

From: Jensen, Bruce, CDA
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 5:25 PM
To: Lopez, Albert, CDA; McElligott, Elizabeth, CDA; Young, Andrew, CDA
Subject: Aramis EIR review

Hi, Guys - I have reviewed the Aramis EIR Sections.

I have three big problems with it.

1 - they propose to only have a financial assurance bond if they do NOT have PPAs with energy offtakers. No other analogous land use, whether windfarms, mines or landfills gets that lenient a treatment. PPAs are NOT a guarantee of company solvency or presence anymore than landfill receipts or quarry sales. Their proposal is unacceptable as a guarantee.

2 - I absolutely disagree that this project, especially considering its size, is in conformance with the ECAP policies or zoning ordinance, or is compatible with ag in general. Nothing in any document anticipates a land use of this magnitude across North Livermore or Mountain House, and in fact must be read so loosely so as to ignore the spirit and intent of the policies. Their analysis does not pass the laugh test for me. It needs a Significant Unavoidable (SU) designation.

3 - For aesthetics, I believe the same applies. They can dance around the issue as much as they wish, but there is no way that this project, with or without mitigation, meets either the spirit or letter of the scenic and aesthetic policies set out in various documents. There is no way to hide this enormous project or protect the scenic quality of the area. It is a big, in-your-face project, and denial of that quality is disingenuous. In fact, the mitigation itself introduces new significant impacts that cannot be mitigated. It, too, needs a SU designation.

If we have to adopt Findings of Overriding Consideration, well then, we have to. It comes with the territory for projects of this scale in protected areas like North Livermore.

I would not encourage us to release this document for public review without these modifications. We need to let the politicians themselves say that a solar plant like this is acceptable or not, and let them take responsibility if they want it.

I have some minor issues too, but these, for me, are killers.

I would not be doing my job if I did not say these things.

- Bruce