



University of California –
Ernest Orlando Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

September 7, 2010

State of California
Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
PO Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95814-3044

Note: For Federal Express delivery, use street address (not PO box) with 95814 zip code.

**NOTICE OF COMPLETION / NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)**

Project Title: Solar Energy Research Center Construction and Operation Project, SCH# 2010052040

Lead Agency: University of California

Location: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Road Berkeley, CA 94720

County: Alameda County

Contact: Jeff Philliber
Environmental Planner
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Road, MS 76-234A
Berkeley, CA 94720

Project Description: UC LBNL proposes to construct and operate the Solar Energy Research Center that would be located in the central portion of the LBNL hill site in Berkeley, Alameda County, California. The proposed project includes construction of an approximately 40,000 gross-square-foot building, reconfiguration of an existing service road and parking spaces, and other utility improvements needed to serve the proposed facility. The proposed building would accommodate research programs focused on developing fuels from sunlight using nanoscale photovoltaic and electrochemical solar energy systems.

The Draft EIR identifies one significant, unavoidable impact: the proposed Project would marginally contribute to cumulative, long-term traffic impacts in the vicinity.

This letter serves as a transmittal for fifteen (15) copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) dated September 7, 2010, for the above-named project. This submittal is pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines issued by the Office of the Secretary for Resources for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. Copies of the Draft EIR and all documents referenced therein are available for public review at the LBNL Facilities planning office. In addition, copies of the Draft EIR are available for public review at the Berkeley Central Library, 2090 Kittredge Street in the City of Berkeley, and on the following website: <http://www.lbl.gov/Community/SERC/documents/index.html>

The University will hold a public hearing for the EIR for the Project at 7:00 PM on Thursday, September 23, 2010 at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Street, Berkeley.

This letter and the attached Environmental Document Transmittal Form serve as the notice of Completion of this EIR. We expect the State review period will extend from approximately September 7, 2010 to October 21, 2010.

This Notice is also to solicit agency and public comment on the Draft EIR. We request that any comments be received no later than 5:00 PM on Thursday, October 21, 2010. The author's name and a mailing address should be included with any comments submitted. Please direct comments (or any questions about this process) to the attention of Jeff Philliber at the address noted above. Comments may also be submitted via email to the following address: Planning@lbl.gov.

Sincerely,



Jeff Philliber
UC-LBNL Environmental Planner
One Cyclotron Road, MS 76-234A
Berkeley, California 94720

Attachment: 15 Draft EIRs and one completed transmittal form

cc. UCOP Planning Design & Construction, attn: Mary O'Keefe [with 1 Draft EIR]
UCOP General Counsel, attn: Elisabeth Gunther [with 1 CD]