

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



March 28, 2019

Subject: Estrella Substation and Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project (A.17-01-023) – Draft Alternatives Screening Report Available for Review and Comment

Dear Project Stakeholder,

The Draft Alternatives Screening Report (ASR) for the Estrella Substation and Paso Robles Area Reinforcement Project is being circulated for a public comment period that will conclude on May 2, 2019. The Draft ASR will be posted and available for download at the Project website:

www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/horizonh2o/estrella/index.html

Comments should be submitted to the Project email address: estrellaproject@horizonh2o.com

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will consider comments on the Draft ASR during preparation of the Final ASR, which will be included as an appendix to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Summary of Alternatives Screening Results

As described in detail in the Draft ASR, the following alternatives have been identified for full analysis in the Draft EIR:

- Alternative Substation Site (SS)-1: McDonald Ranch Substation Site
- Alternative Power Line Route (PLR)-1: Estrella Route (Variations: PLR-1A, PLR-1C, and PLR-1D)
- Alternative PLR-3: Strategic Undergrounding
- Alternative Substation Expansion (SE)-1: Templeton Substation Expansion
- Alternative SE-PLR-2: Templeton-Paso South River Road Route
- Alternative Battery Storage (BS)-1: Battery Storage to Address Transmission Objective (in front of the meter, i.e., the utility's side of the meter) (Variations: BS-1A, BS-1B, BS-1C, BS-1D, and BS-1E)
- Alternative BS-2: Battery Storage to Address Distribution Objective (in front of the meter)
- Alternative BS-3: Behind the Meter Battery Storage (i.e., customer side of the meter; further analysis still pending)

The attached Figure 3-1 from the Draft ASR identifies these alternatives and additional alternatives considered in the Draft ASR.

Additional Information on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process

For questions about the report or the CEQA review process, please contact Tom Engels, Horizon Water and Environment, at 916/790-8548. The Draft EIR is currently in preparation and will be informed by the Draft ASR. Once the Draft EIR is completed, it will be circulated for public review, and the CPUC will accept comments on it and hold a public meeting. A date for Draft EIR circulation has not yet been set.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Peterson".

Robert Peterson
Project Manager
Energy Division, CEQA Unit