

## G. Terminology, Glossary, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

### G.1 Terminology

To assist reviewers in understanding this SEIR, the following terms are defined:

- *Originally proposed project* is the 420-megawatt (MW) project described as “Proposed Project” in the 2010 Final EIR.
- *Alternative A Revised* is the reduced footprint 399 MW alternative that was described and analyzed in the 2010 Final EIR.
- *Approved Project* is the 399 MW project described as “Alternative A Revised” in the 2010 Final EIR.
- *Revised Project* is the 247 MW project that is described and analyzed in this Supplemental EIR.
- *PG&E Upgrades* are the telecommunication and interconnection upgrades to the PG&E transmission system that are described and analyzed in this Supplemental EIR.
- *Project* means the whole of an action that has the potential for resulting in a physical change in the environment, directly or ultimately. In the case of this SEIR, the “project” includes the solar project (“Revised Project”) and the PG&E Upgrades.
- *Environment* means the physical conditions that exist in the area and that would be affected by a proposed project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historical or aesthetic significance. The area involved is where significant direct or indirect impacts would occur as a result of the project. The environment includes both natural and artificial conditions.
- *Impacts* analyzed under CEQA must be related to a physical change. Impacts are:
  - Direct or primary impacts that would be caused by the proposed project and would occur at the same time and place; or
  - Indirect or secondary impacts that would be caused by the proposed project and would be later in time or farther removed in distance, but would still be reasonably foreseeable. Indirect or secondary impacts may include growth-inducing impacts and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use; population density or growth rate; and related effects on air and water and other natural systems, including ecosystems.
  - Secondary impacts may also be caused by mitigation measures proposed in one resource area that may indirectly affect another. For instance the conservation of mitigation land to offset biological resources impacts may indirectly result in agricultural resources impacts related to the permanent conversion of agricultural lands to a non-agricultural use.
- *Significant impact on the environment* means a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions in the area affected by the proposed project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historical or aesthetic significance. An economic or social change by itself is not considered a significant impact on the environment. A social or economic change related to a physical change may be considered in determining whether the physical change is significant.
- *Mitigation* consists of measures that avoid or substantially reduce the proposed project’s significant environmental impacts by:
  - Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;
  - Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation;

- Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment;
  - Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; or
  - Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.
- *Cumulative impacts* are two or more individual impacts that, when considered together, are considerable or that compound or increase other environmental impacts. The following statements also apply when considering cumulative impacts:
- The individual impacts may be changes resulting from a single project or separate projects.
  - The cumulative impact from several projects is the change in the environment that results from the incremental impact of the project when added to other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable probable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant projects taking place over time.

This SEIR uses a variety of terms to describe the level of significance of adverse impacts. These terms are defined as follows:

- *Less than significant*. An impact that is adverse, but that does not exceed the defined thresholds of significance. Less than significant impacts do not require mitigation. This is also referred to as a “Class III” impact.
- *Significant*. An impact that exceeds the defined thresholds of significance and would or could cause a substantial adverse change in the environment. Mitigation measures are recommended to eliminate the impact or reduce it to a less than significant level. This is also referred to as a “Class II” impact.
- *Significant and unavoidable*. An impact that exceeds the defined thresholds of significance and cannot be eliminated or reduced to a less than significant level through the implementation of mitigation measures. This is also referred to as a “Class I” impact.
- *Beneficial*. A beneficial impact may occur where the proposed project would eliminate or reduce a situation that is considered detrimental within the affected environment. Mitigation is not required. This is also referred to as a “Class IV” impact.

## G.2 Glossary, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

**100-Year Flood** – A stream flow caused by a discharge that is exceeded, on the average, only once in 100 years. A 100-year flood has a 1 percent chance of occurrence in any given year.

**AAC** – All-aluminum conductor.

**AAQS** – Ambient Air Quality Standard; a federal and state measure of the level of air contamination that is not to be exceeded in order to protect human health.

**AB** – Assembly Bill (e.g., AB 32).

**AC** – Alternating current.

**ACEC** - Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

**Acre-foot** – A unit of measure for water demand and supply. The volume of 1 acre-foot would cover 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot and is equal to 325,851 gallons.

