

COUNTY RECORDER

Filing Requested by:

Yolo County Community Services

Name

292 West Beamer Street

Address

Woodland, CA 95695

City, State, Zip

Attention: Stephanie Cormier, Principal Planner



Notice of Exemption

To: Yolo County Clerk
625 Court Street
Woodland, CA 95695

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Yolo County Central Landfill Solar Energy Project

**Applicant/Owner: YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
DIVISION OF INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT
44082 COUNTY ROAD 28H
WOODLAND, CA 95776**

Project Location: Portion of APN: 042-100-018, located at 43890 and 44090 County Road 28H, on property owned by Yolo County.

Project Description: Installation of solar arrays that will produce onsite energy needs at the Yolo County Central Landfill through an Energy Services Agreement (power purchase agreement) with FFP BTM SOLAR, LLC (Forefront Power), expand the County’s renewable energy portfolio, and reduce the County’s electricity usage from the utility grid. The project would install one ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) power generation system near the County’s Central Landfill Borrow Site, immediately adjacent to the Landfill.

The project would install a canopy-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) energy generation system on an approximately 25-acre parcel that is located immediately south of the Landfill Borrow Site and immediately adjacent to and west of the Landfill. The project would be installed on an undeveloped portion of the parcel that would consist of the installation of 1,080 solar panels consisting of high-efficiency modules mounted at angles to optimize sun exposure. The canopy structure would be constructed with steel columns and metal rafters to support the panels, which would be arranged in two rows spanning east to west and elevated to maintain a clearance of approximately 13.5 feet above the ground surface. The PV system is expected to generate approximately 470 kilowatts (kW) of direct current (DC) electrical power or 360 kW alternating current (AC) for delivery to the PG&E distribution system. The total footprint of the project is not expected to exceed one acre in size.

Approval of the Energy Services Agreements and the Energy Storage Agreement would facilitate the installation of the photovoltaic system at an existing County facility. Construction is expected to commence in November 2024 and project construction would be approximately six months. No tree removal will be required.

Exempt Status:

- Categorical Exemption “15301” Class 1, Existing Facilities**
- Categorical Exemption “15303” Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures**
- Categorical Exemption “15311” Class 11, Accessory Structures**

Reasons why project is exempt:

§ 15301(a) consists of the operation of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use, including exterior alterations involving electrical conveyances. The proposed project involves only minor physical modifications to existing facilities associated with the installation of solar panels and related equipment to provide renewable energy to the Landfill.

§ 15303(d) consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, including electrical and other utility extensions of reasonable length. Implementation of the project involves improvements to electrical extensions and installation of solar panels on top of canopies requiring new construction of small structures.

§ 15311 consists of construction of minor structures accessory to existing industrial facilities. The project involves placement of minor accessory structures on property adjacent to the existing Landfill.

The project does not involve any of the following and is therefore eligible for a categorical exemption as described above under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2:

- (a) impacts on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern**
- (b) cumulative impacts of successive projects of the same type in the same place**
- (c) significant effects due to unusual circumstances**
- (d) damage to scenic resources**
- (e) located on a site which is deemed a hazardous waste site**
- (f) cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource.**

Lead Agency Contact Person: Stephanie Cormier, Principal Planner

Telephone Number: (530) 666-8041

Signature (Public Agency): _____ Date:

Date received for filing at OPR:

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Project Title: Yolo County Central Landfill Solar Energy and Energy Storage Project

**Applicant/Owner: YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
DIVISION OF INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT
44082 COUNTY ROAD 28H
WOODLAND, CA 95776**

Project Location: APN: 042-140-006, located at the Compost Facility at the Yolo County Central Landfill, 44692 County Road 28H.

Project Description: Installation of solar arrays and energy storage system that will produce and store onsite energy needs at the Yolo County Central Landfill through an Energy Services Agreement (power purchase agreement) with FFP BTM SOLAR, LLC (Forefront Power), expand the County’s renewable energy portfolio, and reduce the County’s electricity usage from the utility grid. The project would install a carport-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) system and energy storage system at the Central Landfill Compost Facility.

