DUDEK

Public Scoping Meeting for the Lithium Valley Specific Plan Program EIR







Public Scoping Meeting - Purpose

- Gain public input on the scope and content of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)
- Significant Environmental Impacts
- Reasonable Alternatives
- Public Review Start Dec 7, 2023
- Public Review End Jan 12, 2024





Project Timeline: Where Are We Now?

Fall 2022
Project
Initiation +
Data
Collection

Early 2023
Existing
Condition
Reports*

Summer/Fall 2023 Land Use Alternatives* and NOP

Early 2024

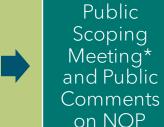
Draft
Specific
Plan*

Early 2024 Draft PEIR Spring 2024
Public
Review*

Summer 2024 Final Specific Plan + Final PEIR

* Includes community engagement

Notice of Preparation (NOP) for PEIR Scoping*





Draft
Specific Plan
and
Continue
Public
Outreach
Program

Prepare



Based on NOP Responses prepare Admin and Draft PEIR



Notice of Availability for Draft PEIR - 45 Day Public Review*



Prepare Responses to Comments



Prepare Final Specific Plan and PEIR

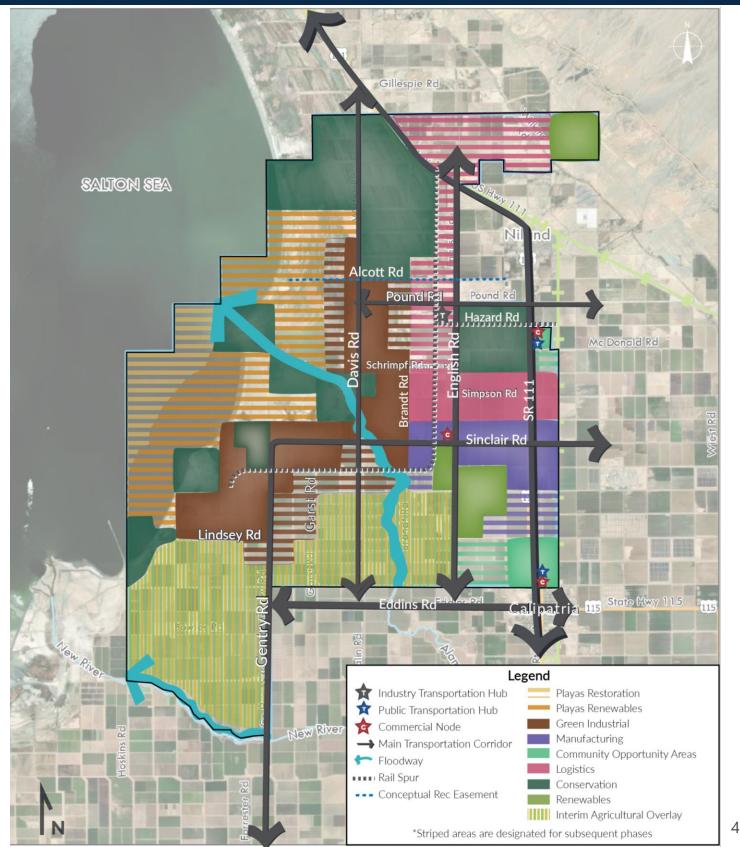


BOS Public Hearing to Certify PEIR* and Approve Specific Plan

Scope Overview

- Specific Plan for approximately 51,000 acres
- ~121 Million sq. ft. of buildings
- ~60,000 jobs
- ~93,000 acre-feet water consumption





Scope Overview

- Considers the existing conditions (baseline)
- Evaluates the impacts of the proposed land uses for Specific Plan Implementation

GREEN INDUSTRIAL: These has areas have a focus on geothermal energy production plants, however, would allow for additional industrial uses that support the goal of decarbonizing the energy industry. This designation may allow for industrial plants, and storage, distribution, and administrative facilities, including uses conducted outside of an enclosed building. The Specific Plan may restrict the use of certain products, processes, or manufacturing equipment due to external effects. Allowed uses may include, but not limited to, geothermal energy production and mineral recovery, biofuel generation, and green hydrogen. Ancillary uses may include, but not limited to, supportive manufacturing, commercial, logistics, and battery manufacturing and storage.

MANUFACTURING: This designation provides suitable industrial, office, and warehouse space for manufacturers of goods. Manufacturing may include compounding, processing, assembling, packaging, treatment or fabrication of materials and products such as electric vehicle batteries. Allowed uses may include, but not limited to, manufacturing, research and development, workforce training, industrial parks, and temporary construction housing. Ancillary uses may include, but not limited to, geothermal and mineral recovery, logistics, office, commercial, and battery storage.

