



**SAN BENITO COUNTY
AGENDA ITEM
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

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- Vice-Chair

Item Number: 8.1

MEETING DATE: 04/15/2026

DEPARTMENT: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Stephanie Reck

SUBJECT:

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY - A. PRADO, DIRECTOR OF 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 and again to April 15, 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:

REGULAR AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

This item is continued to the next regular meeting of March 18, 2026 and again to April 15, 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 from the regular Planning Commission Meeting of February 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](#)
3. [Panoche Valley Recent Updates to Commission Letter February 2026](#)
4. [May 16, 2025 CDFW Memo String Trimmers and Brush Cutters](#)
5. [Oct. 24, 2025 CDFW TechMemo_Expanded Vegetation Management Measures for Fire Risk Redeuction at Panoche Valley Solar](#)
6. [CDFW and USFWS May 2025 memo concurrence - fire prevention measures](#)
7. [CNLM_PanocheValleyPreserve_AnnualReport_FY2021-2022 - April 28, 2023](#)