Comments on Conditional Use Permit CUP22-0010 Stella Battery Storage.

ZA 5-1-24 #1 3 pages

Sanne, Ashley <asanne@eid.org>

Wed 5/1/2024 8:56 AM

To:Planning Department <planning@edcgov.us>

Cc:Mueller, Brian <BMUELLER@eid.org>;Corcoran, Daniel <dcorcoran@eid.org>;Mutschler, Cary <cmutschler@eid.org>;Brink, Mike <mbrink@eid.org>;Deason, Brian <bdeason@eid.org>;stirlingb <stirlingb@eldofire.com>;'corderot@eldofire.com' <corderot@eldofire.com>

1 attachments (150 KB)

DW2024-04-0041 EID Comments CUP22-0010 Stella Battery Storage.pdf;

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Good morning Mr. Aselage,

Please find the attached Comments on Conditional Use Permit CUP22-0010 Stella Battery Storage.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Patrick Wilson at (530) 642-4060.

Regards,

Ashley Sanne | Permit Technician

El Dorado Irrigation District

2890 Mosquito Road, Placerville, CA 95667

Tel: 530-642-4010

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George Osborne, Director, Division 1
Pat Dwyer, Director, Division 2
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Lori Anzini, Director, Division 4
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Jim Abercrombie, General Manager
Brian D. Poulsen, General Counsel

Letter No.: DW2024-05-0041

VIA E-MAIL

May 1, 2024

Matthew Aselage, County Planner County of El Dorado Planning Department 2850 Fairlane Court, Building C Placerville, CA 95667 Email: planning@edcgov.us

Subject: Comments on Conditional Use Permit CUP22-0010 Stella Battery Storage

Dear Mr. Aselage:

The El Dorado Irrigation District (District) is providing comments in response to El Dorado County's (County) Notice of Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permit CUP22-0010 for the Stella Battery Storage Project (Project).

The District understands that the Project involves the development and ongoing operation of an up to 5.0-megawatt/20.0-megawatt hour battery energy storage facility located on the undeveloped portion of a parcel developed with a four-suite commercial center. The property is located on Assessor's Parcel Number 009-330-0641 and is located on the north side of Pony Express Trail, approximately 750-feet east of the intersection with Forebay Road.

The District owns and operates the El Dorado Hydroelectric Project (Project 184), which conveys water supplies within the El Dorado Canal (Canal) to nearby El Dorado Forebay for potable treatment and consumption as well as to the El Dorado Powerhouse for hydroelectric power generation. Approximately one-third of the District's drinking water supplies that serve nearly 125,000 residents of El Dorado County are conveyed through these critical water conveyance facilities located immediately north and downslope of the proposed Project. As such, the District is concerned with potential impacts to its facilities and water supply in the event of a fire or other failure at the proposed battery storage facility.

Recent fires at battery storage facilities in California highlight potential safety issues associated with this relatively new technology. Fires and subsequent hazardous material discharges from the facility itself or fire suppression materials used to respond to an emergency could enter the District's water conveyance facilities compromising its ability to provide safe and reliable drinking water to its customers. Given the potential health and safety hazards associated with the proposed Project, the District requests the County ensure that the proposed Project is constructed to the most rigorous fire safety and containment standards. Further, in conditioning its approval of the Project, the District



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requests that the County ensures the applicant provide fire emergency services the capacity, equipment, and training to properly respond to a fire or other failure at this type of facility.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact me at <u>pwilson@eid.org</u> or 530-642-4060.

Sincerely,

Port J. Willy.
Patrick Wilson, P.E.

Drinking Water Operations Manager

BD:ne

cc:

El Dorado Irrigation District:

Brian Mueller, P.E., Director of Engineering

Dan Corcoran, Director of Operations

Cary Mutschler, P.E., Hydroelectric Manager

Mike Brink, P.E., Supervising Civil Engineer

Brian Deason, Environmental Resources Supervisor

El Dorado County Fire Protection District Chief Tim Cordero

Fire Marshall Braden Stirling