

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

SOUTH CENTRAL COAST AREA
89 SOUTH CALIFORNIA ST., SUITE 200
VENTURA, CA 93001
(805) 585-1800



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NOTICE OF IMPENDING DEVELOPMENT DE MINIMIS: CONSENT CALENDAR

DATE: April 21, 2016

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Notice of Impending Development UCS-NOID-0001-16 (Solar Photovoltaic Power Purchase Agreement Project Phase 1) at Main Campus at the University of California at Santa Barbara

Based on project plans and information submitted by the applicant regarding the development described below, the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission believes the proposed development is de minimis with respect to the purposes and provisions of the certified LRDP and has, therefore, scheduled it for review by the Commission on its Consent Calendar, pursuant to Section 13550(c) of the Commission's Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 5.5).

Applicant: University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB)

Location: Robertson Gym, Events Center, Parking Lot 18/Mesa and Parking Lot 10/Structure II, Main Campus, University of California Santa Barbara

Description: The addition of approximately 6,730 photovoltaic (PV), low glare solar panels on the roof tops of two building structures (Robertson Gym and Events Center) and the top deck of two existing parking structures (Parking Lot 18/Mesa and Lot 10/Structure II) to provide electricity for the campus' electrical grid, and the removal of twenty non-native ornamental trees. The University also proposes tree replacement at a ratio of 1:1 for the twenty non-native trees to be removed. The replacement trees will be monitored to ensure restoration success. Additionally, the proposed project incorporates Best Management Practices (BMPs) for erosion control purposes during construction.

Rationale: The proposed development is minor in nature and entirely within a fully developed portion of Main Campus. At two of the sites, photovoltaic solar panels are proposed on the roof tops of existing campus buildings. At the other two sites, photovoltaic solar panels are proposed within existing parking structures on new carport canopies supported on piers to be installed on the upper deck of each parking structure. These carport canopies will have a minimum height of 7-8 feet and a maximum height of 17 feet above the parking surface. All sites are proposed within existing developed locations that do not provide scenic views, and therefore the proposed solar panels and carport canopies will not result in any

adverse impacts to public views. Twenty non-native ornamental trees will be removed and replaced at a ratio of 1:1 for each tree removed. Although the trees proposed for removal are not ESHA, they still have the potential to provide habitat for sensitive bird species. Therefore the University is proposing to mitigate for the removal of these trees to ensure that there are no adverse impacts or permanent loss of potential bird nesting habitat. The University is proposing to monitor replacement trees to ensure restoration success. In addition, the University is proposing to conduct preconstruction bird surveys to ensure that potential impacts to nesting bird species are avoided during construction activities. Moreover, the project will not result in the removal of any native vegetation and will not adversely impact any environmentally sensitive habitat area. Additionally, the University will follow all Best Management Practices (BMPs) during the installation of the photovoltaic solar panels for the protection of water quality. The proposed project is consistent with the allowed uses under the Academic and Support and Housing land use designations. The impending development will not result in potential adverse effects to any coastal resources and the project is consistent with UCSB's certified 2010 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP).

IMPORTANT: This NOID is not valid unless the project site has been posted and until the NOID has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This NOID is proposed to be reported to the Commission at the meeting of May 13, 2016 in Newport Beach. If three Commissioners request that this NOID be scheduled for a public hearing on the Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) calendar, this NOID shall be removed from the consent calendar, pursuant to Section 13103 of the Commission's Regulations.

Person wishing to object to or having questions regarding this NOID should contact the Commission office at the above address or phone number prior to the Commission meeting date.

Sincerely,

JOHN AINSWORTH
Acting Executive Director

By: Denise Venegas
Title: Coastal Program Analyst