Tessera Solar
power from stirling energy systems

June 11, 2010

DOCKET	
08-AFC-13	
DATE	JUN 11 2010
RECD.	JUN 11 2010

Mr. Christopher Meyer
CEC Project Manager
Attn: Docket No. 08-AFC-13
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Mr. Jim Stobaugh
BLM Project Manager
Attn: Docket No. 08-AFC-13
Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box 12000
Reno, NV 89520

RE: Calico Solar (formerly Solar One) Project (08-AFC-13)
Applicant's Responses to CEC Email Dated June 4th, 2010

Dear Mr. Meyer and Mr. Stobaugh,

At your request, Tessera Solar hereby submits responses to the information requested in the June 4th CEC email to the Calico Solar Project Proof of Service. The Applicant would like to thank CEC for their commitment to meeting the stated schedule.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Sincerely,

Felicia L. Bellows
Vice President of Development

Applicant's Response to CEC Email Dated June 4th, 2010
Calico Solar
June 11, 2010

LAND USE

Request:
A description of the setting of the lands that would be affected by the new components in the AFC Supplement:

Response:

The affected environment resulting from the modifications to the primary Project water supply includes two private parcels that were previously N.A.P. of the Project. The current land use designation for the private lands within the study area and Project Site is Resource Conservation, including the two parcels what were previously N.A.P. According to the San Bernardino County General Plan, one of the purposes of the Resource Conservation zoning is to establish areas where non-agricultural activities are the primary use of the land but where agriculture and compatible uses may coexist. The maximum building height is 35 feet on parcels zoned resource conservation.

Jurisdictions along the transmission line, solar field and access road ROW at the Project Site include the BLM and San Bernardino County. The CEC defines the Affected Environment as the 1-mile area around the boundary of the Project Site. The BLM has jurisdiction over most of the surrounding lands and San Bernardino County has jurisdiction over the remaining private lands that are outside of BLM's jurisdiction.

San Bernardino County has described potential environmental concerns associated with current land use at the Project Site are in the Open Space Element of the General Plan and the Resource Conservation Zone. The County's potential environmental concerns associated with solar energy conversion on private lands are discussed in the San Bernardino County General Plan, (2007). The potential concerns identified are: aesthetic and safety concerns, removal of agricultural land for other purposes, responsible use of open space and resources, erosion and biological concerns in some areas, and water use and chemical spills in the case of solar thermal designs.

The land that would be enclosed within the Project boundary and/or associated infrastructure is not currently used for agricultural production but is undeveloped desert. There is no crop production on the Project Site, within the Project area, or vicinity because the soils of the Project Site and areas within a 5-mile radius of the Project Site are not suitable for irrigated crop production or dry farming according to the San Bernardino County General Plan Agriculture Element.

The rural areas of the Project area contain no parcels of farmland that are protected by the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 (Williamson Act). In addition, the Project area does not contain prime farmlands, farmlands of statewide significance, or farmlands of local importance, and no parcels within the Project area are subject to the Williamson Act. The Project Site is not within any specified agricultural areas and does not contain the preferred soils

or water availability that promotes intensive agricultural use. The Project Site therefore does not contain any farmland areas and will not contribute to loss of productive farmland.

The potential land use effects that relate to the Project are the loss of open space and responsible use of resources. The Project would permanently change the nature of land use at the Project Site from Resource Conservation to an intensive utility for the generation of renewable electrical power. Solar energy conversion is an allowable use for the Project area, pursuant to a Conditional Use Permit, according to the San Bernardino County Department of Planning. With the granting of a CUP and General Plan Amendment under a Hypothetical County Process, the Project would be in compliance with the goals and policies of the San Bernardino County General Plan and the provisions of the LUO (San Bernardino County 2008e). However, the majority of the Project Site is comprised of BLM-administered public land and is managed under the CDCA Plan and the county is not the jurisdictional authority for the Project. Compliance with land use designations at the Project Site would require BLM review and approval.

Request:
A listing of San Bernardino County LORS that are directly applicable to siting of the new components on county private lands.

Response:

Please see the following LORS table updated to include local LORs.

Table 1
Local Laws, Ordinances, Regulations and Standards

LORS	**Applicability**
Local Jurisdiction	
San Bernardino County General Plan, Conservation Element *Policy 6.3, Program 1*	Utilize the provisions of the Williamson Act to further the preservation of commercially viable agricultural open space and designate preserves on the Land Use Policy Maps.
San Bernardino County General Plan, Land Use Element	Serves as a guide for the County of San Bernardino's future development. It designates the distribution and general location of land uses, such as residential, retail, industrial, open space, recreation and public areas. It also addresses the permitted density and intensity of the various land use designations.

Table 1
Local Laws, Ordinances, Regulations and Standards
Continued

LORS	**Applicability**
San Bernardino County General Plan, Land Use Element	*Policy 4.1*- Protect areas best suited for industrial activity by virtue of their location and other criteria from residential and other incompatible uses.
	Goal 7- The distribution of land uses will be consistent with the maintenance of environmental quality, conservation of natural resources, and the preservation of open spaces.
	Goal 9- Development will be in a contiguous manner as much as possible to minimize environmental impacts, minimize public infrastructure and service costs, and further countywide economic development goals.
	Goal 11- Promote mutually beneficial uses of land to address regional problems through coordination and cooperation among the County, the incorporated cities, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), the various special districts and other local, state and federal agencies.
	Policy 11.1- Foster intergovernmental cooperation among federal, state and local agencies on key land use decisions.
	Policy 11.2- Establish a "review area" around each state, military, or other federal installation, and review development proposals within each review area with the appropriate agency.
	Policy 11.3- Work with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Park Service, and other public agencies to eliminate conflicts between public and private lands, and to designate and protect wilderness and restricted natural areas.
San Bernardino County General Plan, Land Use Element-Desert Region	*Goal 1*- Maintain land use patterns in the Desert Region that enhance the rural environment and preserve the quality of life of the residents of the region.
	Policy 3.1- Ensure that commercial and industrial development within the region is compatible with the rural desert character and meets the needs of local residents.

Table 1
Local Laws, Ordinances, Regulations and Standards
Continued

LORS	**Applicability**
San Bernardino County Development Code *82.06.060* Industrial and Special Purpose Land Use Zoning Site Planning and Building Standards	Subdivisions, new land uses and structures, and alterations to existing land uses and structures, shall be designed, constructed, and established in compliance with these requirements.
San Bernardino County Development Code *83.01.020* General Performance Standards	Performance standards for development within the county that promotes compatibility with surrounding areas and land uses. Performance standards are designed to mitigate the environmental impacts of existing and proposed land uses within a community.
San Bernardino County Development Code *83.01.050* Electrical Disturbances	No activity, land use, or process shall cause electrical disturbance that adversely affects persons or the operation of equipment across lot lines and that does not conform to the regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.
San Bernardino County Water, Wastewater, Land Use Section Well Water Sharing Guidelines of the San Bernardino County Environmental Health Services	Well sharing may only take place between contiguous parcels. To avoid an inconsistency with this LORS, the lots (APN 0529-281-28 and APN 0529-281-34) will be merged.

