NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON THE SCOPE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

The EAST COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENTS and the ALAMEDA COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Will hold a Public Scoping Hearing on

ARAMIS SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION AND STORAGE PROJECT, CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT PLN2018-00117 – application to allow construction of a solar energy production facility (up to 100 megawatts, or MW) with associated battery storage using photovoltaic panels over a mostly contiguous 533-acre site, in the A (Agriculture) District, located partly at 1815 Manning Road and 4400 North Livermore Avenue, both south of Manning Road and immediately west of North Livermore Avenue, and partly on two other parcels without street addresses north of Manning Road at its intersection with North Livermore Avenue, bearing four Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 903-0006-001-02, 903-0006-003-07, 903-0007-002-01, and 902-0001-005-00.

The purpose of this hearing is only to receive comments on the scope of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), to be prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines. The County will prepare an EIR, which is intended to assess the potentially significant environmental impacts of the project, and identify mitigation measures and alternatives to the project that may avoid, reduce or mitigate such effects. Among the basic purposes of CEQA is to inform decision makers and the public about the potential effects of proposed projects subject to approval by government agencies, and to disclose to the public the reasons why a project may be approved if significant environmental impacts may result.

A notice of preparation of the EIR was provided to local, state and federal agencies and interested parties on May 8, 2020, providing a 30-day period in which such agencies and organizations may advise the County regarding their objectives for environmental information to be included in the EIR, for those agencies' statutory responsibilities and to inform them when they consider issuing permits or other approvals for project-related activities. A *Scoping Meeting* is required by CEQA for projects that meet specific criteria as having statewide, regional or areawide significance, and although it is not yet demonstrated that the subject project meets this criteria, there is a potential that the project may substantially affect sensitive wildlife habitats associated with Cayetano Creek that traverses the majority of the project site, thus meeting the criteria for areawide significance. This notice is intended to comply with CEQA notification requirements for the scoping meeting.

The notice of preparation and an updated project description is provided online on the Alameda County website – www.acgov.org/cda/planning – select "Pending Land Use Projects" – "Current Development Projects" – and under the heading "Ongoing Land Use Projects", see "Aramis Solar Energy Generation and Storage Project, PLN2018-00117".

The scoping hearing is scheduled to take place as part of the meeting agenda of the East County Board of Zoning Adjustments, after its deliberations on other matters, scheduled as follows:

<u>Date and Time</u>: <u>Thursday, May 28, 2020, 1:30 p.m.</u> At the time of the meeting, and within ten minutes prior to the start, you may connect on a computer, tablet or smart phone to the Zoom website or to the application. Installing the application is not required, but may improve your experience. You may use the following as a direct link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92158285462, or for audio only you may call 1-(669) 900-9128 (not a toll-free number), using Webinar ID# 921-5828-5462. For connecting a smart phone use this link 16699009128,92158285462 (audio only). For readers of this print notice, simply connect to Zoom.us and see *Join a Meeting* and enter the Webinar ID - # 921-5828-5462.

The County website – www.acgov.org/cda/planning provides Teleconferencing Guidelines for Public Hearings for additional information on County webinar meetings and hearings.

You may contact Andrew Young at 510-670-5400 or by e-mail at andrew.young@acgov.org. for more information.