

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PROPOSED FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENT AT EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

The United States Air Force (Air Force) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for issuing an out grant for a 100-foot wide transmission line easement to a private sector applicant (Applicant). The Applicant proposes to construct, operate, and maintain an approximately 6.5 mile-long electrical transmission line across a portion of Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), California. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to support public interest by granting an easement for land within an approved utility corridor on Edwards AFB. This easement would allow the conveyance of energy produced by the Applicant's future photovoltaic solar facility to a Southern California Edison substation.

The EA, prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and Air Force instructions implementing NEPA, evaluates potential impacts of the Proposed Action and Alternatives on the environment including the No Action Alternative. Based on this analysis, the Air Force has prepared a proposed FONSI. The Air Force seeks public comments on the Draft EA and Draft FONSI and will consider all input received before reaching a final decision.

Copies of the Draft EA and Draft FONSI are available for review and can be downloaded at the following internet link: www.aratinasolar.com/transmission-line-ea

If you do not have internet access, we recommend you contact your local library for assistance in downloading the documents. Hard copies are available at the following libraries during the public comment period: AFTC Technical Library, Edwards Base Library, and Kern County Library – Rosamond/Wanda Kirk Branch. If you have any questions, please contact the 412 TW Public Affairs Office at Edwards AFB at (661) 277-3510. Written comments will be received until February 7, 2022 and may be either emailed to 412 TW/PA at 412tw.pae@us.af.mil or mailed to Andrea Brewer-Anderson, 412 CEG/CEVA, 120 N. Rosamond Blvd., Building 3735, Suite A, Edwards AFB, CA 93524-8600.

PRIVACY ADVISORY NOTICE

Public comments on this Draft EA are requested pursuant to NEPA, 42 United States Code 4321, et seq. All comments received during the comment period will be made available to the public and considered during the final EA preparation. Providing private address information with your comment is voluntary and such personal information will be kept confidential unless release is required by law. However, address information will be used to compile the project mailing list and failure to provide it will result in your name not being included on the mailing list.