

## **Public Notice – 401 Certification Application**

### **Date:**

December 30, 2021

### **Applicant:**

Westside Canal Battery Storage, LLC

Cristina Gispert (Manager)

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### **Duly Authorized Representative:**

RECON Environmental, Inc.

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### **Project Name:**

Westside Canal Battery Storage Complex Project, Located in the City of Mount Signal, Imperial County, California 92243

WDID No. 7A132168001, RM 445996, Place ID 878083

### **Receiving Water:**

Fern Sidemain Canal

### **Location:**

City or area: Unincorporated Mount Signal, Imperial County, California

Approximately 8.0 miles southwest of the City of El Centro and approximately 5.3 miles north of the U.S.- Mexico border.

Latitude/Longitude: 32.731666°, -115.718854°

Section, Township, Range: 34, 16S, 12E

### **Project Description:**

Consolidated Edison Development (CED) Westside Canal Battery Storage, LLC (Applicant) is proposing to develop, design, construct, own, operate, and decommission the Westside Canal Battery Storage Project, a utility-scale energy storage complex with the capacity of up to 2,000 Megawatts (MW) at full build out. The Project would store energy generated from the electrical grid, and optimally discharge that energy back into the grid to help meet energy demands for the region.

The Project would be constructed in multiple phases over a 10-year period with each phase ranging from approximately 25 MW to 400 MW, comprised of lithium-ion battery

and/or flow battery energy storage facilities, behind-the-meter solar energy facility, a new on-site 230 kilovolt (kV) loop-in switching station, a 34.5kV to 230kV substation, underground electrical cables, and permanent vehicular access to and from the site over a proposed bridge spanning IID's Westside Main Canal. The proposed loop-in switching station would connect the Project to the existing IID Campo Verde-Imperial Valley 230 kV radial gen-tie line, which connects to the Imperial Valley (IV) Substation and the California Independent System Operator (CAISO), approximately one-third mile south of the Project Site. Necessary Interconnection Request Applications have been submitted by the Applicant to the CAISO and IV. The Project complements both the existing operational renewable energy facilities, and those planned for future development in Imperial County (County) and supports the broader Southern California's bulk electrical transmission system by serving as a firm, dispatchable resource.

It is anticipated that each subsequent phase would be constructed within one to two years of each other, with the timing and size of each phase dependent on market conditions and the Applicant's ability to secure commercial contracts with prospective customers. With the Project development in phases, the necessary infrastructure (water mains, retention ponds, access roads) would be built out to serve the Project phases from west to east and would further expand over time. This requires improvements such as additional substation equipment, water main and site road extension, but would not require construction of additional common facilities after completion in the first phase.

Construction activities during all Project phases would only occur Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. or Saturday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., excluding holidays, per County of Imperial (County) Ordinance. Due to the Project site having no direct vehicular access routes, the Applicant is proposing to construct roads on both the north and south sides of the Westside Main Canal on private land. Phase one also anticipates the construction of a permanent clear-span bridge across the Westside Main Canal, the Operations and Maintenance facilities, water connections and water-mains, storm water retention, switching station and Project substation, legal permanent vehicle access, as well as the first energy storage facility. Construction workers would utilize the IID Fern Check Bridge as a temporary pedestrian bridge to access the Project site until the permanent bridge is completed. Because the bridge will span the Westside Main Canal, construction of this bridge would avoid impacts to Waters of the U.S./State under RWQCB jurisdiction. Widening of the existing culvert would result in impacts to the Fern Sidemain Canal, which is also considered Waters of the U.S./State. All other Project construction and activities would avoid impacts to RWQCB jurisdictional areas.

Construction of the permanent bridge requires the Applicant to have access to both the north side and the south of the canal to perform the necessary construction activities. In addition to being necessary to facilitate construction of the new permanent clear-span bridge, access from the south side of the canal would allow the Applicant to commence construction on the first phase of the Project simultaneously, thereby shortening the duration of construction and potentially minimizing the associated impacts.

**Anticipated Project Start and End Dates:**

March 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022 (subsequent phases to occur through 2032)

**US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Number(s):**

Los Angeles Nationwide Permit Number 51, Non-Reporting

**Action:**

Pending

**Water Board Contact:**

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