The San Bernardino County General Plan, Land Use Element, initially adopted in June 1989 and most recently revised in March 2007, reflects the vision and contains the goals of the County with respect to development. The Land Use Element designates the distribution and general location of land uses such as residential, retail, industrial, open space, recreation and public areas. The main purpose of the Land Use Element is to identify the goals, policies and standards of the San Bernardino General Plan that will guide the physical growth of San Bernardino County.

Request:
A discussion of any potential incompatibilities as a result of construction- or operation-related impacts associated with siting of these newly proposed components.

Response:

Under a hypothetical county planning process, the construction of the Project would require a CUP and associated building, construction, and grading permits. A General Plan Amendment application must be concurrently filed and approved to apply the new Energy Facility (EF)

Overlay. The Development Code (San Bernardino County 2007) designates land use within the planning area by land use category. The current land use designation for the private lands within the study area and Project Site is Resource Conservation. Other regional uses are primarily open space with some rural residences related, small towns and villages such as Daggett and Newberry Springs, and the larger urban area of Barstow, and Twentynine Palms military base. Open space areas to the north, east, and west of the Project area are also governed by BLM. The Project does not conflict with any applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations within the General Plan Elements of the County General Plan.

The Project is in accordance with the policies of the San Bernardino County General Plan (2007) and zoning designations at the Project Site. The privately owned portions of the Project Site are designated S-2 Open Space and the proposed use has been an allowable use in the S-2 Zone according to the San Bernardino County Land Use Services Department. The Project must comply with the provisions of the General Plan Elements discussed here.

According to the land use goals and policies of the San Bernardino County General Plan, Conservation Element, the Project Site is compatible with solar energy conversion. In the Conservation Element, Goal 8 includes language that encourages energy conservation and the encouragement of new energy saving or supply technologies such as solar energy technologies. Furthermore, the Project supports the following goals and objectives found in this element:

GOAL CO 4: The County will ensure good air quality for its residents, businesses, and visitors to reduce impacts on human health and the economy.

- CO 4.12: Provide incentives to promote siting or use of clean air technologies (e.g., fuel cell technologies, renewable energy sources, UV coatings, and hydrogen fuel).

GOAL CO 8: The County will minimize energy consumption and promote safe energy extraction, uses, and systems to benefit local regional and global environmental goals.

- CO 8.1: Maximize the beneficial effects and minimize the adverse effects associated with the siting of major energy facilities. The County will site energy facilities equitably in order to minimize net energy use and consumption of natural resources, and avoid inappropriately burdening certain communities. Energy planning should conserve energy and reduce peak load demands, reduce natural resource consumption, minimize environmental impacts, and treat local communities fairly in providing energy efficiency programs and locating energy facilities.
- CO 8.3: Assist in efforts to develop alternative energy technologies that have minimum adverse effect on the environment, and explore and promote newer opportunities for the use of alternative energy sources.

Although the Project would contrast significantly with the surrounding land use in terms of character, the Project is an allowable use requiring a CUP within the Resource Conservation zone; thus, the Project would not require variance in noise levels, use regulations, or LUO.

Additionally, the Project will comply with the San Bernardino County Water, Wastewater, and Land Use Section Well Water Sharing Guidelines of the San Bernardino County Environmental Health Services. The County Zoning Ordinance allows the parcels to be merged through a lot line adjustment and/or certificate of compliance, if and when the parcels are contiguous or

adjacent, under single ownership, in the same County tax rate area, have current and paid taxes, and as long as the merged parcels would not be deprived of legal access or result in the access of adjoining parcels being deprived. Because the two private parcels intersected by the well and waterline meet each of these conditions, typical processing times for lot mergers in San Bernardino County are approximately four to six weeks. The Applicant has initiated this process with San Bernardino County. The water well development and waterline would be consistent with the 35-ft. maximum building height allowed on parcels zoned Resource Conservation.

SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES

Request:
The maximum flow that will not result in damage to site features

Response:

The stormwater management design parameters for the Suncatchers are not based on maximum flow rates but rather maximum flow depth and flow velocity. In order to prevent inundation of electrical equipment in the Suncatcher, the Owner has specified a maximum flow depth of 1.5 feet. Flow velocity is related to the scour potential at each Suncatcher foundation. The Owner has specified a maximum scour depth of 4 feet, which equals a flow velocity of approximately 7 feet-per-second based upon the existing soil type and terrain.

Huitt-Zollars submitted a preliminary hydrology report to the CEC (April 2009) that analyzed the alluvial fan for flow velocity, scour, and flow depth for the 100-year storm. The report identified three hazard zones for the alluvial fan north of the BNSF railroad. The highest hazard zone was identified as the northern 1/3 of the project area at the foot of the Cady Mountains. This area produces the flood depths and scour potential that approach the maximums specified by the Owner. This hydrology report indicates this area has nominal flood depths of 1-2 feet and scour potential of 4-5 feet. Also, the large wash south of the railroad will likely have areas that exceed a 2 foot depth for the 100-year storm.

Since the latest Huitt-Zollars report presented in August 2009, the northern limit of the Suncatcher layout has moved southerly approximately 5000 feet due to biological constraints around the Cady Mountains. The number of Suncatchers in the highest hazard area has been reduced from approximately 1900 acres to 650 acres, a reduction of 66%. As you move southerly, the flood depth and scour hazards become much less than the allowable maximum. However, Suncatcher areas that may be near the maximum depth and scour thresholds will be indentified in the final drainage report. Suncatchers that exceed the 1.5 foot depth flow depth will be mitigated in some fashion to avoid inundation. Suncatchers that exceed the 4 foot scour depth will be mitigated in some fashion to accommodate the scour depth.

Please see attached figure and table for additional information.

Request:
Flow rate and volume discharge resulting from the 100 year storm for each drainage on which basins will be constructed.

Response:

Flow rate and volume discharge from each detention basin will be determined upon completion of the final hydrology report. However, the volume for the low flow storms (5 year and less) will pass through the detentions basins, while the larger storm events will be attenuated to reduce the peak flows while increasing the time storm water flows in the existing natural basins. Peak flow attenuation will be approximately 20%. Please see the attached table for preliminary flow rates and storage volumes for the basins.

Request:
Final location and size of each basin

Response:

Final configuration and size of the detention basins will be determined upon completion of the final hydrology report based upon the final field layout. The site plan has 596 acres set aside for storm water controls, sediment controls, and/or debris catchment features. The majority of the acreage is allotted along the north property boundary with the remaining area being located between the phasing boundary as illustrated on the attached exhibit. Please see the figures provided for additional information showing preliminary contours and footprints of the basins.