LOGISTICS: The areas identified for Logistics provide suitable space for the warehousing and distribution that allows for a variety of suppliers and services. Logistics activities may include, but not limited to, logistic facilities, industrial transportation hubs, outdoor storage of trucks, trailers, and shipping containers, and temporary construction housing. Ancillary uses may include, but not limited to, geothermal and mineral recovery, manufacturing facilities, office, employee services and property management facilities.

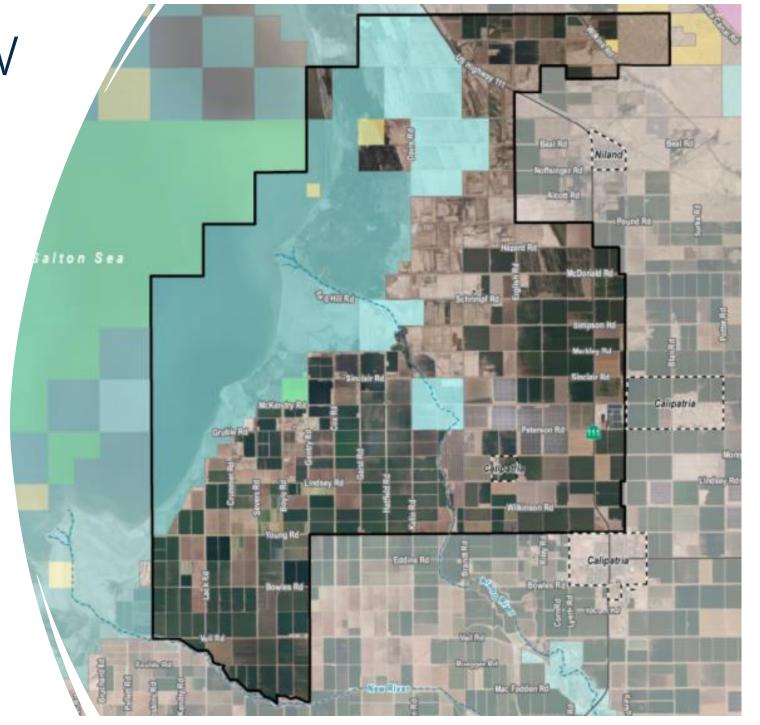
PLAYAS RENEWABLES: This designation recognizes the unique relationship to the Salton Sea and the possibly restrictive geologic conditions, including the clays and seismic activity. As such, geologic testing will be needed with any proposed structures within the Playas Renewables designation to determine the viability of development on the proposed site. This designation will require a certain percentage of the site be dedicated for dust suppression via natural vegetation and restoration techniques, beyond what is required to mitigated onsite surface impacts. Allowed uses may include, but not limited to, geothermal energy operations and mineral recovery, subsurface geothermal wells, pipes and mineral rights, habitat restoration, and dust suppression and public health mitigation projects. Ancillary uses may include, but not limited to, solar photovoltaics structures or floating structures (floatovoltaics).



PEIR Scope Overview

- Project Program EIR
 - All CEQA Topics to be addressed
 - Use types described in the Specific Plan addressed
 - Maximum envelopes evaluated
 - Alternatives
 - Cumulative Impacts
 - Growth
 - Intends to streamline future permitting





PEIR Scope Overview

- CEQA Topics
 - Aesthetics
 - Agriculture
 - Air Quality
 - Biological Resources
 - Cultural Resources
 - Energy
 - Geology and Soils
 - GHG Emissions
 - Hazards and HazardousMaterials

- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and planning
- Mineral Resources
- Nosie
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire





Next Steps

Fall 2022
Project
Initiation +
Data
Collection

Early 2023
Existing
Condition
Reports*

Summer/Fall 2023 Land Use Alternatives

Early 2024

Draft
Specific
Plan*

Early 2024 Draft PEIR Spring 2024
Public
Review*

Summer 2024 Final Specific Plan + Final PEIR

Notice of Preparation (NOP) for PEIR Scoping* Public Scoping Meeting* and Public Comments on NOP

Sp (

Prepare
Draft
Specific Plan
and
Continue
Public
Outreach
Program

Based on NOP Responses prepare Admin and Draft PEIR Notice of
Availability
for Draft
PEIR - 45
Day Public
Review*

•

Prepare Responses to Comments

Prepare Final Specific Plan and PEIR



BOS Public Hearing to Certify PEIR* and Approve Specific Plan

^{*} CEQA Required Public Input opportunities

Public Scoping Meeting - Purpose

- Gain public input on the scope and content of the EIR
- Significant Environmental Impacts
- Reasonable Alternatives
- Public Review Start Dec 7, 2023
- Public Review End Jan 12, 2024

Public Scoping Meeting Dec 14, 2023 6pm





<u>This Photo</u> by Unknown Author is licensed under <u>CC BY-SA-NC</u>