The carport-mounted PV system would consist of 4,104 solar panels composed of high-efficiency modules mounted at angles to optimize sun exposure. The carport canopies will be installed within the existing paved Compost Facility Operations Yard and would have a minimum clearance of 18 feet and follow the perimeter of the parcel boundary to the north and east. The total system size would be approximately 1,785 kW DC or 1,440 kW AC.

Pursuant to an Energy Storage Agreement with Forefront Power, the energy storage system would consist of multiple lithium battery stacks with onboard inverters and power management controls. The energy storage system would consist of two battery units enclosed in locking battery containers and mounted on an approximately 24-foot 2-inch by 20-foot 7-inch concrete pad. Associated equipment would include a step-up transformer and controller/auxiliary equipment which would be enclosed in a fenced area. The battery storage system would be designed to accept up to 500 kW of electrical generation and subsequently dispatch stored electricity during times of peak demand. The system would be interconnected to an existing 480-volt switchgear via wiring housed in conduits that will run underground.

Approval of the Energy Services Agreements and the Energy Storage Agreement would facilitate the installation of photovoltaic system at an existing County facility. Construction is expected to commence in November 2024 and project construction would be approximately nine months. No tree removal will be required.

Exempt Status:

**Categorical Exemption “15301” Class 1, Existing Facilities
Categorical Exemption “15303” Class 3, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures
Categorical Exemption “15311” Class 11, Accessory Structures**

Reasons why project is exempt:

§ 15301(a) consists of the operation of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use, including exterior alterations involving electrical conveyances. The proposed project involves only minor physical modifications to existing facilities associated with the installation of solar panels and related equipment.

§ 15303(d) consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, including electrical and other utility extensions of reasonable length. Implementation of the project involves improvements to electrical extensions and installation of solar panels on top of parking canopies requiring new construction of small structures.

§ 15311 consists of construction of minor structures accessory to existing industrial facilities. The project involves placement of minor accessory structures on existing facilities.

The project does not involve any of the following and is therefore eligible for a categorical exemption as described above under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2:

- (a) impacts on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern**
- (b) cumulative impacts of successive projects of the same type in the same place**
- (c) significant effects due to unusual circumstances**
- (d) damage to scenic resources**
- (e) located on a site which is deemed a hazardous waste site**
- (f) cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource**

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Project Title: Department of Community Services Solar Energy Project

**Applicant/Owner: YOLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
292 W. BEAMER ST.
WOODLAND, CA 95695**

Project Location: Portion of APN: 064-010-032 located at 292 W. Beamer St., in the northwestern portion of the City of Woodland, Department of Community Services, a County-owned facility.

Project Description: Installation of a solar energy system at the existing parking lot and corporation yard for the Department of Community Services. The project includes installation of a carport-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) power generation system, as well as spare conduit for future electric vehicle (EV) charging system, within the existing paved parking areas. The project will expand the County’s renewable energy portfolio and reduce the County’s reliance on the electrical grid.

The project consists of the installation of 576 high-efficiency solar panel modules atop a carport(s) and mounted at fixed angles to optimize sun exposure pursuant to an Energy Services Agreement with FFP BTM SOLAR, LLC (Forefront Power). The carport(s) would consist of steel columns with metal rafters that would support the solar panels. The overall canopy height would have a minimum clearance of 13.5 feet.

Exempt Status:

Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21080.35

Reasons why project is exempt:

PRC Code Section 21080.35 exempts the installation of solar energy systems at existing parking lots so long as the area designated and used for parking of vehicles has been in use for at least two years at the time of the application for the solar energy system. The designated parking area at the Department of Community Services has been in existence for over five decades. The project will not require a federal permit pursuant to Section 401 or 404 of the federal Clean Water Act or waste discharge requirements pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, or an individual take permit for any species protected under the federal Endangered Species Act or the California Endangered Species Act, nor a streambed alteration permit pursuant to Chapter 6 of the Fish and Game Code. No tree removal will be required for this project.

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