Request:
Design of each basin which includes: plan view, cross section view, depth, volume, and description of designed sidewall slopes, method of armoring side walls, inlet design, inlet erosion control, basin scour prevention design, outlet design, outlet maximum flow, outlet to existing drainage transition design, method of allowing sediment to pass through basin, method of allowing all flows less than design flow to pass unheeded through basin, overtopping basin prevention, and tortoise fence location and design.

Response:

The site plan shows the general proximity of potential storm water controls, sediment controls, and/or debris catchment features including detention basins, berms, and other debris catchment features. Also included is a typical basin cross section view. The final configuration, depths, volumes, and discharge volumes will be provided upon completion of the final field design as part of the final drainage report; however, the drawings provided are a good indication of the expected final plan. Please see attached figures for additional information.

Request:
Method of mitigating flows impacting fence, and maintenance schedule for the tortoise fence.

Response:

The flows impacting the fence will be determined as part of the final drainage report. The overall plan will be developed as part of the Biological Resources Mitigation Implementation and Monitoring Plan that is currently being prepared. Possible mitigation measures include construction of a debris catch that will capture large debris that could potentially damage the

fence. The fence will be inspected after every major rainfall event and required maintenance will be completed at the time of inspection.

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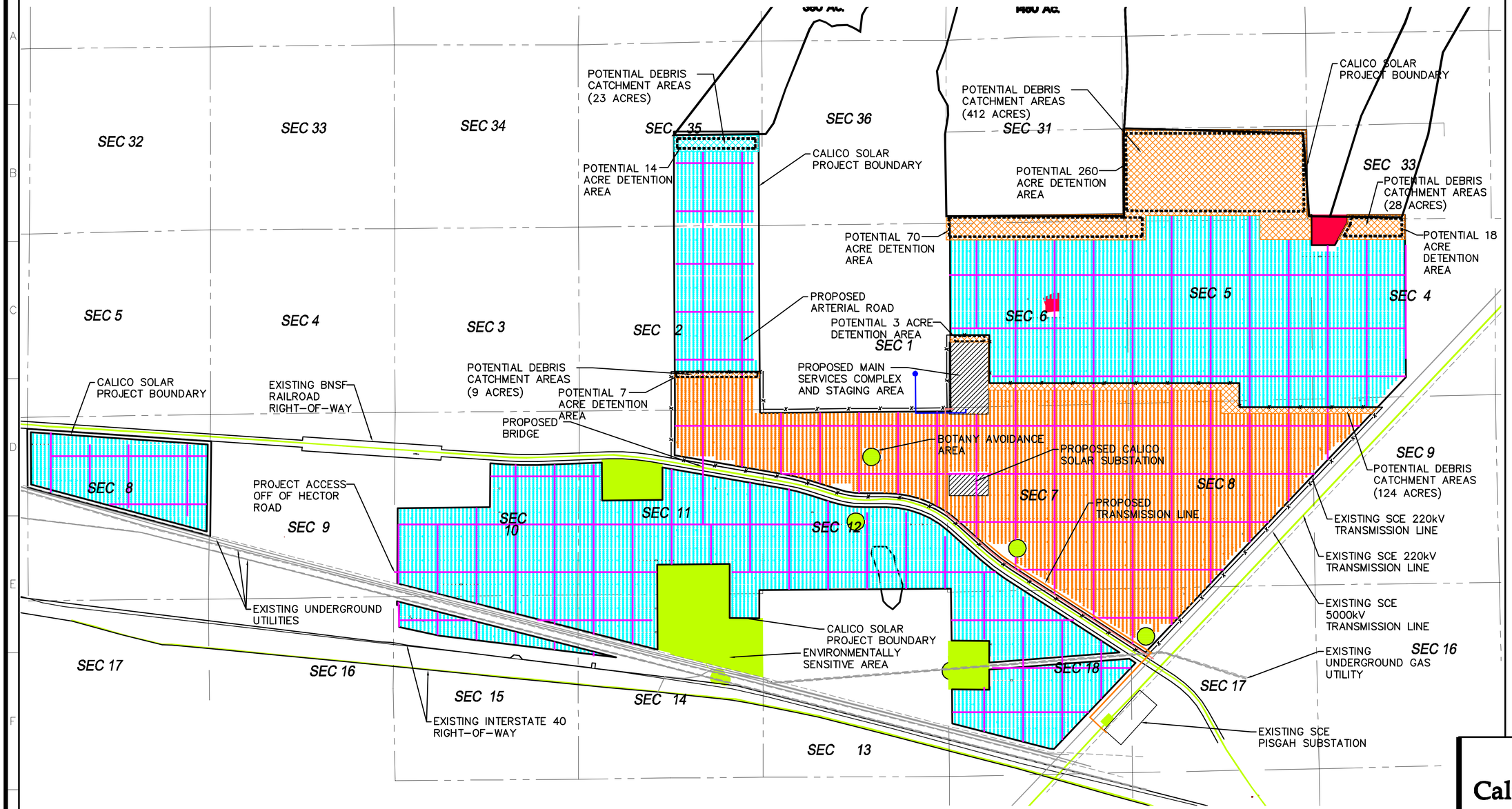

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Mortenson construction
700 Meadow Lane
Minneapolis, MN 55440

LEGEND:

- SUNCATCHER UNIT ARRAY–PHASE 1
- SUNCATCHER UNIT ARRAY–PHASE 2
- PROPOSED PROJECT FACILITIES
- PROPOSED ARTERIAL ROAD
- POTENTIAL DEBRIS CATCHMENT AREA LOCATION–PHASE 1
- POTENTIAL DEBRIS CATCHMENT AREA LOCATION–PHASE 2
- ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS
- UNBUILDABLE AREA
- PROPOSED WATERLINE
- PROPOSED TRANSMISSION LINE
- PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION LINE AND COMMUNICATION ROUTE
- POTENTIAL DETENTION AREA

N

0' 1500' 3000' 4500'

Calico Solar

San Bernardino County, California

Overall Site Plan

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Solar Array:
Suncatcher dated 06/02/10

