

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Planning and Building	(2) MEETING DATE 5/21/2013	(3) CONTACT/PHONE John McKenzie, Senior Planner/805-781-5452	
(4) SUBJECT Submittal of a Contract Amendment (Clerk's File) with Aspen Environmental Group, Inc. in the amount of \$116,843, to continue Mitigation Monitoring for the California Valley Solar Ranch (CVSR/SunPower) Conditional Use Permit; District 5			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve and sign the Monitoring Contract Amendment (Clerk's File) with Aspen Environmental Group, Inc. to continue Mitigation Monitoring work during construction of the CVSR (SunPower) Conditional Use Permit (DRC2008-00097).			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$116,843.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 19001254		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP Attached	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: 8/2/11 (Original Contract)	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Reviewed by Leslie Brown			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) District 5			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Planning and Building / John McKenzie, Senior Planner

VIA: Ellen Carroll, Environmental Coordinator

DATE: 5/21/2013

SUBJECT: Submittal of a Contract Amendment (Clerk's File) with Aspen Environmental Group, Inc. in the amount of \$116,843, to continue Mitigation Monitoring for the California Valley Solar Ranch (CVSR/SunPower) Conditional Use Permit. District 5

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve and sign the Monitoring Contract Amendment (Clerk's File) with Aspen Environmental Group, Inc. to continue Mitigation Monitoring work during construction of the CVSR (SunPower) Conditional Use Permit (DRC2008-00097).

DISCUSSION

Aspen Environmental Group is currently approved to provide to the County monitoring services during construction of the California Valley Solar Ranch (CVSR). CVSR is a County-approved 250 megawatt photovoltaic (PV) solar power plant which includes: ten solar PV arrays, electrical equipment, internal electrical power lines, access roads, operations and maintenance building, water tank and facilities, temporary switchyard and approximately 2.8 miles of new transmission line to connect with the existing PG&E's existing 230 kV Morro Bay-Midway transmission line to the north. The project includes approximately 107 Conditions of Approval (COAs) that require monitoring during construction which cover a wide range of environmental issues. Many of these COAs originated as mitigation measures proposed in the Final Environmental Impact Report.

The solar facility is within the Agriculture land use category and is located mostly south of Highway 58, approximately four miles east of Soda Lake Road, immediately north of California Valley, in the Shandon-Carrizo planning area.

Due to several unanticipated factors, the previously approved budget is insufficient to cover the balance of the construction period, which is expected to conclude this Summer/Fall. The unanticipated factors include: project work schedule expanded from 5 to 6 days per week, with occasional Sunday work; compliance monitoring has required more support from the Lead Environmental Monitor and the Project Manager than initially anticipated; and, the level of effort required for coordination with the County and the applicant to review documentation and plans required to implement certain COAs exceeded what was previously budgeted.

The requested funding would provide funding needed for monitoring services through October, 2013. The applicant concurs that the additional funding is necessary.

This contract complies with the County-approved contracting procedures.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

County Counsel reviewed and approved the Contract as to form and legal effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The applicant will fund the required additional monitoring work. The total of \$116,843 would cover the cost of the proposed scope of work. Staff costs are recovered through a separate cost accounting agreement.

RESULTS

The Monitoring work will provide the necessary County oversight to ensure condition compliance during construction of a large renewable energy project. This is consistent with the County-wide goals of providing a well-governed and livable community.

ATTACHMENTS

Board Attachment A - Vicinity & Land Use Category Maps
Board Attachment B – Contract (Clerk's file)