

Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
Contact: Magdalena Rodriguez
Phone: (909) 844-2520

Lead Agency
same

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code

State Clearinghouse Number: 2021030614

Project Title: Mesa Wind Repower Project (Legacy Turbine Decommissioning)

Project Applicant: Mesa Wind Power Corporation (Mesa Corp)

Project Location (include county): County of Riverside, State of California.

Project Description: The Project approved for purposes of this notice is an Amendment to the CESA ITP that CDFW issued for the Mesa Wind Repower Project in May 2021 (2081-2019-048-06). The ITP issued in May authorizes take, subject to conditions, of Mojave desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) incidental to construction, operation and maintenance, and future decommissioning of 8 new wind turbine generators, with 98.0 acres of related ground disturbance. CDFW issued the ITP as a CEQA lead agency after adopting an MND. The Amendment approved by CDFW authorizes additional take of the covered species, including 17.4 acres of additional ground disturbance, subject to conditions, to remove 346 legacy turbines and, when removed, to restore the roads and pads in the area to a natural condition. CDFW approved the Amendment as a CEQA lead agency, relying on an Addendum to the prior MND.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as a Lead Agency, approved the above-described project on September 13, 2021, and has made the following determinations regarding the project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (i):

1. The project will / will not have a significant effect on the environment. This determination is limited to effects within CDFW's permitting jurisdiction as a Responsible Agency.
2. CDFW considered the environmental impact report prepared by the Lead Agency for this project pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15096, subdivision (f).
3. Mitigation measures were / were not made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A statement of overriding considerations was / was not adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings were / were not made by CDFW pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 15091.

The final environmental impact report prepared for the project is available to the general public at the office location listed above.

DocuSigned by:

 Signature _____ Date: 9/13/2021
 Leslie MacNair
 Regional Manager
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Date Received for filing at OPR: _____