State of California, Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Project Title: Solar Energy Research Center

Lead Agency: University of California, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Project Location: One Cyclotron Road, Berkeley, CA 94720

Contact Person: Jeff Philliber, Environmental Planner. One Cyclotron Road, MS 76-234A, Berkeley, CA 94720

Project Description

The University of California proposes to construct and operate the Solar Energy Research Center project (SERC project or proposed project) at its Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) site in Berkeley, Alameda County, California. The proposed project would be located in the central area of the LBNL site known as "Old Town." The proposed project includes an approximately 40,000 gross square foot building, modification of a service road, reconfiguration of parking spaces, and minor improvements to utilities in order to serve the project. The proposed building would house research programs focused on developing fuels from sunlight.

Environmental Review Process

The University of California will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed project. An Initial Study has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the *CEQA Guidelines*, and the *University of California Procedures for Implementation of CEQA* to identify potential environmental impacts that will be addressed in the EIR. The attached Initial Study includes a description of the proposed project. It is anticipated that the EIR will address environmental impacts in the following resource areas: aesthetics, air quality, geology and soils, greenhouse gases, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, transportation and traffic, and utilities.

A copy of this Notice of Preparation (NOP), Initial Study, and public scoping meeting announcement are available on the following website: http://www.lbl.gov/community/env-rev-docs.html. UC LBNL will hold a public scoping meeting for the EIR on May 26 at the North Berkeley Senior Center. More information regarding the scoping meeting is provided in Attachment A.

This notice is to solicit your views on the scope and contents of the forthcoming SERC project EIR. We request that any comments be received no later than 5:00 PM on June 11, 2010. Your name and a mailing address should be included with your comments. Please direct your comments 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**. If you have any questions regarding this NOP, please contact Jeff Philliber at the above address or via email at **planning@lbl.gov**.

Signature: Laura Chen Date: 5/11/2010
Laura Chen, Chief Facilities Planner, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

cc: LBNL CEQA Agency and Public Mailing List

State Agencies

State Clearinghouse
CA Air Resources Board, Executive Officer, James Goldstene; Engineering & Certification Branch Chief, George Law, et al
CA Department of Fish and Game, Director, Donald Koch
CA Department of Health Services, Director, Mark Horton; Center for Environmental Health, Director, Rufus Howell; Radiological Health Branch, Chief, Gary Butner, et al
CA Department of Parks & Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation, State Historic Preservation Officer, M. W. Donaldson, FAIA
CA Department of Water Resources, Director, Mark Corwin
CA Environmental Protection Agency, Secretary, Linda S. Adams, et al
CA EPA, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Northern California Cleanup Operations Branch, Unit Chief, Mark Piros, et al
CA Regional Water Quality Control Board, Executive Officer, Bruce H. Wolff; Groundwater Protection and Waste Containment Division, John Kaiser; Permits, Spills Response Section, Cecil Felix; et al
CA State Resources Agency, Secretary, Lester Snow
CA State Water Resources Control Board, Executive Director, Dorothy Rice, et al
Caltrans, Director, Will Kempton; Region 4 Director, Bijan Sartipi, et al

Federal Agencies

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 Administrator,Jared Blumenfeld; Air Toxics, Radiation & Indoor Air, Michael Bandrowski, et al
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Field Office, Chief Supervisor, Susan Moore
U.S. Department of Energy, Berkeley Site Office, Aundra Richards, et al
U.S. Department of Energy, NEPA Compliance Officer – Oakridge Operations Office, Gary Hartman
U.S. Department of Energy, NEPA Representative - BSO, Kim Abbott
U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Elaine Jackson-Retondo, Historian

Regional/County Agencies

Alameda County, Clerk-Recorder's Office, Patrick O'Connell
Alameda County, Supervisor District 5, Keith Carson
Alameda County, LAFCO, Executive Officer, Mona Palacios
Alameda County, County Administrator, Susan Muranishi
Alameda County, Health Care Agency, Public Health Officer, Dr. Mantu Davis, et al
Alameda County, Clerk to Board of Supervisors, Sandy Hou
Alameda County, Planning Department, Agency Director, James Sorenson

Regional/County Agencies (continued)

Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Executive Director, Steve Heminger
Association of Bay Area Governments, Executive Director-Secretary Treasurer, Henry Gardner, et al
Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Executive Officer/APCO, Jack Broadbent; Air Permits Section, Faye Bruno; Fuel Dispensing Section, Scott Owen; et al
Contra Costa County, Department of Health Services, Director of Public Health, Wendel Brunner
East Bay Municipal Utilities District, General Manager, Dennis Diemer; Wastewater Control Section, Audrey Comeaux, et al
East Bay Regional Park District, General Manager, Pat O'Brien, et al