**ADSS** – All-Dielectric Self-Supporting

**ADT** – Average Daily Trip; number of vehicles traveling per normal day on a roadway.

**Aerosol** – Wet or dry small particles in the atmosphere. Also called “particulate matter.”

**Air Quality Standard** – The specified average concentration of an air pollutant in ambient air during a specified time period, at or above which level the public health may be at risk; equivalent to AAQS.

**Ambient Air** – Any unconfined portion of the atmosphere; the outside air.

**Ambient Noise Level** – Noise from all sources, near and far. ANL constitutes the normal or existing level of environmental noise at a given location.

**AMM** – Avoidance and Minimization Measure

**amsl** – Above mean sea level.

**ANL** – Ambient Noise Level.

**AP or APEFZ** – Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone.

**APCD** – Air Pollution Control District; a regional government bureau responsible for attainment and management of air quality standards through permitting and regulating of the emission sources (e.g., San Luis Obispo County APCD).

**APLIC** – Avian Power Line Interaction Committee

**APM** – Applicant Proposed Measure.

**APN** – Assessor Parcel Number, given to a parcel, or a specified area, of land by County tax assessors.

**AQMP** - Air Quality Management Plan.

**AR** – Agricultural Rangeland.

**ARB** – Air Resources Board.

**ARPA** – Archaeological Resources Protection Act

**ARRA** – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

**Array** – See photovoltaic array.

**ASTM** – American Society for Testing Materials.

**ATC** – Authority to Construct

**ATCM** - Airborne toxic control measure.

**Atmospheric Stability** – The resistance to or enhancement of vertical and horizontal air movement, which regulates the amount of air exchange and affects pollution concentration or dispersion.

**AUM** – Animal unit mouths.

**Average** – As a measure, the sum of the measurements (over a specified period) divided by the number of measurements.

**Avifauna** – Birds.

**A-Weighting** – A frequency measure of noise which simulates human perception.

**AWEP** - Agricultural Water Enhancement Program.

**B.P.** – Before Present.

**Backfill** – Earth that is replaced after a construction excavation.

**Backhoe** – A self propelled machine with an arm equipped with a toothed shovel that scoops earth as the shovel is pulled toward the machine.

**Baseline** – A set of existing conditions against which change is to be described and measured.

**Berm** – A narrow shelf, path, or ledge typically at the top or bottom of a slope; also, an earthen, mounded wall.

**Biota** – Living organisms.

**BLM** – Bureau of Land Management, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

**BMP** – Best Management Practice.

**BNLL** – Blunt-Nosed Leopard Lizard

**BTU** – British thermal unit, a measurement of energy, the amount of energy that can be obtained as heat by combusting approximately 1/1000 cubic feet of natural gas.

**°C** – Degree(s) Celsius. The following equation is the conversion factor of degrees Celsius to degrees Fahrenheit:  $[°F] = [°C] \times 9/5 + 32$ .

**CAA** – California Air Act.

**CAAQS** – California Ambient Air Quality Standard; see AAQS.

**CAISO** – California Independent System Operator.

**Cal Fire** – California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

**CAL/OSHA** – California Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

**Caltrans** – California Department of Transportation.

**CARB** – California Air Resources Board, sometimes abbreviated as ARB.

**CASQA** - California Stormwater Quality Association.

**CCR** – California Code of Regulations.

**CDC** - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**CDF** – California Department of Forestry

**CDFW** – California Department Fish and Wildlife

**CDPH** – California Department of Public Health.

**CEC** – California Energy Commission.

**Cell** – See photovoltaic cell.

**CEQA** – California Environmental Quality Act.

**CERCLA** – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (also known as “Superfund”).

**CFR** – U.S. Code of Federal Regulations.

**CGS**– California Geological Survey.

**CH<sub>4</sub>**– Methane.

**CHP** – California Highway Patrol.

**Class I** – Significant impact; cannot be mitigated to a level that is not significant.

**Class II** – Significant impact; can be mitigated to a level that is not significant.

**Class III** – Adverse impact, but not significant.

**Class IV** – Beneficial impact.

**CNDDDB** – California Natural Diversity Database.

**CNEL** – Community Noise Equivalent Level; the averaging of noise levels on a measurement scale of decibels that increases the actual noise measurement, to account for an increased sensitivity to noise during late evening, nighttime, and morning hours (the increments are 5 dB from 7 to 10 p.m. and 10 dB from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.).

