

**Addendum to
South Tahoe Public Utility District Solar Project Mitigated Negative Declaration
June 25, 2024**

El Dorado County, Tahoe Planning, Stormwater and Vacation Home Rental Division

State Clearinghouse # 2023080057

Prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, section 15164 of the CEQA guidelines.

South Tahoe Public Utility District, acting as the lead agency, prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) to comply with CEQA. South Tahoe Public Utility District adopted the MND on September 7, 2023, and filed a notice of determination on September 8, 2023.

Project Description: The proposed Solar Project and associated Timber Harvest Plan is located east of the existing District wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) facility and within previously undeveloped APNs 25-061-35 and 25-071-22. The Solar Project will offset approximately one-third of the energy demands at the WWTP beginning in 2025, and consists of a secured fenced area containing the solar arrays made up of individual solar panels aligned in rows, an access roadway to the solar arrays from the District WWTP perimeter road, and underground wiring to connect the solar array switchgear to the existing WWTP electrical service connection point.

Description of Project Changes: Since adoption of the IS/MND, two minor technical changes/additions have arisen for which preparation of an addendum to the MND, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15164, is appropriate. Specifically, the modifications/clarifications include:

1. Inclusion of El Dorado County as a responsible agency; and
2. The trade of up to 38,549 square feet of El Dorado County Class 6 land coverage for up to 38,549 square feet of South Tahoe Public Utility District Class 4 land coverage to the Project.

South Tahoe Public Utility District approached El Dorado County to trade land coverage to facilitate the Project, which makes El Dorado County a responsible agency under CEQA for the Project.

Transfer of Land Coverage

Preparation of Addendum: El Dorado County has prepared this addendum to the MND to address the addition of the trade and transfer of up to 38,549 square feet land coverage for the Project, which makes El Dorado County a responsible agency.

Based on the following facts, El Dorado County finds that the proposed changes to the Project are not substantial and do not involve any new significant environmental effects:

1. The land coverage already exists.
2. The trade and transfer of up to 38,549 square feet land coverage will facilitate the Project and does not change the size or impact of the Project.
3. Adding El Dorado County as a CEQA responsible agency is not a substantial change, and no new information of substantial importance relating to this change was identified. The Project as clarified is within the scope of the environmental analysis and effects found in the MND. No findings or mitigation found in the MND requires modification because of this clarification.

Conclusion: Based on the above findings, El Dorado County has concluded that preparation of a subsequent MND for these minor changes and clarifications to the MND is unnecessary and that preparation of an addendum is consistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15164. El Dorado County has determined, based on substantial evidence in the light of the whole record, that the proposed changes listed in this addendum are not substantial. None of the conditions described under CEQA Guidelines section 15162 requiring preparation of a subsequent document have occurred. The modifications do not involve any new significant environmental effects, nor is a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects expected to result. In addition, no substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken. Finally, the changes do not involve new information of substantial importance.