



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Development

El Dorado, County of: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Development, USDA

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Rural Development (RD), as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by El Dorado County, of Placerville, CA. The proposal is for construction of a multi-building Public Safety Facility Complex on a 30.34 acre site with a maximum development potential totaling approximately 106,331 square feet (sf). The proposed facility will be located west of the intersection of Industrial Drive and Missouri Flat Road within the Diamond Springs area of unincorporated El Dorado County. El Dorado County has submitted an application to RD for funding of the proposal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doug Colucci, Community Programs Specialist, USDA Rural Development, 430 G Street, AGCY 4169, Davis, CA 95616, (916) 212-5088, doug.colucci@ca.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: El Dorado County proposes to construct a multi-building Public Safety Facility Complex which will include the following: training building with indoor firing range; Sheriff Administration building; County morgue; SWAT, Search and Rescue, and radio shop. The maximum sf will be approximately 106,331 developed on a 30.34 acre site of which 24.18 acres will be developed as part of the proposed action located south of Industrial Drive. The 6.16 acre portion of the proposal site north of Industrial Drive is not proposed for development as part of this proposal.

The proposed action includes two access points. Primary vehicle access and public parking would be provided from Industrial Drive to the north of the facility. The public parking lot is anticipated to include approximately 170 spaces. A second gated access and secured parking lot is anticipated to include approximately 200 spaces and would be provided from Merchandise Way to the south and would be available only to Public Safety Facility staff.

The proposed action includes solar-generating facilities in the secured parking area with a combination of roof and shade structure mounted systems totaling 0.6 acre area which would generate approximately 300 kilowatts (KW) of "on-site" solar. Additional proposed, ancillary solar-generating facilities would be located at the southwest portion of the site, west of the Public Safety Facility buildings. Approximately seven acre of land are proposed to be used to generate two to three megawatts (MW) of power. The power generated on the seven acres would be used to offset other County power costs through "Virtual Net Metering".

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In addition, the proposal would include a detention basin in the southwestern corner of the proposal site. The detention basin would collect runoff from the overall site.

Raney Management, an environmental consultant, prepared an environmental assessment for RHS that describes the project, assesses the proposed project's environmental impacts, and summarizes as applicable any mitigation measures used to minimize environmental effects. RHS has conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental assessment and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No significant impacts are expected as a result of the construction of the project.

Questions and comments should be sent to RD at the address provided. RD will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for 14 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any final action by RD related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by 7 CFR Part 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below:



Dated: July 5, 2016