Date: 06/09/10

Sheet: 1 OF 1

20101055Basin.dwg

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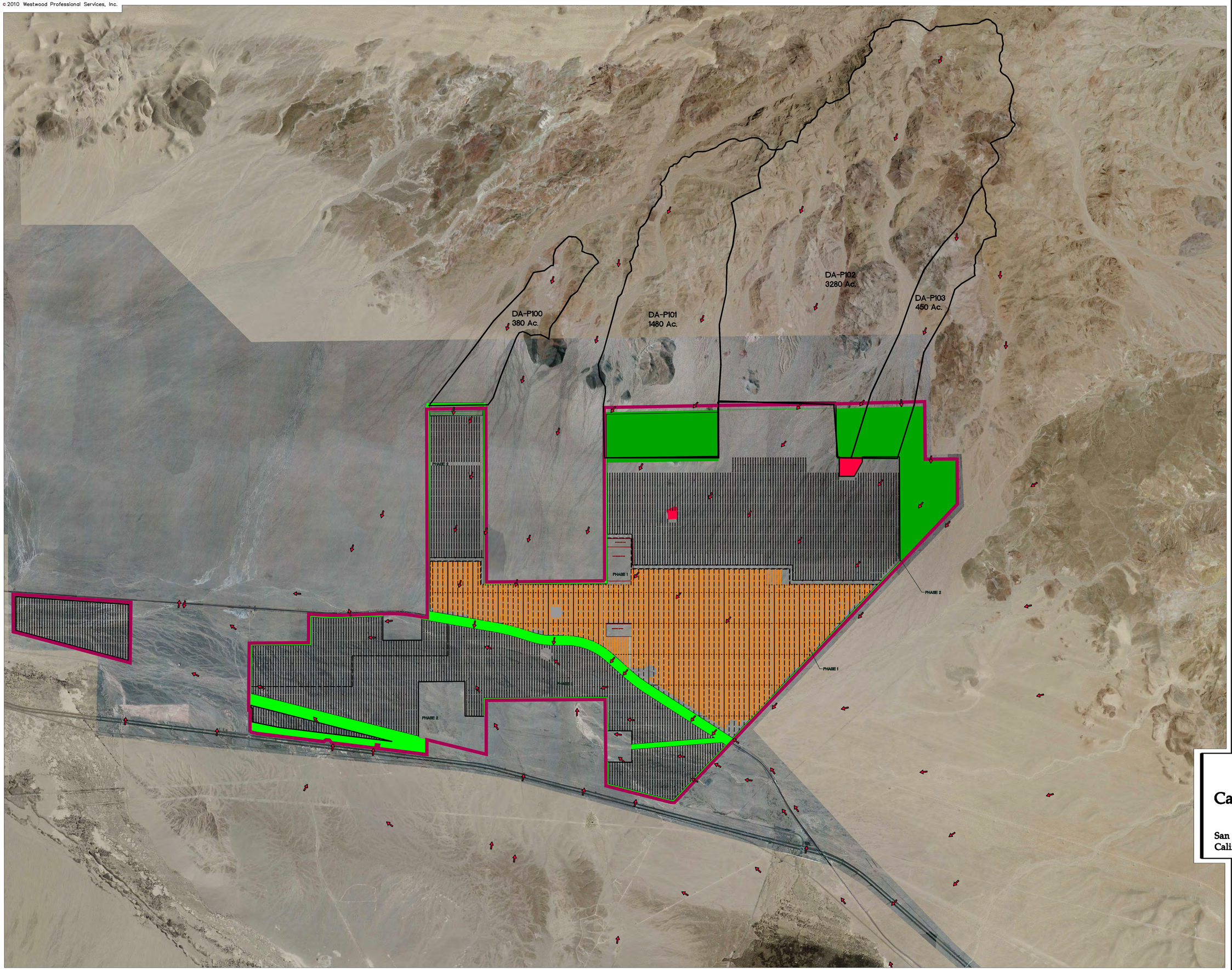

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LEGEND:

- SUNCATCHER ARRAY–PHASE 1
- SUNCATCHER ARRAY–PHASE 2
- PROPOSED LAYDOWN/STAGING AREA
- PROPOSED SUBSTATION LOCATION
- PROP. MAIN ACCESS ROAD–PH 1
- PROP. MAINTENANCE ROAD–PH 1
- PROP. MAIN ACCESS ROAD–PH 2
- PROP. MAINTENANCE ROAD–PH 2
- EXISTING PAVED ROAD
- EXISTING GRAVEL ROAD
- EXISTING 2' CONTOURS
- 980 EXISTING 10' CONTOURS
- EXISTING STREAM LINE
- EXISTING HUC–12 WATERSHED
- PROPOSED WATERSHED BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED PROJECT BOUNDARY
- DRAINAGE FLOW DIRECTION

N

0' 1500' 3000' 4500'

Calico Solar

San Bernardino County, California

Proposed Pond Drainage Area Map

Solar Array:
Suncatcher dated 05/19/10

Date: 06/10/10

Sheet: 1 OF 1

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Calico Solar

Preliminary Debris/Detention **Basin** Sizing along Northern Project Boundary

June 10, 2010

Assumptions

*Use SCS TR-20 to calculate Hydrology, Type-II storm, 100-year event=3.54"
*Use CN=92 for mountain areas (Type D soil, poor vegetation)
*Final Hydrology to be completed using San Bernardino County Drainage Manual methods
*Break drainage into 4 areas.
*Assume basin depths of approximately 15' deep
*Actual basin locations/footprint/number of basins/Storage etc will vary based on how the natural slope direction intersects the northern property (perpendicular, skewed, etc)
*Actual basin storage volumes/outlets/etc will be determined during final design
*Outlet is multiple 40'-wide broad crested weirs per basin (number varies)

Draiange Area	Drainage Area (acres)	Inflow (cfs)	Outflow (cfs)	Inflow Volume (ac-ft)	Basin Storage Volume (ac-ft)	Number of weir outlets
DA-P100	380	860	30	84	70	2
DA-P101	1480	2270	670	330	190	3
DA-P102	3280	4650	1620	730	400	4
DA-P103	450	780	510	100	45	2
Totals	5590	8560	2830	1244	705	

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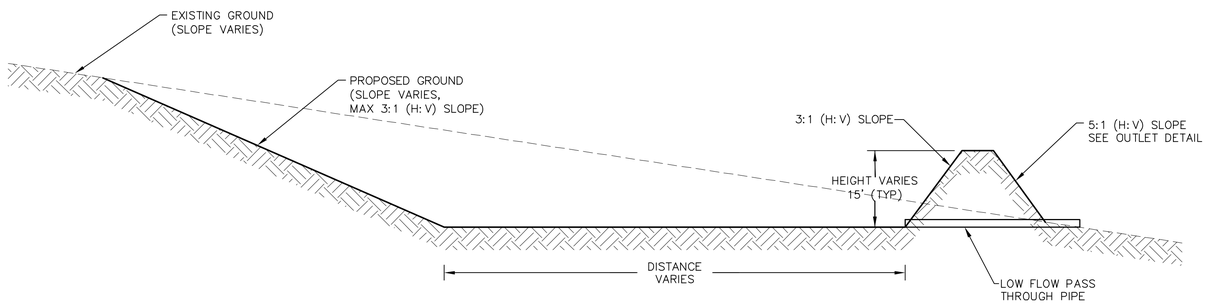
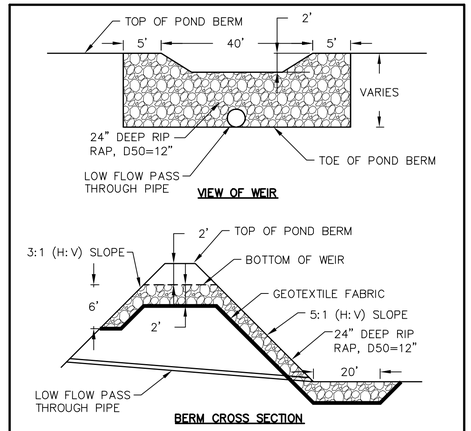