**CNPS** – California Native Plant Society.

**CO** – Carbon Monoxide; a colorless, odorless, toxic gas produced by incomplete combustion of carbon in fossil fuels.

**CO<sub>2</sub>**– Carbon Dioxide.

**CO<sub>2</sub>e** – Equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> emission rate.

**Concentration** – The relative content of a component (as dissolved or dispersed material) and measured by weight or volume of material per unit of volume of the medium.

**Concentration, Average** – The average of a series of measurements of concentration.

**Concentration, Maximum** – The highest individual or average measurement of concentration.

**Corrosivity** – Is an estimate of the potential for soil-induced chemical action that dissolves or weakens uncoated shell.

**CPUC** – California Public Utilities Commission.

**CRHR** – California Register of Historical Resources.

**CRMP** – Cultural Resource Management Plan.

**CRNR** – California Regulatory Notice Register.

**Crystalline Silicon** – A type of photovoltaic cell made from a slice of single-crystal silicon or polycrystalline silicon.

**CSC** – California Species of Concern.

**CSP** – Conservation Stewardship Program.

**CSSC** – California Species of Special Concern

**Cultural Resource** – Places or objects important for scientific, historical, and religious reasons to cultures, communities, and individuals.

**CUP** – Conditional Use Permit

**CUPA** – Certified Unified Program Agency.

**CVSR** – California Valley Solar Ranch project.

**CWA** – Clean Water Act.

**dB** – Decibels.

**dBA** – The A-weighted decibel scale representing the relative insensitivity of the human ear to low-pitched sounds; decibels are logarithmic units that compare the wide range of sound intensives to which the human ear is sensitive.

**DC** – Direct current.

**Dead-End Steal Structures** – The structures at the termination point of a transmission line, or at the overhead/underground transition point.

**Decibel (dB)** – A logarithmic unit which measures the pressure levels of sounds.

**DEIR** – Draft Environmental Impact Report (see EIR).

**DFG** – California Department of Fish and Game.

**DOC** – California Department of Conservation.

**DOE** – Department of Energy.

**DOF** - California Department of Finance.

**DOI** – U.S. Department of the Interior; a federal Department that includes the following agencies: – BLM, USFWS, Bureau of Mines, Bureau of Reclamation, etc.

**DOT** – U.S. Department of Transportation.

**DPH** – Department of Public Health

**DPM** – Diesel particulate matter.

**DTSC** - Department of Toxic Substance Control.

**DWR** – (California) Department of Water Resources.

**EDD** – (California) Employment Development Department.

**EIR** – Environmental Impact Report; an environmental impact assessment document prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**EIS** – Environmental Impact Statement; an environmental impact assessment document prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA).

**EMF** – Electric and Magnetic Field.

**Emission** – Unwanted substances released by human activity into air or water.

**Emission, Primary** – An emission that is treated as inert (non-reactive).

**Emission, Secondary** – Unwanted substances that are chemical byproducts of reactive primary emissions.

**EPA** – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; a federal agency that works to protect the environment.

**EQIP** - Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

**ESA** – Environmental Site Assessment.

**°F** – Degree(s) Fahrenheit. The following equation is the conversion factor of degrees Fahrenheit to degrees Celsius:  $[^{\circ}\text{C}] = ([^{\circ}\text{F}] - 32) \times 5/9$ .

**FAA** – Federal Aviation Administration.

**Fault** – A fracture or zone of fractures in rock strata which have undergone movement that displaces the sides relative to each other, usually in a direction parallel to the fracture. Abrupt movement on faults is a cause of most earthquakes.

**FCC** – Federal Communications Commission

**FCFPD** – Fresno County Fire Protection District

**FEIR** – Final Environmental Impact Report. The Final EIR includes all comments made to the Draft EIR as well as the responses of the Lead Agency to those comments and is submitted to the state/local government and the public for review of a proposed project.

