



SEPV Cuyama Utility-Scale Solar Photovoltaic and Battery Energy Storage Facility Project

17CUP-00000-00044

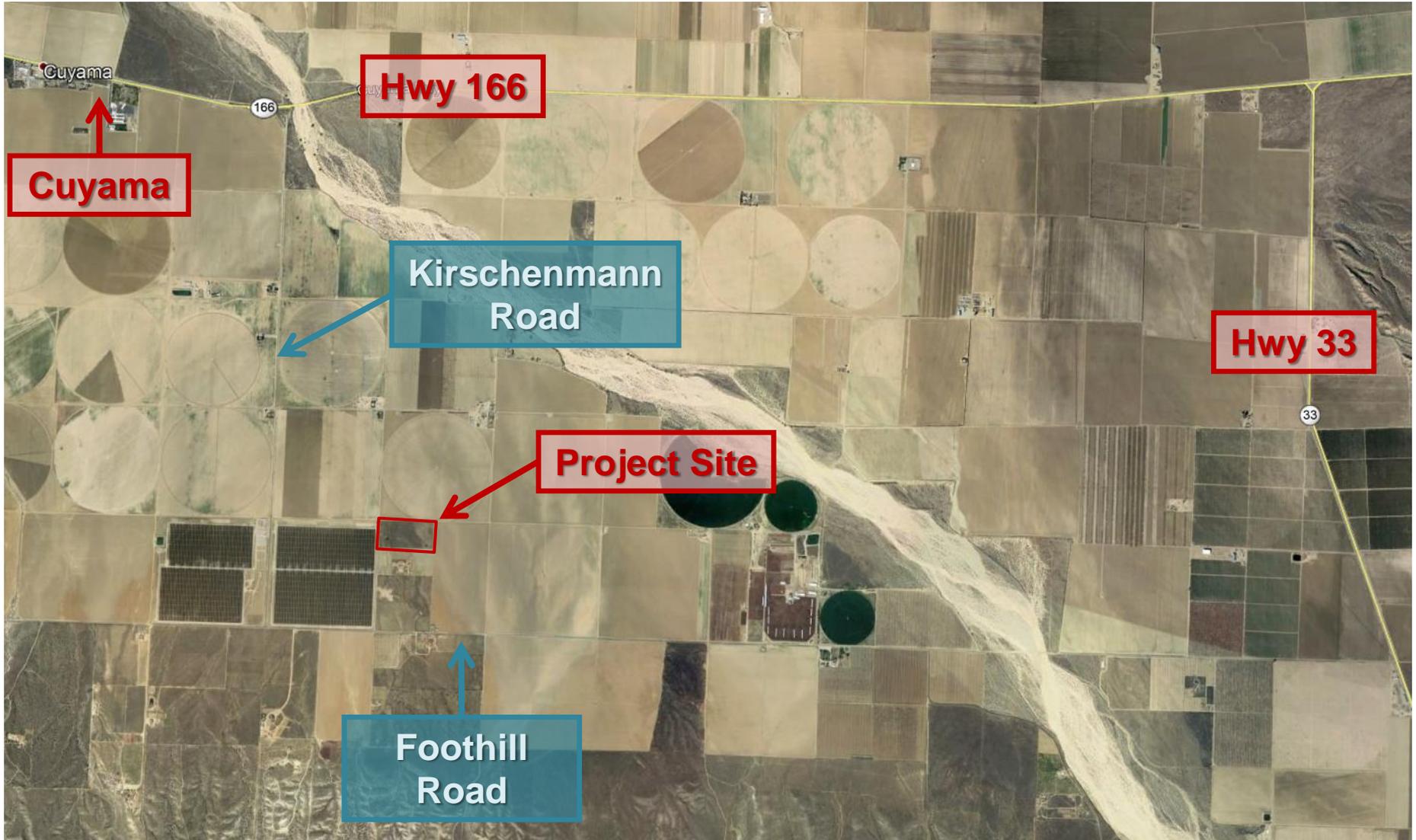
17GPA-00000-00006

Jan 29, 2019

Board of Supervisors

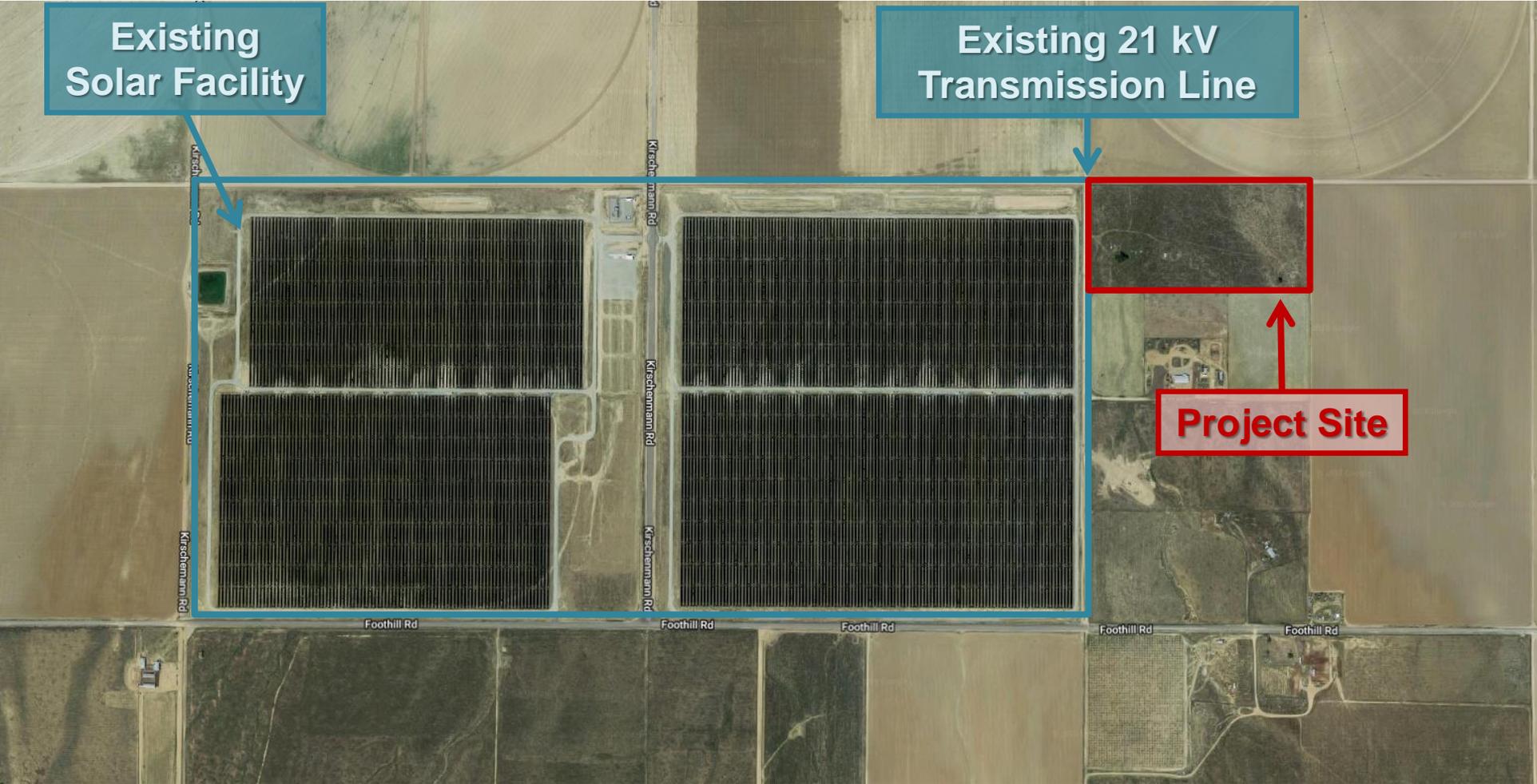


Site Vicinity Map





Project Site





Background – Permitting Pathway

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- Utility-Scale Solar General Plan & Ordinance Amendments [Approved by BoS on Oct 7, 2014]
 - ▣ Allow up to 600 acres of utility-scale solar development in Cuyama Valley
 - ▣ Require General Plan Amendment to designate sites with Utility-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Facility Overlay
- Programmatic EIR Certified by BoS
 - ▣ EIR analyzed future utility-scale solar projects in Cuyama Valley
- 327 Acres Currently Designated as Utility-Scale



Project Description

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- General Plan Amendment
 - ▣ Request to place the Utility-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Overlay designation on the parcel
 - ▣ Amendment would bring total acreage with overlay to 347 acres
- Conditional Use Permit
 - ▣ Construction of 3 MWac Solar and 3 MWac Battery Energy Storage Facility



Example Solar Array





Environmental Review – LUDC

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- Program EIR Certified by BoS
 - Class I impacts identified in 3 issue areas:
 - Visual Resources
 - Agricultural Resources
 - Land Use
 - 17 Development Standards incorporated into LUDC to mitigate Class I and Class II impacts identified in EIR
 - Compliance with Development Standards achieved through Conditions of Approval



Environmental Review – Project

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- Site-specific Studies
 - Air Assessment
 - Biological Assessment
