



**SAN BENITO COUNTY  
AGENDA ITEM  
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

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District No. 5  
- Vice-Chair

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**Item Number: 9.1**

**MEETING DATE:** 02/18/2026

**DEPARTMENT:** RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**AGENDA ITEM PREPARER:** Michael Kelly

**SUBJECT:**

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY - A. PRADO, DIRECTOR - PLANNING AND BUILDING - Consider a request for a periodic compliance review of the Development Agreement by and between the County of San Benito and Panoche Valley Solar, LLC, dated November 10, 2021, with first amendments dated January 11, 2018, per Section 19.11.012 of the San Benito County code.**

**This item is continued to the regular Planning Commission Meeting of March 18, 2026 due to the ongoing vegetation management regulatory review and with the first meeting with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) scheduled with RWE for late February to discuss initial comments on Amendment Incidental Take Permit (ITP) No. 4, as well as the pending fire prevention planning report from RWE's external contractor, which will not be finalized until later this month. Additional time is needed to ensure the Commission receives a comprehensive and fully informed update.**

**SBC FILE NUMBER: 790**

**AGENDA SECTION:**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

This item is continued to the next regular meeting of March 18, 2026. Attached to this item is the following documents provided by RWE:

1. Panoche Valley Request for Continuance to Next Regular Meeting of March 18, 2026;
2. Weed Management Plan Panoche Valley Solar;
3. Panoche Valley Recent Updates to Commission Letter February 2026;
4. May 16, 2025 CDFW Memo
5. October 24, 2025 CDFW Memo
6. CDFW and USFWS May 2025 Memo Concurrence - Fire Prevention Measures
7. Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM) Panoche Valley Preserve Annual Report

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 1. Operational Development & Excellence**

Yes

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 2. Planning And Sustainable Growth**

Yes

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 3. Technology**

No

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 4. Community Engagement**

No

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 5. Health & Safe Community**

Yes

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is continued to the regular Planning Commission Meeting of March 18, 2026 due to the ongoing vegetation management regulatory review and with the first meeting with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) scheduled with RWE for late February to discuss initial comments on Amendment Incidental Take Permit (ITP) No. 4, as well as the pending fire prevention planning report from RWE's external contractor, which will not be finalized until later this month. Additional time is needed to ensure the Commission receives a comprehensive and fully informed update.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. [Panoche Valley Solar LLC Letter Requesting Continuance, February 6, 2026](#)
2. [Weed Management Plan Panoche Valley Solar.pdf](#)
3. [Panoche Valley Recent Updates to Commission Letter February 2026.pdf](#)
4. [May 16, 2025 CDFW Memo String Trimmers and Brush Cutters.pdf](#)
5. [Oct. 24, 2025 CDFW TechMemo\\_Expanded Vegetation Management Measures for Fire Risk Redeuction at Panoche Valley Solar.pdf](#)
6. [CDFW and USFWS May 2025 memo concurrence - fire prevention measures.pdf](#)
7. [CNLM\\_PanocheValleyPreserve\\_AnnualReport\\_FY2021-2022 - April 28, 2023.pdf](#)