**FEMA** – Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**FHWA** – Federal Highway Administration.

**FIRM** - Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

**Flora** – Plants or plant life.

**FLPMA** – Federal Land Policy and Management Act

**FMPP** – Farmland Monitoring and Mapping Program.

**FS** – Facilities Study.

**FTE** – Full-time equivalent.

**Fugitive Dust** – Airborne pulverized soil particles.

**FWS** – (United States) Fish and Wildlife Service.

**g** – (a) gram; (b) gravities, a unit of acceleration equal to that produced on free falling bodies at the earth's equator.

**Generation** – The production of electricity from other forms of energy such as combustion, falling water or thermal transfer.

**Generation Capacity** – Maximum electric production limit for which a generator is rated. The maximum limit fluctuates with changes in temperature or other environmental circumstances, depending on the type of machine.

**Gen-Tie** or **Generation-Tie** – Transmission line connecting a generator to the electric grid.

**GHG** – Greenhouse gas.

**GIDAP** – Generator Interconnection and Deliverability Allocation Procedures

**GIP** – Generator Interconnection Procedures

**GIS** – Geographic Information System.

**gpd** – Gallons per day; a measure of flow rate.

**gpm** – Gallons per minute; a measure of flow rate.

**HAPs** – Hazardous air pollutants.

**HC** – Hydrocarbons; a mixture of hydrocarbon compounds usually referred to in the vapor state.

**HCP** - Habitat Conservation Plan.

**Herpetofauna** – Biological term for reptiles.

**HFC** – Hydrofluorocarbon.

**HMA** – Housing Market Area; see Population and Housing.

**HMMP** – Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan

**HMP** – Habitat Management Plan

**Horsepower** – A unit of power equivalent to 33,000 foot-pounds per minute or 745.7 watts of electricity.

**hp** – Horsepower, a unit of power equivalent to 33,000 foot-pounds per minute or 745.7 watts of electricity.

**HRRP** – Habitat Restoration and Revegetation Plan

**hrs/day** – Hours per day.

**HSM** – Habitat Suitability Model

**HTH** – Harvey & Associates

**Hydrocarbons, Nonmethane** – Mixture or concentration of hydrocarbons with the methane fraction ignored. One of many formulations for reactive hydrocarbons.

**Hydrocarbons, Reactive** – Mixture or concentration of hydrocarbons with fraction assumed to be non-reactive removed from consideration. See VOC.

**Hz** – Hertz; a measure of frequency in cycles per second.

**I-5** – Interstate 5.

**IBC** – International Building Code.

**IEPR** – Integrated Energy Policy Report

**Insolation** – The solar power density incident on a surface of stated area and orientation, usually expressed as Watts per square meter or Btu per square foot per hour. Also known as solar insolation.

**Inventory, Emission** – A list of daily or annual emissions, listed by pollution source category (e.g., trains, refineries, agriculture, etc.).

**Inversion** – A layer of air in the atmosphere in which the temperature increases with altitude at a rate greater than normal (adiabatic). Pollutants tend to be trapped below the inversion.

**Invertebrate** – Animals that lack a spinal column.

**Inverter** – Inverters take the direct current (DC) output of the panels and convert it to alternating current (AC) for delivery to the transmission grid via the project medium voltage collection system, substation, and switchyard.

**ISO** – Independent System Operator; or International Organization for Standardization.

**ISR** – Indirect Source Review

**km<sup>2</sup>** – Square kilometer.

**kV** – Kilovolt. A measure of electric voltage, one thousand volts.

**KVP** – Key Viewpoint; one or a series of points on a travel route or at a use area where the view of the proposed project would be most revealing.

**KVPs** – Key viewpoints.

**kWh** – Kilowatt-hour.

**kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/day** - Kilowatt-hours per square meter per day.

**LACM** - Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

**lbs** – Pounds.

**lbs/day** – Pounds per day.

**LCA** – Life-cycle analysis.

**LCC** – Land Capability Class.

**Ldn** – The average ambient noise level in dBA with levels between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. increased by 10 dBA.

