



County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development

Glenn S. Russell, Ph.D., Director
Dianne Black, Assistant Director

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

DATE: February 12, 2014

TO: State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: County of Santa Barbara
Planning and Development Department
Long Range Planning Division
123 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101-2058
(805) 568-3380

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation and Scoping of a Program Environmental Impact Report

PROJECT NAME: Energy and Climate Action Plan Environmental Impact Report

PROJECT CASE NO.: 14GPA-00000-00003

PROJECT LOCATION: The Energy and Climate Action Plan (ECAP) covers the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County where the County of Santa Barbara retains land use permit authority. The ECAP therefore excludes incorporated cities, the University of California, the Chumash Reservation, and State and federal lands including Los Padres National Forest, Vandenberg Air Force Base, and offshore oil and gas production facilities.

LEAD AGENCY: The County of Santa Barbara is the lead agency preparing the Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) with the purpose of informing decision-makers and the public regarding the potential environmental effects related to the ECAP in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.). The EIR will consider the potential effects of the project on the environmental areas identified while developing the ECAP and during the scoping period.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed ECAP includes a 2007 baseline inventory of community-wide GHG emissions, a forecast of emissions to the years 2020 and 2035, a GHG reduction target of 15% below baseline emissions by 2020, a set of emission reduction measures to meet the target, and a methodology for tracking and reporting emissions in the future. The ECAP would implement a suite of emissions reduction measures across many sectors to achieve community-wide GHG emission reductions and energy-saving measures in support of a thriving, well-balanced, and sustainable community. The emission reduction measures proposed in the ECAP are made of a combination of voluntary, phased, and mandatory measures. Phased measures are those which would initially be implemented on a voluntary basis until a designated

check-in year. At that time, if the participation rate of the measure is below a designated threshold, the measure would be phased into containing mandatory requirements. These emission reduction measures, combined with the measures identified in the County's Energy Action Plan for municipal facilities, would collectively provide a decrease in both GHG emissions and energy use in the County. The actions will assist the State in meeting its GHG reduction goals consistent with AB 32 and energy reduction goals consistent with California's Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan.

The project description, location, and potential environmental effects are included in the attached *Environmental Scoping Document for the Energy and Climate Action Plan* and may be downloaded from the Planning and Development Department, Long Range Planning Division webpage at:

<http://longrange.sbcountyplanning.org/programs/climateactionstrategy/climateaction.php>

PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING HEARING: The Planning and Development Department will hold an environmental scoping meeting at the County Planning Commission Hearing Room on Monday, March 3, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to receive comments on the scope and content of the environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR. The County Planning Commission Hearing Room 17 is located at 123 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara.

PUBLIC AND AGENCY COMMENTS: We need to know the views of you or your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

Your response must be received no later than March 14, 2014. Please send your comments and the name of a contact person in your agency to Heather Allen, Associate Planner, at the address listed above. Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be received at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Date: February 10, 2014
Planner: Heather Allen
Division: Long Range Planning
Telephone: (805) 884-8082
Email: hallen@countyofsb.org

cc: Clerk of the Board (please post for 30 days)
Encl: Location map
Scoping Document

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