

EXHIBIT BH-1-4

Assembly Bill 205 Details

Planning Division Assessment Pursuant to General Plan Policy
EV-4.4 and Programs COS-O and HAZ-O to Identify Suitable
Lands and Priority Areas for the Development of Renewable
Energy Generation and Storage Projects

Case No. PL23-0075

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Exhibit 4 – Assembly Bill 205 Details

The California Energy Commission (CEC) has been authorized under Assembly Bill (AB) 205 (Chapter 61, 2022), later modified by AB 209 (Chapter 251, 2022) to establish a certification program for the CEC to license new facilities proposed through the Department of Water Resources, including certain emergency and temporary power generators, energy storage systems, and zero-emission fuel technology generation facilities, using emergency rulemaking authority provided by AB 205. Assembly Bill 205, passed in June 2022, expands the CEC's siting authority to include eligible renewable generation and energy storage projects. The CEC defines an eligible project as any of the following:

- a. A solar photovoltaic or terrestrial wind electrical generating powerplant with a generating capacity of 50 megawatts or more and any facilities appurtenant thereto.
- b. An energy storage system as defined in Section 2835 of the Public Utilities Code that is capable of storing 200 megawatt hours or more of electrical energy.
- c. A stationary electrical generating powerplant using any source of thermal energy, with a generating capacity of 50 megawatts or more, excluding any powerplant that burns, uses, or relies on fossil or nuclear fuels.
- d. A discretionary project as described in Section 21080 for which the applicant has certified that a capital investment of at least two hundred fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000) will be made over a period of five years and the discretionary project is for (A) the manufacture, production, or assembly of an energy storage system or component manufacturing, wind system or component manufacturing, and solar photovoltaic energy system or component manufacturing, or (B) the manufacture, production, or assembly of specialized products, components, or systems that are integral to renewable energy or energy storage technologies.
- e. An electric transmission line carrying electric power from a facility described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) that is located in the state to a point of junction with any interconnected electrical transmission system.

State qualified projects are required to demonstrate that construction or operation of the facility will have an overall net positive economic benefit to the local jurisdiction (i.e., County of Ventura). Economic benefits may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

- a. Employment growth;
- b. Housing development;
- c. Infrastructure and environmental improvements;

- d. Assistance to public schools and education;
- e. Assistance to public safety agencies and departments; and
- f. Property taxes and sales and use tax revenues.

Additionally, AB 205 requires the CEC find that the applicant has entered into one or more legally binding and enforceable agreements with, or that benefit, a coalition of one or more community-based organizations, such as workforce development and training organizations, labor unions, social justice advocates, local governmental entities, California Native American tribes, or other organizations that represent community interests, where there is mutual benefit to the parties to the agreement. The topics and specific terms in the community benefits agreements may vary and may include workforce development, job quality, and job access provisions.
