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March 13, 2024

Mr. Samuel Assefa, Director
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Assefa:

On February 12, 2024, you informed the Joint Legislative Budget Committee that Governor Newsom had determined that the proposed Easley Renewable Energy Project in Riverside County is eligible for streamlined judicial review as authorized under Public Resources Code section 21178 et seq.

The Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2021 provides a streamlined California Environmental Quality Act review process for construction projects that qualify as environmental leadership development projects (ELDPs). Among other requirements, ELDPs must make substantial financial investments within our state, create high-wage and highly skilled jobs, and not result in any net additional greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition, the proponents will implement measures that reduce artificial light pollution and limit the amount of dust generated during construction. In order to lessen off-site lighting impacts, lighting at the facility will be restricted to areas required for safety, security, and operation. To make sure procedures are used for dust suppression, the final environmental impact report will clarify some of the contingency measures that will be adopted to ensure that the project remains in compliance with South Coast Air Quality Management District permit.

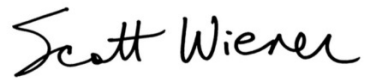
Mr. Samuel Assefa

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March 13, 2024

Based on the information you have provided, and a subsequent review by the Legislative Analyst's Office, I concur with the Governor's determination that the project meets the statutory criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21178 et seq.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Wiener". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Scott D. Wiener
Chair

cc:Members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee