

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**GOVERNOR'S CERTIFICATION FOR JUDICIAL STREAMLINING OF
THE EASLEY RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT
IN THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**

I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California; in accordance with the authority vested in me by Public Resources Code Section 21178 et seq., make the following determinations:


The Easley Renewable Energy Project, a utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) electrical generating and storage facility in Riverside County, will invest more than \$296 million dollars in the California economy, create living wage jobs and help achieve California's renewable energy generation goals. A copy of the project's application, which contains information supporting this certification, is attached as Exhibit 1. All materials associated with this application are available online at:
<https://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/judicial-streamlining/environmental-leadership.html>

As set forth below, the project has demonstrated that it meets all requirements to be eligible for certification for judicial streamlining.

1. Project Applicant: IP Easley, LLC
2. Project Description: The applicant proposes to build utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) electrical generating and storage facility, which would generate and store up to 400 megawatts (MW) solar PV with up to 650 MW of 4-hour duration battery energy storage system (BESS) capacity via arrays of solar PV panels, a battery energy storage system, and appurtenant facilities.
3. CEQA Lead Agency: County of Riverside
4. The project meets the criteria set forth in Public Resources Code Section 21180, Subdivision (b)(2). It is a clean renewable energy project that generates electricity exclusively through wind or solar, but not including waste incineration or conversion (Exhibit 1, Section 1, pgs. 1-2, 6-7).
5. Both the application and the size and scope of the project establish that the project will result in a minimum investment of \$100 million dollars in California upon completion of construction in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 21183, Subdivision (a)(1) (Ex. 1, pgs. 2, 8, Attachment A).
6. The project applicant has provided information establishing that the prevailing and living wage requirements of Public Resources Code Section 21183, Subdivision (b) will be satisfied in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21183.5 (Ex. 1, pgs. 2, 8, 13-14, Attachment B).
7. The project applicant has provided information establishing that the project will not result in any net additional greenhouse gas emissions in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 21183, Subdivision (c)(1) (Ex. 1, pgs. 2, 9, Attachment C).
8. The project applicant has provided information establishing that the project will comply with the requirements for the commercial and organic waste recycling of Public Resources Code Chapter 12.8 (commencing with Section 42649) and 12.9 (commencing with Section 42649.8) of Part 3 of Division 30, as applicable in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 21183, Subdivision(d) (Ex. 1, pgs. 2,10).

9. The project applicant has provided documentation that pursuant to the requirements in Public Resources Code Section 21183, Subdivision (e), it has entered into a binding and enforceable agreement that all mitigation measures will be conditions of approval of the project, that those conditions will be fully enforceable by the lead agency or another agency designated by the lead agency and that environmental mitigation measures will be monitored and enforced by the lead agency for the life of the obligation (Ex. 1, pgs. 2,11, Attachment D).
10. The project applicant has agreed to pay the costs of the trial court and the Court of Appeal in hearing and deciding any case challenging a lead agency's action on the certified project, pursuant to the requirements in Public Resources Code Section 21183, Subdivision (f) (Ex. 1, pgs. 2, 13).
11. The project applicant has agreed to pay the costs of preparing the record of proceedings for the project concurrent with review and consideration of the project pursuant to the requirements in Public Resources Code Section 21183, Subdivision (g) (Ex. 1, pgs. 2, 13).
12. The project applicant has provided documentation demonstrating that the project's record of proceedings will be prepared in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21186, as required by Public Resources Code section 21183, Subdivision (h), upon publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Report. (Ex. 1, pgs. 18-19).
13. The application materials submitted by the applicant were made available to the public on the Office of Planning and Research's website on October 11, 2023, and no public comment on the project application was received.

Therefore, I hereby certify that the Easley Renewable Energy Project is an eligible project under Public Resources Code Section 21178 et seq. Pursuant to statute, this certification must be submitted for to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) for concurrence or nonconcurrence; I therefore instruct the Director of the Office of Planning and Research to transmit this certification to the JLBC for such action.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California
February 8, 2024