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September 16, 2025

Zoë Carlson  
Planning and Development Department  
County of Santa Barbara  
123 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, California 93101

**Subject:** Board Contract BC24216 - Budget Amendment Request

Dear Ms. Carlson:

This letter is to request that Board Contract BC24216 be modified to amend the budget for the Utility-Scale Solar Program Phase II (Program EIR) as a result of changes to the scope of the Program EIR. Based on comments received during the scoping process, the County determined that Hazards and Wildfires should be evaluated in the Program EIR. The estimated cost for the completion of these sections is: Wildfire - \$17,968, and Hazards - \$15,656, for a total of \$33,624. ESA requests a budget amendment to cover the cost of the preparation of these sections. The addition of these sections would also require an additional \$11,058.80 to prepare the Proof Check and Public Review Draft PEIR tasks (\$8,817.80 for Task 3D2 and \$2,241.00 for Task 3D3). Additionally, the inclusion of battery energy storage systems (BESS) into the project description contributed to the need to prepare the Hazard and Wildfire sections, as well as other work elsewhere within the Program EIR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Selena Whitney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Selena Whitney, AICP  
Project Manager

cc: Whitney Wilkinson, County of Santa Barbara Supervising Planner  
Stephanie Nash, ESA Accountant