

Docket Optical System - RE: Important Farmland Category for CESF Project

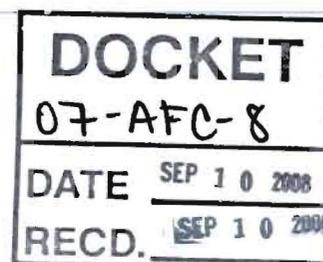
From: "Penberth, Molly" <Molly.Penberth@conservation.ca.gov>
To: "Negar Vahidi" <NVahidi@aspeneg.com>
Date: 8/29/2008 1:36 PM
Subject: RE: Important Farmland Category for CESF Project
CC: "FitzGerald, Karen" <Karen.FitzGerald@conservation.ca.gov>

Hello Negar—

One of our analysts looks at the site in NAIP 2005 imagery along with the material you provided. Under the standard FMMP mapping criteria, the site would be considered Farmland of Local Importance. This is due to its land use (non-irrigated grain). Though the soil units qualify for Prime Farmland, the lack of irrigation precludes that designation.

I hope this answers your question. Thanks for your interest!
Molly Penberth, FMMP Manager

From: Negar Vahidi [mailto:NVahidi@aspeneg.com]
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2008 12:00 PM
To: Penberth, Molly
Cc: Susanne Huerta; Amanda Stennick
Subject: Important Farmland Category for CESF Project



Dear Molly:

Thanks so much for taking the time to speak with me about the Carrizo Solar Energy Farm (CESF) Project Site that is currently being reviewed by the California Energy Commission for licensing. We understand that the CA Department of Conservation has not yet officially mapped the Carrizo Plain area where the CESF is located. However, if you have any information on what the site's designation may be if it were to be mapped it would be very helpful to us. Based on our conversation this morning, attached you will find the following information:

- The LESA Worksheets we've prepared for the CESF project based on information from the Project Applicant, NRCS, and SLO County;
- An aerial map of the CESF project site from the NRCS;
- The NRCS Map Legend and information regarding the soils;
- The Storie Index Ratings for the Carrizo Plains; and
- The Land Capability Classification information based on NRCS data from SLO County.

Hopefully, this is enough information to help facilitate your review of the site's potential land use designation. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number below, or via e-mail.

Again, I really appreciate your time and help in this matter.

Regards,

Negar Vahidi
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