TYPICAL POND SECTION (PROFILE VIEW)

LAST REVISED: 06/10/10

PD03



TYPICAL POND OUTLET

LAST REVISED: 06/10/10

PD04

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San Bernardino County, California

Pond Details

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Solar Array:
Suncatcher dated 04/23/10

Date: 06/10/10

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Pond Cross Section.dwg

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LEGEND:

SUNCATCHER UNIT

DETENTION BASIN GRADING AREA

N

0' 1000' 2000' 3000

Calico Solar

San Bernardino County, California

Overall

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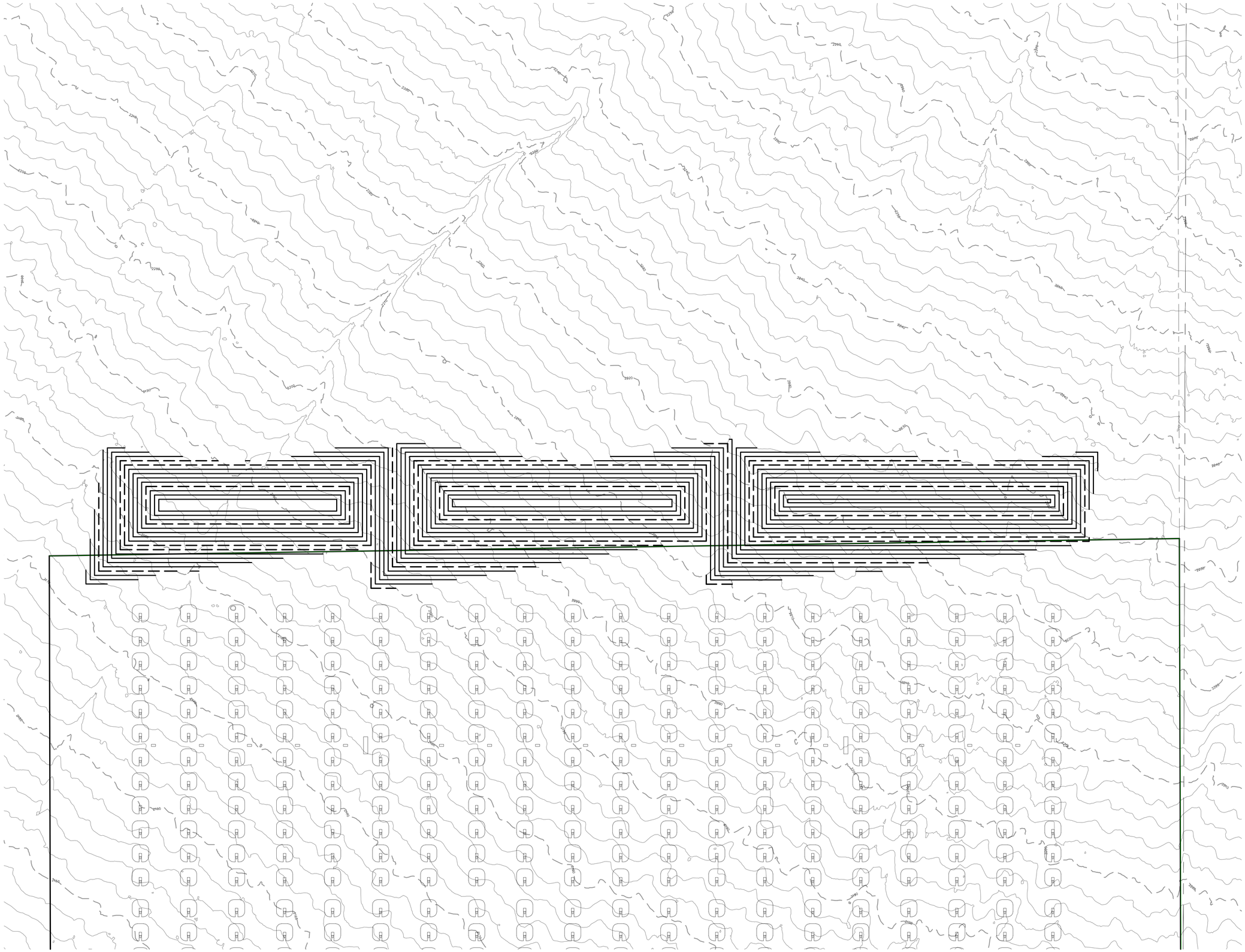

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LEGEND:

- SUNCATCHER UNIT ARRAY–PHASE 1
- SUNCATCHER UNIT ARRAY–PHASE 2
- PROPOSED MAIN ACCESS ROAD
- PROPOSED MAIN ACCESS ROAD–PHASE 2
- PROPOSED MAINTENANCE ROAD
- PROPOSED MAINTENANCE ROAD–PHASE 2
- PROPOSED 2' CONTOURS
- 980 PROPOSED 10' CONTOURS
- EXISTING PAVED ROAD
- EXISTING GRAVEL ROAD
- EXISTING 2' CONTOURS
- 980 EXISTING 10' CONTOURS
- EXISTING STREAM LINE

N

0' 100' 200' 300'

Calico Solar

San Bernardino County, California

North West Detention Area

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N

0' 100' 200' 300'

