

CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION

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July 5, 2011

SCH #2011072003

File Ref: W30187; WP8454.1; R15810

CSLC MND #759

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW
AND INTENT TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

An Environmental Assessment/Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/DFONSI) has been prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service (USDA RUS) (Lead Federal Agency) and the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (DOI BLM) (Federal Cooperating Agency). The EA/DFONSI will be used by the California State Lands Commission (CSLC) as a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) equivalent Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) document in compliance with the requirements of CEQA (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations § 15000 et seq.), and CSLC Regulations (Title 2, California Code of Regulations § 2901 et seq.) for a project application currently being processed by the CSLC staff. This NOI will fulfill a State and a Federal regulatory process noticing and review requirement for both the CSLC and USDA RUS. CSLC staff believes the federal document meets the requirements of CEQA.

Project Title: Fort Sage to Herlong 120kV Interconnect Project

Project Location: Washoe County, Nevada at the existing Fort Sage Substation in T26N, R18E, Section 33 and terminating in Lassen County, California, at the proposed new Herlong Substation in T26N, R16E, and Section 22 (see attached Figure).

Project Description: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (PSREC) proposes to construct the Fort Sage to Herlong 120kV Interconnect Project, a 13.67-mile, 120 kilovolt (kV) transmission line originating in Nevada at the Fort Sage Substation and terminating at the new proposed Herlong Substation, adjacent to the existing Herlong Substation. The Proposed Project includes permitting the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the Fort Sage to Herlong 120kV Interconnect Project (Proposed Action). The purpose of and need

for the Proposed Project is to address regional limitations of current power capacity, stabilize voltage service levels, meet expected demand, and satisfy regulatory requirement. Specifically, the Proposed Project's construction and operation would: a) provide a second source of power into PSREC's system, increasing the reliability of power delivery to the area and stabilizing the PSREC electric system, and b) meet the area's traditional growth.

Copies of the EA may be viewed electronically, in Word or Acrobat format, on the USDA RUS internet website at www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm. Copies of the EA are also available for review at the locations below. The EA is available for a 30-day review period. All comments must be received by **August 4, 2011**, and can be sent to one of the addresses below:

California State Lands Commission Attention: Christopher Huitt 100 Howe Ave., Suite 100- South Sacramento, CA 95825	USDA Rural Utility Service Attention: Dennis Rankin 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Stop 1571 Washington, DC 20250-1571	DOI BLM Charlie Wright 2950 Riverside Dr. Susanville, CA 96130
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The EA/FONSI will be considered for adoption as a MND at the **August 25, 2011**, scheduled meeting of the CSLC. The specific location will be posted on the CSLC's website at <http://www.slc.ca.gov>.

Should you have any questions or need additional information from a State or CEQA perspective, please contact Christopher Huitt at (916) 574-1938, or via e-mail at Christopher.Huitt@slc.ca.gov. Should you have any questions or need additional information from the lead Federal agency perspective, please contact Dennis Rankin at (202) 720-1953 or via email at Dennis.Rankin@wdc.usda.gov. Should you have any questions or need additional information from the Federal cooperating agency perspective, please contact Charlie Wright at (530) 252-5322 or via email at cwright@ca.blm.gov. **Persons wishing to appear at the meeting should call (916) 574-1923 to ensure time is reserved for such appearance.**

Curtis L. Fossum
Executive Officer