 - Cultural Assessment
- No new effects identified, as summarized in the CEQA 15168 Supplemental Document



Board of Architectural Review

- NBAR reviewed project on May 18, 2018
 - ▣ Project conceptually reviewed with no major comments by the BAR or the public
 - ▣ BAR directed project to return for Preliminary and Final Approval after Board of Supervisors approval



County Planning Commission

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- Project Reviewed by County PC on Nov 7, 2018
 - ▣ Condition 50 added to CUP to require 3.5 to 6 inches of clearance between bottom rung of perimeter fence and ground surface for wildlife passage.
 - ▣ With implementation of CUP Condition 50, County PC recommended with a vote of 5-0 that your Board take staff's recommended actions.



Conclusions

- As proposed and conditioned, the project would comply with the requirements of the Land Use and Development Code and would be consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan.
- Consistent with CEQA Guidelines Sections 15168 and 15162, because a Program EIR has already been certified and no new effects could occur or no new mitigations are required, no new environmental document is required.



Staff Recommendations

The Board's motion should include the following:

- Make the required findings for approval of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment and Conditional Use Permit, including CEQA findings;
- Determine that as reflected in the CEQA findings, the project is within the scope of a previous Program EIR and no subsequent Environmental Impact Report shall be prepared for this project; and
- Approve and adopt a resolution amending the Comprehensive Plan to add the Utility-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Facility Overlay to the 20.44-acre site.



End of Presentation