**Lead Agency** – The agency responsible for preparation of the CEQA or NEPA document. For the proposed California Valley Solar Ranch Project, San Luis Obispo County is the Lead Agency under CEQA.

**Leq** – Average level of sound determined over a specific period of time.

**LESA** – (California) Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model.

**LGIR** – Large Generator Interconnection Request.

**Liquefaction** – The process of making or becoming liquid (soils).

**LOS** – Level of Service; a measure of roadway congestion, ranging from A (free-flowing) to F (highly congested).

**LSAA** – Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement

**LUST** – Leaking underground storage tank.

**LWCs** – low water crossings

**LZs** – landing zones

**m** – Meter, length equal to 39.37 inches.

**Median** – The mid-value in a series of values, with half having greater value and half lower value. To be distinguished from “average.”

**meq/L** – Milli-equivalents per liter.

**mg/L** – milligrams per liter.

**MM** – Mitigation Measure.

**MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e** – Million metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.

**Monitoring Station** – A mobile or fixed site equipped to measure instantaneous or average ambient air pollutant concentrations.

**MPAC** – Modular protection automation and control.

**MRDS** - Mineral Resource Data System.

**MSA** - Metropolitan Statistical Area.

**MW** – Megawatt; a measure of electric power equal to 1,000 kilowatts or 1,000,000 watts.

**MWh** – Megawatt-hours.

**MWh/y** – Megawatt-hours per year.

**NAAQS** – National Ambient Air Quality Standards; see AAQS.

**NAHC** – Native American Heritage Commission.

**NCCAB** – North Central Coast Air Basin

**NCCP** - Natural Community Conservation Plan.

**NCP** - National Contingency Plan.

**NEPA** – National Environmental Policy Act.

**NFIP** - National Flood Insurance Program.

**NHPA** – National Historic Preservation Act.

**Nitrogen Oxides** – A gaseous mixture of nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and symbolically represented as NO<sub>x</sub>.

**NO** – Nitric oxide. A molecule of one nitrogen and one oxygen atom. Results usually from combustion of organic substances containing nitrogen and from recombination of nitrogen decomposed in air during high temperature combustion.

**NO<sub>2</sub>** – Nitrogen dioxide. A molecule of one nitrogen and two oxygen atoms. Results usually from further oxidation of nitric oxide (NO) in the atmosphere. Ozone accelerates the conversion.

**NOA** - Naturally occurring asbestos.

**NOI** – Notice of Intent

**Noise Level, Median** – The level of noise exceeded 50 percent of the time. Usually specified as either the daytime or the nighttime median noise level. Also given the designation L<sub>50</sub>.

**NOP** – Notice of Preparation.

**NOx** – Oxides of nitrogen. Poisonous and highly reactive gases produced when fuel is burned at high temperatures, causing nitrogen in the air to combine with oxygen.

**NPDES** – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

**NRCS** – Natural Resources Conservation Service

**NREL** – National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

**NRHP** – National Register of Historical Places.

**NSH** – National Seismic Hazard.

**NSR** – New Source Review; see Air Quality.

**NWI** – National Wetland Inventory

**O&M** – Operations & Maintenance.

**O<sub>3</sub>** – See Ozone.

**OES** – Office of Emergency Services.

**OHV** – Off-highway vehicle.

**OHWM** - Ordinary high water mark.

**OPGW** – optical ground wire

**ORV** – Off-road vehicle.

**OSHA** – U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration, a federal agency regulating health and safety in the workplace.

**Oxidant** – A mixture of chemically oxidizing compounds formed from ultraviolet stimulated reactions in the atmosphere, with ozone a principal fraction.

**Ozone** – A molecule of three oxygen atoms — O<sub>3</sub>. A colorless gas formed by a complex series of chemical and photochemical reaction of reactive organic gases, principally hydrocarbons, with the oxides of nitrogen, which is harmful to the public health, the biota, and some materials.

**Panel** – See photovoltaic panel.

**Particulate Matter (particulates)** – Very fine sized solid matter or droplets, typically averaging one micron or smaller in diameter. Particulate matter is a mixture of materials that can include smoke, soot, dust, salt, acids, and metals. Some particulate matter, such as pollen, is naturally occurring. Also called “aerosol.”

