



Rural Development

Rural Business-Cooperative
Service

1400 Independence Ave, SW
Room 5801-S
Washington, D.C. 20250

Preliminary Public Notice for Potential Impacts to Floodplains

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians' Solar Energy Project intends to seek financial assistance from U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Business Service (RBS), Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) for new construction of a solar array system. The proposed project consists of the construction of a ground mounted 0.3 MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) facility within the Soboba Reservation at 23335 Soboba Road San Jacinto, CA 92583. The project site was selected based on its proximity to water, electrical, and data sources, as well as accessibility to vehicles. The terrain is best suited for construction of the Project due to the level topography and lack of development in the area. The solar array system itself will cover approximately 27,000 square feet that will be equipped with high-efficiency fixed-tilt solar panels that will be ground mounted on a ballasted racking system. The foundations for the solar panel ballasted racking system will be approximately 18 inches deep and 12 inches wide. Construction will also consist of supporting infrastructure such as access roads, fencing, and trenching for utility installations. If implemented, the proposed project will affect approximately 4 acres of Non-Critical Action Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Floodplain (100-year floodplain plus 2 additional feet). The entire portion of the project area is within the FFRMS. In accordance with Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, the purpose of this notice is to inform the public of this proposed effect and to request comments concerning the proposal, any alternative sites or actions that would avoid these impacts, and mitigation and minimization methods that could be used to reduce these impacts.

The environmental documentation regarding this proposal is available for viewing at the following link: www.soboba-nsn.gov and www.soboba-nsn.gov/sedc. If you have questions regarding the proposal, please contact Rachelle Ferguson via email at SM.RD.DC.SundanceConsulting@USDA.gov.

Any person interested in commenting on this proposal should submit comments to the email address above by **January 13, 2025**.