Cities
City of Berkeley

City of Berkeley, City Clerk, Dieanna Despam, Acting City Clerk
City of Berkeley, City Manager, Phil Kamlarz, and City Manager's Office et al
City of Berkeley, City Attorney, Zach Cowan
City of Berkeley, Mayor, Tom Bates
City of Berkeley, Council Members, Anderson, Capitelli, Maio, Moore, Olds, Worthington, Wozniak, Arreguin
City of Berkeley, Planning Department, Dan Marks, Director, et al
City of Berkeley, Toxics Management Division, Dr. Nabil Al-Hadithy
City of Berkeley, Energy Officer, Neal DeSnoo
City of Berkeley, Police Department, Chief, Michael Meehan
City of Berkeley, Fire Department, Chief, Deby Pryor, et al
City of Berkeley, Transportation Division Manager, Farid Javandel

City of Berkeley Commissions

City of Berkeley, Community Environmental Advisory Commission, Secretary, Nabil Al-Hadithy
City of Berkeley, Community Health Commission, Secretary, Zandta Lee
City of Berkeley, Landmarks Preservation Commission, Senior Planner, Terry Blount
City of Berkeley, Peace & Justice Commission, Secretary, Eric Brenman
City of Berkeley, Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Commission, Secretary, Virginia Aiello
City of Berkeley, Planning Commission, Secretary, Jordan Harrison
City of Berkeley, Public Works Commission, Secretary, Jeff Egeberg
City of Berkeley, Zero Waste Commission, Secretary, Tania Levy
City of Berkeley, Transportation Commission, Secretary, Farid Javandel

City of Oakland

City of Oakland, Mayor Ron Dellums
City of Oakland, Councilmember District 1, Jane Brunner
City of Oakland, City Attorney, John Russo
City of Oakland, Planning and Zoning Division , Strategic Planning Manager, Eric Angstadt, et al
City of Oakland, City Clerk's Office, La Tonda Simmons, City Clerk
City of Oakland, City Administrator, Dan Lindheim
City of Oakland, Fire Department, Chief, Gerald Simon, et al

City of Albany

City of Albany, City Clerk, Jacqueline Bucholz
City of Albany, Administrator, Beth Pollard

El Cerrito and Kensington

El Cerrito Fire Department & Kensington Fire District, Lance Maples, Fire Chief

University of California Office of the President (UCOP)

UCOP, External Relations, Senior Vice President, Dan Dooley
UCOP, Facilities Management, Director, George Getyen et al
UCOP, State Government Relations, Associate Vice President & Director, Steve Juarez
UCOP, Federal Government Relations, Associate Vice President, Gary Falle
UCOP, Office of General Counsel, Chief Campus Counsel, Elisabeth Gunther,
UCOP, FacAdm-Planning, Design & Const., Coordinator - Environmental Planning, Charlotte Strem
UCOP, FacAdm-Planning, Design & Const., Senior Planner, Mary O'Keefe

UC Berkeley

UC Berkeley, Chancellor, Robert Birgeneau
UC Berkeley, Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost, George Breslauer
UC Berkeley, Vice Chancellor for Research, Graham Fleming
UC Berkeley, Associate Chancellor, Government, Community & Campus Liaison, Linda Williams
UC Berkeley, Vice Chancellor-Facilities Services, Edward Denton,

UC Berkeley (continued)

UC Berkeley, Assistant Vice Chancellor-Physical and Environmental Planning, Emily Marthinsen, et al
UC Berkeley, EH&S Director, Mark Freiberg, et al
UC Berkeley, Community Relations, Director, Caleb Dardick
UC Berkeley, Lawrence Hall of Science, Director, Elizabeth Stage, et al
UC Berkeley, Botanical Garden, Paul Licht, Director, et al
UC Berkeley, Police Department, Chief, Mitchell Celaya
UC Berkeley, Campus Landscape Architect, Jim Horner
UC Berkeley, Emergency Services Manager, Tom Klatt
UC Berkeley, Residence Hall Assembly, Oriana Madrigal Zamora, President

Organizations

Berkeley Association of Realtors, Association Executive, Sally Dunker,
Berkeley Chamber of Commerce, Chief Executive Officer, Mark Berson, et al
Campus Parnassus Neighborhood Association, President, Eric Arens
Committee to Minimize Toxic Waste, Co-Chair, Pam Sihvola, et al
Council of Neighborhood Associations/BANA, Secretary, Julie Dickinson
Downtown Berkeley Association, Executive Director, John Caner
Euclid-LeConte Neighbors, Jim Sharp et al
League of Women Voters BAE, President, et al
Nyingma Institute, Program Director, Abbe Blum
Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, President & CEO, Joseph Haraburda
Panoramic Neighborhood Association, President, Jerry Wachtel
Sierra Club, Group Chair, Kent Lewandowski
Urban Creeks Council, UCC Vice Chair, Carole Schemmerling
Friends of Strawberry Creek, Work Programs, Jennifer Pearson
Save Strawberry Canyon, Janice Thomas