**PCA** — Pest Control Advisor

**PERP** – Portable Equipment Registration Program.

**PFC** – Perfluorocarbons.

**PG&E** – Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

**pH** – A measure of acidity or alkalinity.

**Photochemical Pollutant** – Reactive organic compounds (ROC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx), photochemical pollutants that absorb energy from the sun and react chemically to form ozone (O<sub>3</sub>).

**Photovoltaic (PV) Array** An interconnected system of photovoltaic modules that function as a single electricity-producing unit. The CVSR project would have 8 proposed arrays.

**Photovoltaic (PV) Cell** – The smallest semiconductor element within a PV module to perform immediate conversion of light into electrical energy.

**Photovoltaic (PV) Module** – The smallest assembly of solar cells and ancillary parts, such as interconnections and terminals, intended to generate direct current power under unconcentrated sunlight.

**Photovoltaic (PV) Panel** – Often used interchangeably with PV module, but more accurately used to refer to a physically connected collection of modules.

**PM10** – Particulate matter less than 10 microns in size, which is small enough to be inhaled deeply into the lungs and cause disease and is regulated by the USEPA.

**PM2.5** – Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in size, which is small enough to be inhaled deeply into the lungs and cause disease and is regulated by the USEPA.

**PPA** – Power Purchase Agreement.

**ppm** – Parts per million, a measure of the amount of one substance found in a second, which is the carrier.

**ppt** – Parts per thousand, a measure of the amount of one substance found in a second, which is the carrier.

**PRC** – Public Resources Code.

**PTO** – Permit to Operate; granted by the APCD after source testing and validation of permits.

**PV** – photovoltaic, direct conversion of light into electricity.

**PVS LLC** — Panoche Valley Solar, LLC; the project Applicant.

**PVSP** — Panoche Valley Solar Project

**QC5** — Queue Cluster 5

**Rating** – Maximum operation limit of transmission or generation facilities, as established by WSCC and/or NPP operating and reliability criteria guidelines. Utility facilities and interconnections can be rated either for individual or simultaneous operation, where simultaneous operations take into consideration collective WSCC or NPP utilities.

**RCNM** – Roadway Construction Noise Model.

**RCRA** – Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

**Reconductoring** – Installation of new and larger capacity conductors (the wires that carry electricity) on existing transmission towers/poles. Depending on engineering, tower replacement is sometimes necessary to support the new conductors that are sometimes larger and sometimes operate at a higher temperature.

**RES** – Renewable Electricity Standard.

**RETI** – Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative.

**Riparian** – Area along the banks of a river or lake supporting specialized plant and animal species.

**RMP** – Resource Management Plan.

**RMS** – Root mean square.

**RO** – Reverse Osmosis.

**ROC** — Reactive organic compounds

**ROD** — Record of Decision

**ROGs** – Reactive organic gases.

**ROW** – Right-of-way; an easement, lease, permit, or license across an area or strip of land to allow access or to allow a utility to pass through public or private lands.

**ROWs** – Rights-of-way.

**RPS** – Renewable Portfolio Standard.

**Ruderal** – Growing where the natural vegetation cover has been disturbed.

**RWQCB** – Regional Water Quality Control Board.

**SAA** — Streambed Alteration Agreement

**SB** – Senate Bill.

**SBCFD** - San Benito County Fire Department.

**SCADA** – Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition.

**SCE** — Southern California Edison

**SCS** – Soil Conservation Service. Currently known as the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

**Seedbank** – The layer of topsoil containing native plant seed material, which is frequently used as a “seed bank” for revegetation of native plants.

**SEIR** — Supplemental Environmental Impact Report

**Sensitive Receptor** – Land uses adjacent to or within proximity to the proposed project that could be impacted by construction, operation, and maintenance activities.

**SF<sub>6</sub>** Sulfur hexafluoride.

**SGIR** – Small Generator Interconnection Request.

**SHPO** – State Historic Preservation Office.

**SIP** – State Implementation Plan (see Air Quality); a document required periodically from each county by EPA that indicates the progress and the planning of the county for improving the quality of its air.

