



# Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

3 November 2025

Patrick Cousineau EDPR CA Solar Park III LLC 1501 McKinney Street, Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77253

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR COVERAGE UNDER ORDER NO. 2004-0004-DWQ, STATEWIDE GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DREDGED OR FILL DISCHARGES TO WATERS DEEMED BY THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO BE OUTSIDE OF FEDERAL JURISDICTION, LAS CAMAS SOLAR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (WDID# 5B24CR00121), MERCED COUNTY

On 16 July 2025, EDPR CA Solar Park III LLC (Applicant) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll under and comply with State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order No. 2004-0004-DWQ, Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredged or Fill Discharges to Waters Deemed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers to be Outside of Federal Jurisdiction.

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff requested additional information necessary to supplement the contents of the complete application and the Applicant responded to the request for supplemental information on the following dates:

Date of Request for Supplemental Information: 14 August 2025

Date all requested information was received: 22 October 2025

The Central Valley Water Board has reviewed the enrollment materials and finds the Las Camas Solar Development Project (Project) meets the requirements of, and is hereby enrolled under, Order No. 2004-0004-DWQ. The Applicant may proceed with the Project in accordance with the Order.

# A copy of Order 2004-0004-DWQ

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\_decisions/adopted\_orders/water\_quality/2004/wqo/wqo2004-0004.pdf) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's Adopted Orders webpage.

NICHOLAS AVDIS, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Please familiarize yourself with the requirements of Order No. 2004-0004-DWQ. The Applicant is responsible for complying with all applicable Order requirements. Failure to comply with Order No. 2004-0004-DWQ constitutes a violation of the California Water Code and may result in enforcement action or termination of enrollment under the Order.

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# PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The 1,741 acre Project consists of developing a 200-megawatt power plant using ground mounted solar panels. The solar project onsite components would include access roads, solar PV panels, single-axis trackers, DC to AC power collection wires and electrical inverters, and lithium-ion batteries energy storage system.

Project elements that affect aquatic resources include construction of an access road to the Project site. The access road will cross the ephemeral creek using a culvert. Rock slope protection will be placed in the creek around the culvert inlet and outlet.

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. Permanent impacts are categorized as those resulting in a physical loss in area and also those degrading ecological condition. Temporarily impacted areas shall be restored to pre-Project condition.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake			
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	0.059		179
Vernal Pool			
Wetland			

Table 2: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake			
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone			
Stream Channel	0.028		147
Vernal Pool			
Wetland			

# **PROJECT LOCATION:**

The Project is located in Merced County approximately 6.5 miles west of Los Banos. The approximate center of the Project area is located at latitude 37.042719 Degrees North and longitude -120.964631 Degrees West.

#### PROJECT SCHEDULE:

The Project is expected to commence in April 2026 and finish in December 2026.

#### APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

A fee of \$4,214.00 was received on 2 September 2025. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), and was calculated as category E - Low Impact Discharges (fee code 87) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

#### MITIGATION AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES:

The Permittee is required to provide compensatory mitigation for the authorized impact to 0.028 acre of stream channel habitat by purchasing 0.03 Aquatic Resource Credits in the San Joaquin River Aquatic Resource Watershed Service Area. Required credits shall be purchased from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)'s Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program.

A copy of the fully executed agreement for the purchase of mitigation credits shall be provided to the Central Valley Water Board prior to the initiation of in-water work.

#### **TERMINATION OF COVERAGE:**

Upon completion of the Project, the Applicant shall submit a complete Notice of Termination (NOT) requesting to be un-enrolled under Order No. 2004-0004-DWQ. Attachment 2 to the Order contains the NOT form.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Brandon Salazar by phone at (559) 445-6278 or by email at Brandon.Salazar@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original signed by Alex S. Mushegan

for Patrick Pulupa Executive Officer

Attachments: Attachment A – Project Impact Map

cc: (electronic copy only)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Electronic Copy Only) Region 9 R9cwa401@epa.gov

United States Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District Headquarters SPKRegulatoryMailbox@usace.army.mil cc: Justin Sloan

United States Fish & Wildlife Service

justin\_sloan@fws.gov

Julie Vance, Regional Manager San Joaquin Valley-Southern Sierra Region Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 4 R4LSA@wildlife.ca.gov

CWA Section 401 WQC Program
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
Stateboard401@waterboards.ca.gov

Rebecca Payne ICF

# **ATTACHMENT A**

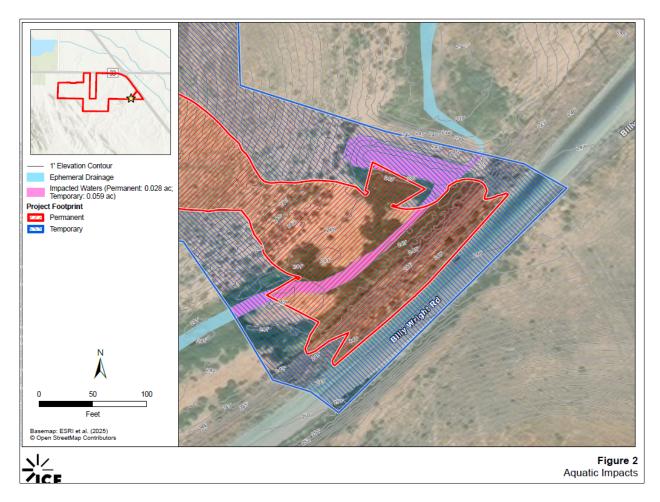


Figure 1: Project Impact Map