Calico Solar

San Bernardino County, California

North Central Detention Area

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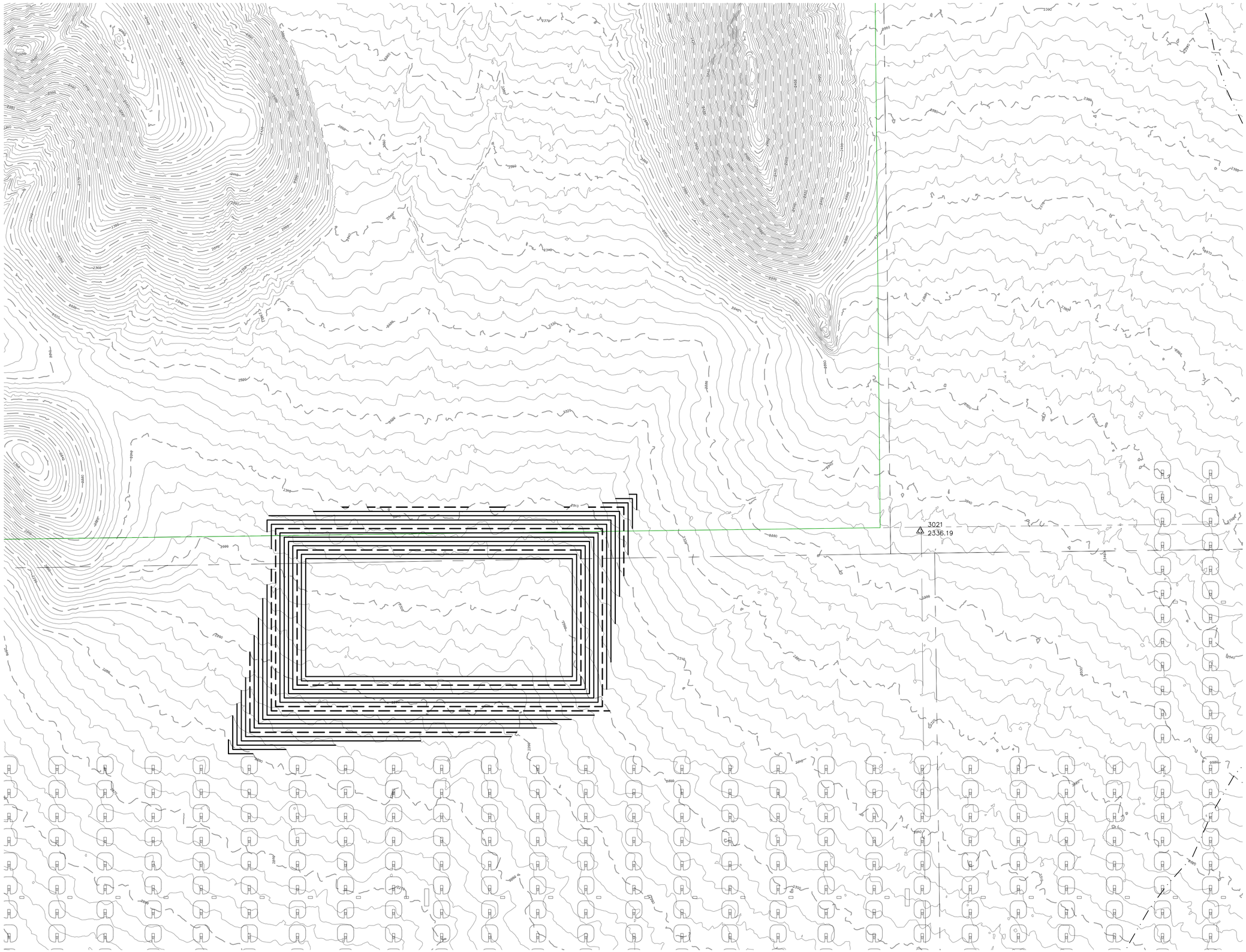

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San Bernardino County, California

North Central Detention Area

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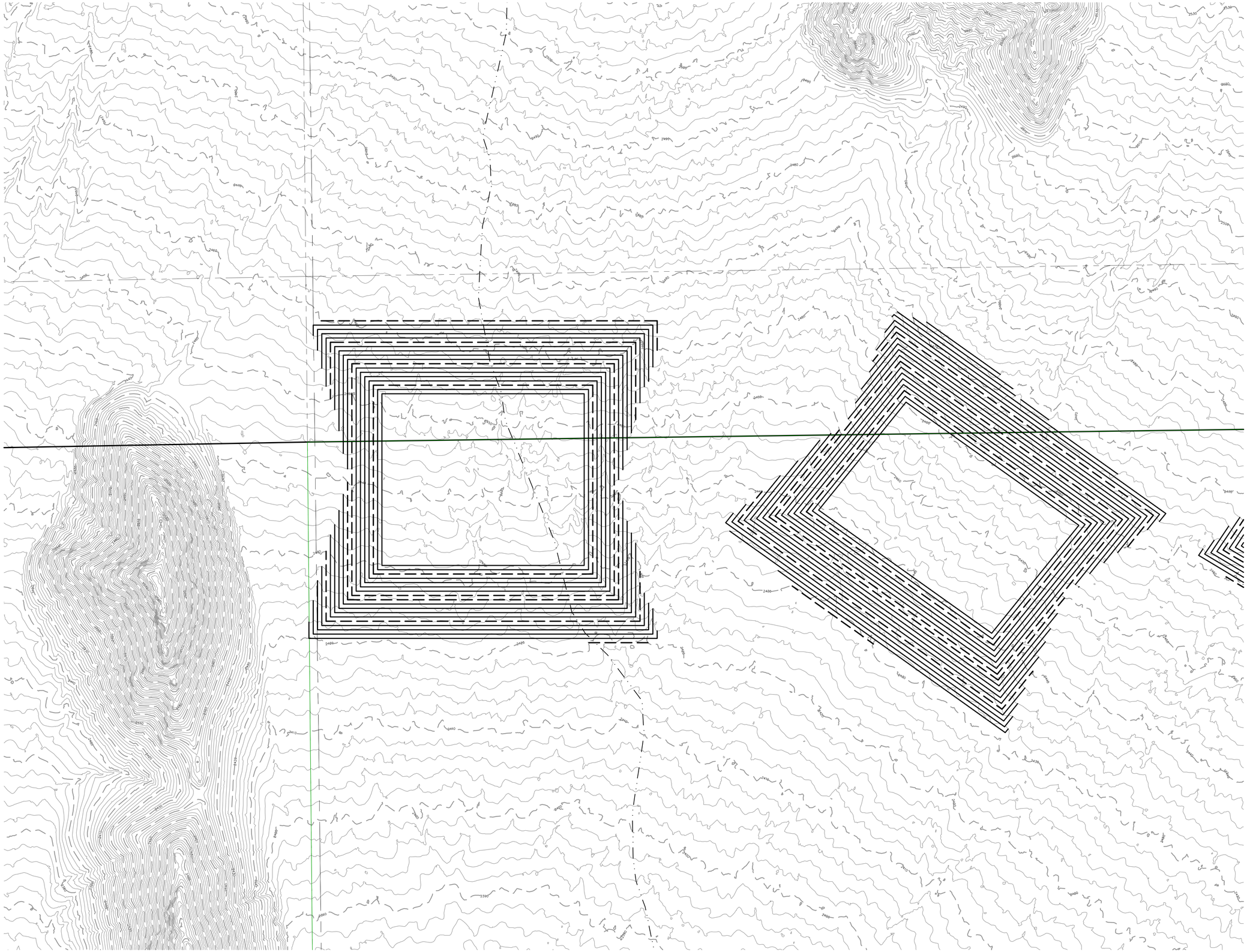

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- EXISTING PAVED ROAD
- EXISTING GRAVEL ROAD
- EXISTING 2' CONTOURS
- 980 EXISTING 10' CONTOURS
- EXISTING STREAM LINE