**SIS** – System Impact Study.

**SITP** — State Incidental Take Permit

**SJVAPCD** — San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

**SJVHCP** — San Joaquin Valley Habitat Conservation Plan

**Skylining** – Extending above the horizon line.

**SO<sub>2</sub>** – Sulfur dioxide; a corrosive and poisonous gas produced from the complete combustion of sulfur in fuels.

**SO<sub>3</sub>** — sulfur trioxide

**Solar Insolation** – The solar power density incident on a surface of stated area and orientation, usually expressed as Watts per square meter or Btu per square foot per hour.

**Solar Irradiance** – The direct, diffuse, and reflected solar radiation that strikes a surface.

**Solargen** – Solargen Energy, Inc., the original (2010) Applicant of the proposed Panoche Valley Solar Farm Project.

**SOx** – Oxides of sulfur. The group of compounds formed during combustion or thereafter in the atmosphere of sulfur compounds in the fuel, each having various levels of oxidation, ranging from two oxygen atoms for each sulfur atom to four oxygen atoms.

**SPCC** – Spill prevention containment and counter measure.

**SR** – State Route (e.g., SR-58 or State Highway 58).

**SRAs** — State Responsibility Areas

**Storie Index** – California Revised Storie Index soil rating system used to determine an area of land’s potential utilization and productive capacity based on soil characteristics.

**Sulfates** – Compounds in air or water that contain four oxygen atoms for each sulfur atom. See SOx.

**Sulfur Oxides** – A gaseous mixture of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and sulfur trioxide (SO<sub>3</sub>) and symbolically represented as SOx. Can include particulate species such as sulfate compounds (-SO<sub>4</sub>).

**SWPPP** – Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

**SWRCB** – State Water Resources Control Board.

**TACs** – Toxic Air Contaminants.

**TCP** – traditional culture property.

**TCP** – Traffic Control Plan.

**TDS** – Total Dissolved Solids.

**Terrestrial** – Related to or living on land. Terrestrial biology deals with upland areas as opposed to shorelines or coastal habitats.

**TMDL** - Total maximum daily load.

**Tracking Array** – A photovoltaic (PV) array that follows the path of the sun to maximize the solar radiation incident on the PV surface.

**TSCA** – Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976.

**TSP** – Total Suspended Particulates; solid or liquid particles small enough to remain suspended in air. PM10 is the portion of TSP that can be inhaled.

**TSPs** – tubular steel poles

**UBC** – Uniform Building Code.

**UCMP** - University of California Berkeley Museum of Paleontology.

**USA** – Underground Service Alert.

**USACE** – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**USDA** – U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**USEPA** – United States Environmental Protection Agency.

**USFWS** – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**USGS** – U.S. Geological Survey.

**Utility Corridor** – A strip of land, or an easement, on which utility facilities such as power lines and pipelines are constructed.

**Visual Sensitivity** – Consideration of people's uses of various environments and their concerns for maintenance of scenic quality and open-space values; examples of areas of high visual sensitivity would be areas visible from scenic highways, wilderness areas, parks, recreational water bodies, etc.

**VMT** – Vehicle miles traveled, usually per day.

**VOC** – Volatile organic compounds.

**vpd** – Vehicles per day.

**W/m<sup>2</sup>** – Watts per square meter.

**WA** – Wilderness Area.

**Watershed** – The area contained within a drainage divide above a specified point on a stream.

**WCP** – Weed Control Plan

**WDR** – Waste Discharge Requirements.

**WEPP** – Worker Environmental Education Program

**Wetland** – For regulatory purposes under the Clean Water Act, the term wetlands means "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas" [taken from EPA Regulations listed at 40 CFR 230.3(t)].

**Williamson Act** – California Land Conservation Act of 1965.

**WMMP** – Wetland Mitigation and Monitoring Plan

**WPLT** - Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition.

**WSA** – Wilderness Study Area.

**WSAs** – Wilderness Study Areas.

**WSS** – Web Soil Survey.

**ZOI** – Zone of influence.