Individuals and Neighbors

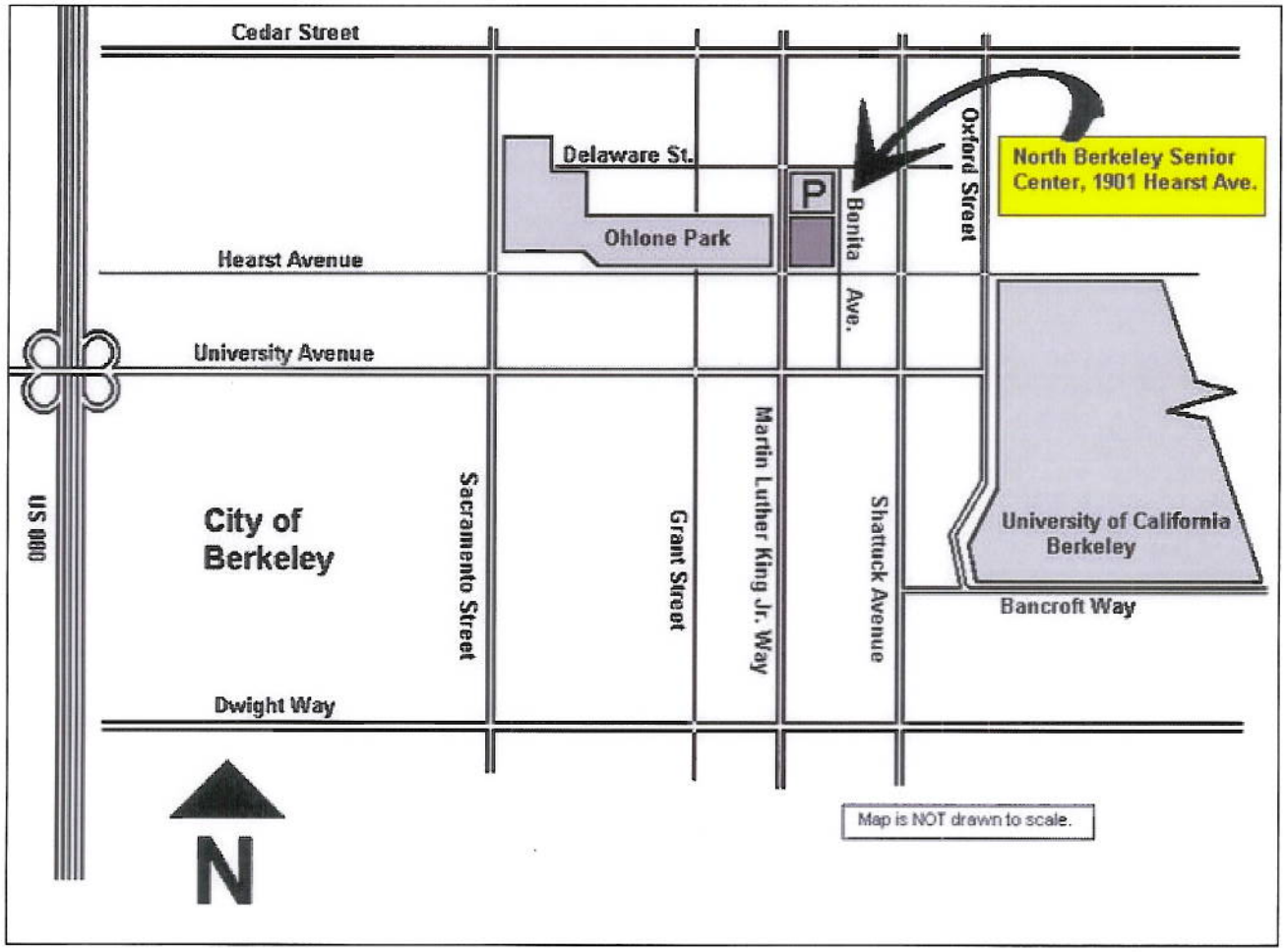
(Various)

ATTACHMENT A: PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

UC LBNL will hold a public scoping meeting open to all interested agencies and members of the public. The meeting is intended to present a brief overview of the Solar Energy Research Center project, to identify environmental resource areas to be analyzed in the Draft EIR, and to invite public comments on the scope of the EIR analyses.

What: Scoping Meeting for the Solar Energy Research Center project EIR

When: May 26, 2010 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Where: North Berkeley Senior Center, Rooms A and B upstairs, 1901 Hearst Street, Berkeley

Parking: Parking is available at the Senior Center and on surrounding streets (see map below)