N

0' 100' 200' 300'

Calico Solar

San Bernardino County, California

North East Detention Area

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Date: 06/10/10
Sheet: 5 OF 8

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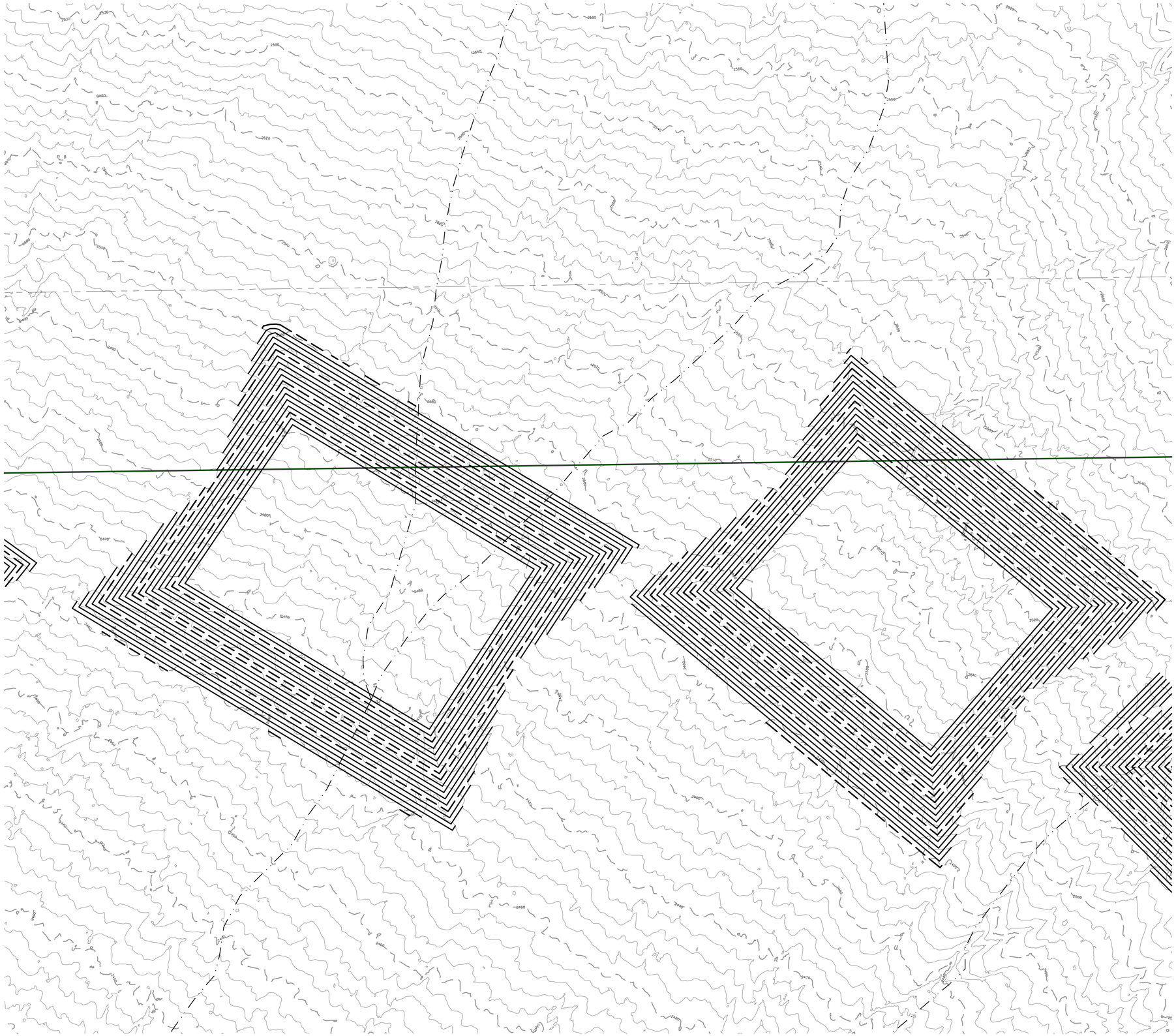

Westwood

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FAX 952-937-5822
TOLL FREE 1-888-937-5150

www.westwoodps.com

Designed: RSC
Checked: DDB
Drawn: KAB
Record Drawing by/date:

Revisions:

#	DATE	DESCRIPTION

Prepared for:

Mortenson construction
700 Meadow Lane
Minneapolis, MN 55440

LEGEND:

- SUNCATCHER UNIT ARRAY–PHASE 1
- SUNCATCHER UNIT ARRAY–PHASE 2
- PROPOSED MAIN ACCESS ROAD
- PROPOSED MAIN ACCESS ROAD–PHASE 2
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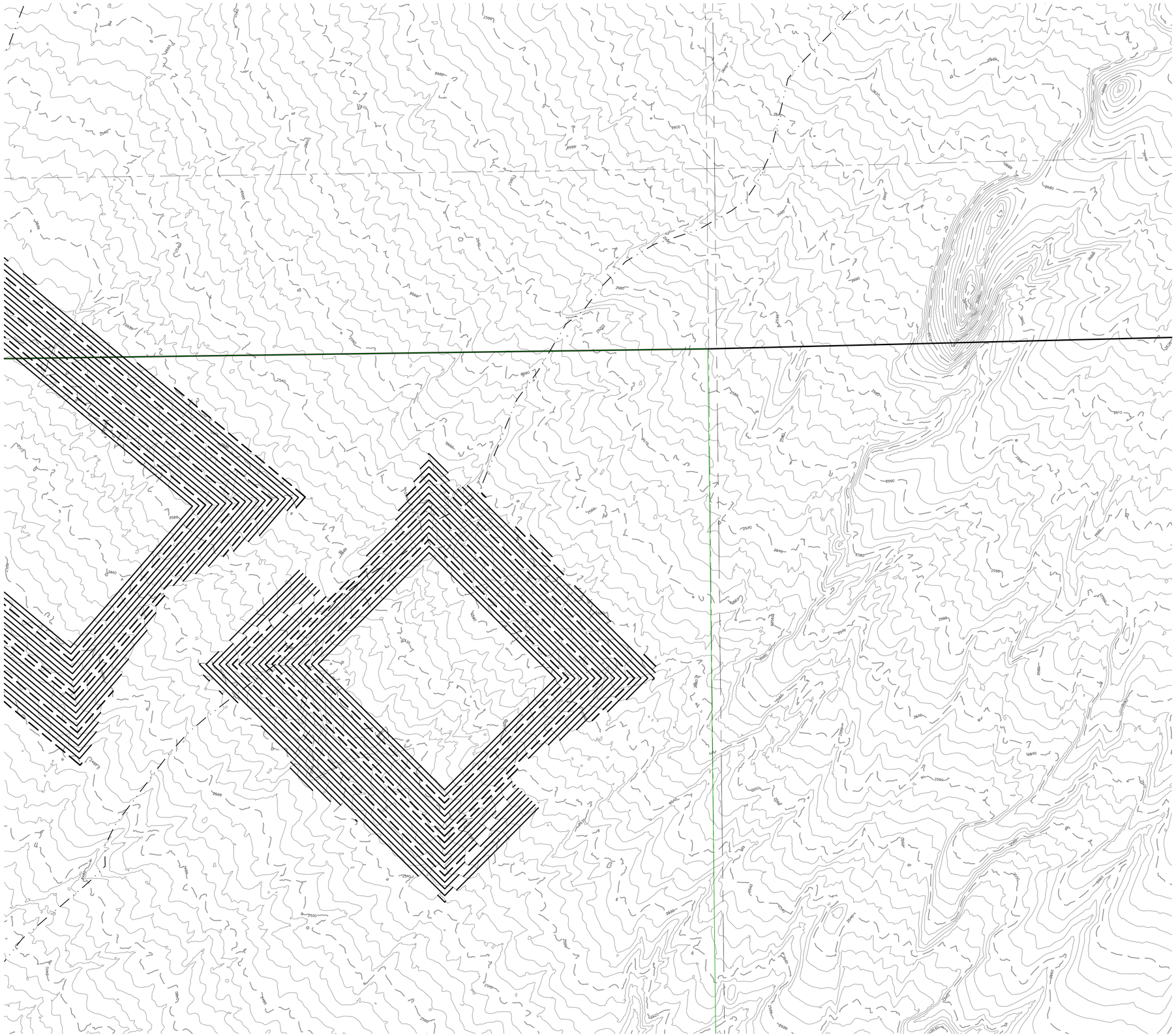

