

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

(1) DEPARTMENT County Fire	(2) MEETING DATE 12/16/2014	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Suzi Cain / 543-4244 Robert Lewin / 543-4244	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC, under which County Fire would continue to provide Advanced Life Saving-level Emergency Medical Services to California Valley. District 5.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended your Board approve and direct the Chairperson to sign the contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC, for Advanced Life Saving-level Emergency Medical Services to California Valley, for the period January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Funded through Topaz Solar Farms LLC	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$270,000.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$270,000.00	(9) BUDGETED? No
(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) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: <u>6/19/2012</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Geoff O'Quest, Administrative Analyst			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) District 5			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: County Fire / Suzi Cain / 543-4244
Robert Lewin / 543-4244

DATE: 12/16/2014

SUBJECT: Request to approve a contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC, under which County Fire would continue to provide Advanced Life Saving-level Emergency Medical Services to California Valley. District 5.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended your Board approve and direct the Chairperson to sign the contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC, for Advanced Life Saving-level Emergency Medical Services to California Valley, for the period January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015.

DISCUSSION

Topaz Solar Farms LLC is the owner and operator of Topaz Solar Farms, the 550 megawatt solar farm project near California Valley. First Solar was the primary construction contractor on the project. First Solar's corporate policy required that Advanced Life Support (ALS) level emergency medical services with a response time of 15 minutes or less be available to its workers during construction.

On June 19, 2012, the County of San Luis Obispo entered into a contract with First Solar to provide these services. Prior to construction, County Fire provided emergency medical services at the Basic Life Support (BLS) level in California Valley (Station 42), which was provided by County Fire Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). ALS level services can only be provided by more highly trained Paramedics and are regulated by the County Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA), which oversees the ALS system countywide.

The County Fire Department and First Solar negotiated an agreement under which the County would provide ALS level service to the entire California Valley area during the three year time period in which construction was to take place. The contract with First Solar was scheduled to run through June 30, 2015, but construction of the solar farm has been completed and First Solar has elected to end its County contract for ALS as of January 1, 2015.

However, Topaz Solar Farms LLC, the owner of the newly constructed solar farm has stated a desire to provide for the continuance of ALS services beyond the construction phase of the project. As a first step, Topaz has requested to enter into a contract with the County for the remainder of the First Solar contract period, January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015. The attached contract provides for the continuation of services for this period.

The terms of the proposed contract with Topaz are essentially unchanged from the terms of the First Solar contract. The increased level of emergency medical response will be available to all residents served by County Fire Station 42 in California Valley. Services will be accessed through the 911 telephone system, and Topaz will receive no priority or exclusive right to service above that provided to any other resident in California Valley.

Following the conclusion of this six-month period wherein ALS level services will continue in California Valley, Topaz Solar Farms LLC has expressed interest in a longer term commitment to maintaining this service after June 30, 2015.

These discussions are still in an early phase, but it is expected that any such agreement will be developed and implemented as part of the County's Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA) system review and in accordance with the FY 2015-16 budget development timeline.

It is important to point out that under sections 1797.204 and 1797.206 of the California Health and Safety Code, the San Luis Obispo County is tasked with planning, implementing and evaluating the emergency services system within the county, including oversight on the implementation of the ALS system. The EMSA has reviewed the attached agreement with Topaz Solar Farms LLC and the continuation of ALS services through June 30, 2015, and concurs with staff's recommendation for the six-month period of this contract.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

County Counsel has approved the interim contract as to form and legal effect. The County Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA) has reviewed the agreement and concurs with staff's recommendation, with the stipulations listed in the attached letter from the EMSA.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Costs of providing ALS services incurred under the contract are estimated to be \$270,000 for the period January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015. All costs incurred under the contract will be fully reimbursed by Topaz Solar Farms LLC. No part of the cost will be paid for by the County. The County shall invoice Topaz Solar Farms LLC for services in advance. The payment by Topaz Solar Farms LLC shall be made to the County within thirty (30) days of the date of the invoice from the County.

RESULTS

Emergency medical services provided during the period of the contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC will continue full-time Advance Life Support (ALS) service in the California Valley area, as has been the case during the 30-month period of construction of the Topaz Solar Farm. This level of service will be available to all residents at no additional cost to the County. Board approval of this agreement will contribute to the County's Vision of a Healthy, Safe and Well-Governed Community.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Topaz Solar Farms LLC Contract
2. Letter from EMSA Director re: Topaz Solar Farms LLC contract