

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

TENTATIVE ORDER

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

FOR

EDP RENEWABLES CA SOLAR PARK LLC

SANDRINI SOLAR PROJECT

KERN COUNTY

A tentative Waste Discharge Requirements Order (Order) is proposed for the EDP Renewables CA Solar Park LLC (Permittee), Sandrini Solar Project (Project) in Kern County. The Project consists of establishing a large-scale solar photovoltaic and battery energy storage facility that maximizes the production of reliable electricity in an economically feasible manner. The Project will also provide California Community Choice Aggregators with zero-emissions renewable energy to support their goals of providing that same clean energy to their customers. The Project will use proven and established solar and energy storage technology to optimize efficiency and minimize operational risks and maintenance requirements; create green jobs within both Kern County and the broader State of California; be developed in an economically feasible, commercially viable, and broadly financeable manner; and meet all the above-listed objectives while designing, constructing, and operating project facilities in an environmentally responsible manner consistent with County, state, and federal requirements. Project impacts to aquatic resources includes temporary impacts to wetlands of 3.176 acres, 2,043 cubic yards, and 6,214 linear feet as well as permanent impacts to wetlands of 0.021 acres, 1,465 cubic yards, and 117 linear feet. All impacted waters have been deemed by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to be outside of federal jurisdiction.

The tentative Order provides details of the proposed Project activities, including compensatory mitigation measures planned to compensate for the permanent loss of waters of the state and requiring avoidance and minimization measures to reduce on-site impacts during construction activities. The tentative Order describes technical conditions required to be met throughout the implementation of construction activities that allow for activities to meet Basin Plan objectives and other regulatory requirements.

Public Hearing Date and Location

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 9-10 June 2022

TIME: To Be Determined

PLACE: Remote meeting via video and teleconference, and/or in-person meeting at 11020 Sun Center Dr #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114 pending changes in pandemic restrictions.

The [final meeting agenda](#)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/) will be available at least **10 days** before the meeting. The agenda will provide the anticipated date the hearing will be held for this item and anticipated order of all agenda items; however, the Board may consider agenda items out of their listed order. The agenda materials may also include staff revisions to the tentative Order.

The [laws and regulations governing](#) this adjudicatory proceeding may be found under California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648 et seq. and are available upon request.

Prehearing Submission of Written Comments and Evidence

The **Permittee** is a party to this proceeding and may present evidence, including oral testimony. As a party, the Permittee must submit written evidence or comments, if any, for the Board to consider no later than **5:00 p.m. on 25 April 2022** via email to CentralValleyFresno@waterboards.ca.gov and carbon copy Ernesto Garcia at Ernesto.Garcia@waterboards.ca.gov.

Interested persons include any non-party that is interested in the outcome of the hearing. Interested persons wishing to comment in writing on the tentative Order shall submit comments no later than **5:00 p.m. on 25 April 2022** via email to CentralValleyFresno@waterboards.ca.gov and carbon copy Ernesto Garcia at Ernesto.Garcia@waterboards.ca.gov.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.4, the Board Chair may refuse to admit written evidence or comments that are not submitted in accordance with this Notice and shall refuse to do so when there is a showing of prejudice to the Permittee or the Board. Excluded material will not be considered by the Board.

Requesting Party Status

Persons who wish to participate in the hearing as a party must submit a request in writing no later than **5:00 p.m. on 25 April 2022** to the Central Valley Water Board via email to CentralValleyFresno@waterboards.ca.gov and carbon copy Ernesto Garcia at

Ernesto.Garcia@waterboards.ca.gov. The request must include facts demonstrating how the person will be substantially affected by the proceeding.

The Board Chair will not designate a person as a party if the Board Chair determines the designation will impair the interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding. The Board Chair, when granting a request for party status, may impose restrictions on the requestor's hearing participation, including limiting or excluding the use of cross-examination and other procedures to promote the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding.

Visual Presentations

Hearing participants may use PowerPoint or other visual presentations at the hearing, but the presentation content shall not exceed the scope of previously submitted written material. Presentations, if any, must be provided to the Central Valley Water Board by **12:00 p.m. on 7 June 2022**. Please contact Ernesto Garcia at Ernesto.Garcia@waterboards.ca.gov.

Hearing Procedure and Time Limits

The hearing on the tentative Order will be conducted in the general order listed under California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.5, except that the Board Chair may modify the order for good cause.

The Permittee and any other designated Party will be advised in advance of the hearing of the total amount of time allocated for their presentation, including any witness examination, and closing statement. The Permittee and any other designated Party are invited to contact staff in advance of the hearing to discuss how much time they believe is necessary.

Interested persons may speak at the hearing and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals, if any. Each interested person will have three minutes to present oral comments. Additional time may be provided, upon request, at the discretion of the Board Chair.

Hearing Accommodations

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to send an e-mail to agenda5@waterboards.ca.gov or calling (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Availability of Documents

A copy of the tentative Order and related documents are available on the Central Valley

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Water Board's website [Tentative Orders Page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/)
(http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/).

A copy of the tentative Order and related documents are also available upon request by contacting Ernesto Garcia by email at Ernesto.Garcia@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at (559) 445-6281.

Central Valley Water Board Contact

Central Valley Water Board Contact Anyone having questions regarding this hearing item should contact Ernesto Garcia at (559) 445-6281 or at Ernesto.Garcia@waterboards.ca.gov.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Original Signed by:

CLAY L. RODGERS, Assistant Executive Officer