

*University of California
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*

Solar Energy Research Center Final Environmental Impact Report

SCH # 2010052040



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December 2010

Solar Energy Research Center

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Prepared for:

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the University of California procedures for implementing CEQA, following completion of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), the University is required to consult with and obtain comments from public agencies that have jurisdiction by law or discretionary approval power with respect to the proposed project, and to provide the general public with opportunities to comment on the Draft EIR.

On September 7, 2010, the University of California, as the Lead Agency under CEQA, issued a Draft EIR on the Solar Energy Research Center Project proposed by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (UC LBNL). The Draft EIR was circulated for a 45-day public comment period that ended on October 21, 2010. During this period, UC LBNL held a public meeting on the Draft EIR on September 23, 2010, to receive verbal comments. A court reporter prepared a transcript of the meeting.

The Final EIR is an informational document prepared by the Lead Agency that must be considered by decision makers before approving or denying the proposed project. CEQA Section 15132 specifies that the Final EIR shall consist of the following:

1. The Draft EIR or a revision to the draft.
2. Comments and recommendations received on the Draft EIR either verbatim or in summary form.
3. A list of the persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR.
4. The response of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in review and consultation process.
5. Any other information added by the Lead Agency.

The Draft EIR, which is incorporated by reference, and this document (including the summary, comments, and responses to comments) constitute the Final EIR. Copies of the Final EIR are available for review during normal business hours at UC LBNL at the following address and Web site:

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
One Cyclotron Road, MS 76-234A
Berkeley, California 94720
Contact: Jeff Philliber, Environmental Planning Group Coordinator
planning@lbl.gov
<http://www.lbl.gov/Community/env-rev-docs.html>

This document has been prepared pursuant to the *State CEQA Guidelines*. The Final EIR incorporates comments from public agencies and the general public, and contains responses by the Lead Agency to those comments that are relevant to the Draft EIR analysis. The Board of the Regents of the University of California (The Regents) is responsible for reviewing and certifying the adequacy of this environmental document and making a decision with respect to the proposed project.

1.2 ORGANIZATION OF THIS RESPONSE TO COMMENTS DOCUMENT

This document is organized into three sections. Following this introduction (**Section 1.0**), **Section 2.0, Comments on the Draft EIR and Responses to Comments**, contains a list of persons who presented comments at the September 23, 2010, public hearing; a list of persons, agencies, and organizations that submitted written comments on the Draft EIR; a transcript of the public hearing; reproductions of the written comments; and responses to those comments. Each comment is labeled with a number in the margin. **Section 3.0, Report Preparation**, lists persons involved in the preparation of the Final EIR.