental Factors Potentially Affected:

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines, the County intends to prepare a Supplemental EIR to evaluate potential environmental effects of the project and to propose mitigation measures to reduce any significant effects identified.

The supplement to the EIR will contain only the information necessary to document all project impacts for the wind project expansion (CEQA Guidelines 15163(b)). The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the Kern County approved checklist. As such, the environmental review of the Supplemental EIR will focus on these issues; however, potential impacts for other environmental factors will be described in the Supplemental EIR as well.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

Mitigation Measures. The certified AOCM EIR and approved project addenda require mitigation measures that were designed to reduce or eliminate potential impacts of construction and operation of the wind energy facility. These mitigation measures were adopted by the County in its approval of the AOCM and addendum projects. The effectiveness of these measures to reduce impacts to specific resources affected by the project will be evaluated in the Supplemental EIR, and additional mitigation measures may be developed to further reduce impacts, if required.