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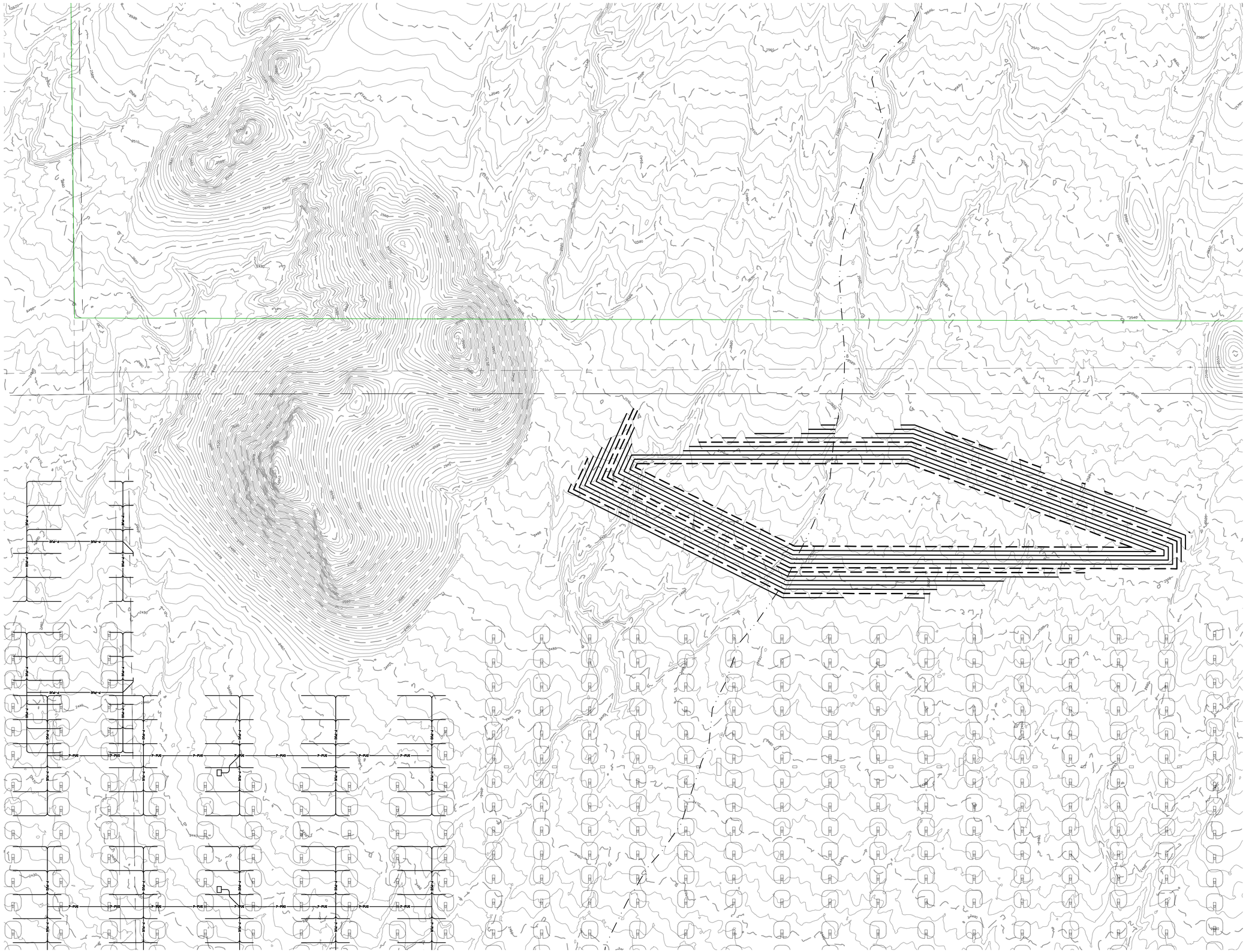

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BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
1516 NINTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
1-800-822-6228 – WWW.ENERGY.CA.GOV

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
For the CALICO SOLAR (Formerly SES Solar One)

Docket No. 08-AFC-13

PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 5/11/10)

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*indicates change

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Corinne Lytle, declare that on June 11, 2010, I mailed hard copies of the attached Applicant's Response to CEC's email dated June 4, 2010. The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is accompanied by a copy of the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: [www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solarone].

The documents have been sent to both the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit, in the following manner:

(*Check all that Apply*)

FOR SERVICE TO ALL OTHER PARTIES:

_X_ sent electronically to all email addresses on the Proof of Service list;

____ by personal delivery;

_X_ by delivering on this date, for mailing with the United States Postal Service with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid, to the name and address of the person served, for mailing that same day in the ordinary course of business; that the envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on that date to those addresses NOT marked "email preferred."

AND

FOR FILING WITH THE ENERGY COMMISSION:

_X_ sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, mailed and emailed respectively, to the address below (*preferred method*);

OR

____ depositing in the mail an original and 12 paper copies, as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
Attn: Docket No. 08-AFC-13
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.state.ca.us

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, that I am employed in the county where this mailing occurred, and that I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the proceeding.

Original Signed By
Corinne Lytle

*indicates change