



Public Notice of Application for Water Quality Certification for Solano 4 Wind Project

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
Water Quality Certification Program
Date Posted: January 20, 2023

Affected Counties: Solano, Sacramento

The following information is provided in satisfaction of the public notice requirements of Section 3858, Title 23, of the California Code of Regulations, which govern the State's Water Quality Certification Program.

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) staff are proposing to regulate this Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. **Staff will consider all comments submitted in writing and received at this office during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this notice (January 20, 2023) and ends at 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the comment period (February 10, 2023).** To submit comments, or if you have questions, please contact the State Water Board staff person listed below.

State Water Resources Control Board Contact:

Mark Chin, Environmental Scientist
Wetland Permitting and Enforcement Unit, Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
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Note: No regulatory decision on the application is implied or intended in this public notice.

Project Name: Solano 4 Wind Project

(Reg. Meas. ID: 450840 and SWRCB ID: SB22084IN)

Background: On December 23, 2022, Sacramento Municipal Utility District’s application for Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification was received for the Solano 4 Wind Project (Project).

Project Description: The purpose of the proposed activity is to decommission existing wind turbine generators (WTGs) at Solano County Wind Resource Area (WRA) and construct 19 new, more technologically advanced WTGs, an associated electrical collection system, and access roads, along with minor upgrades to the existing Russell Substation; and operate and maintain the new WTGs.

The proposed project would have a power production capacity of up to 91 MW, delivered at the point of interconnection with the grid managed by the California Independent System Operator, resulting in a net increase in capacity at SMUD’s Solano Wind Project from the existing 230 MW to 306 MW (factoring in the elimination of 15 turbines from the current Solano East site). Access roads and collection lines would be installed to support the new WTGs. Power generated by the new WTGs would be transmitted from Solano 4 East and West to point of interconnection with the CAISO grid at the existing Russell Substation on Montezuma Hills Road via new, underground direct-buried electrical cable.

SMUD, acting as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), filed an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Project on August 20, 2021. This EIR is available at the following website: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2019012016/2>

Table 1: Reported Total Project Fill/Excavation Impacts to Waters of the State

Aquatic Resource type	Wetland	Stream Channel
Acres of temporary impact	0.009559	0.027046
Linear feet of temporary impact	74.02156	15.306
Acres of permanent impact	0.049497	
Linear feet of permanent impact	53.269	

A Certification or Denial will be prepared by the State Water Board for the Solano 4 Wind Project.

Applicant: Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Applicant Contact: Ammon Rice

Telephone: 1-888-742-7683

Email: Ammon.Rice@SMUD.org

Date Application Received: December 23, 2022

Pursuant to federal law (Title 33, United States Code, Section 1341; Clean Water Act Section 401), applicants for a federal license or permit for activities which may discharge to waters of the United States must seek Water Quality Certification from the state or Indian tribe with jurisdiction. Such Certification is based on a finding that the discharge will meet water quality standards and other applicable requirements. In California, Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) issue or deny Certification for discharges within their geographical jurisdiction. The State Water Board has this responsibility for projects affecting waters within multiple Regional Water Board jurisdictions.

KEEP INFORMED OF PROJECT MILESTONES

To be informed of milestones in the development of this proposed Water Quality Certification, any interested persons should enroll in the State Water Board's 401 Program e-mail notification service.

Click the [Subscribe directly to the 401 water quality Certification and Wetland Program Email List](#) button on the [401 Program Webpage](#) at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/index.shtml

By enrolling in this list, you will receive notices for all current 401 applications, including the Project announced in this notice. You will need a valid e-mail address to use this service. If you do not have internet access or do not wish to participate in the Lyris list, contact the staff person named in the notice to express your interest in receiving notices by other means. You can enroll or un-enroll at any time.