



Item 7: Opt-In Certification: Potential- Viridi Battery Energy Storage System Docket 24-OPT-04

May 26, 2026, Business Meeting

Eric Veerkamp, Project Manager

Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division,
CEQA Project Management Unit



Opt-In Certification Benefits

- Provides the CEC a new permitting authority as the CEQA lead agency
- Provides developers an alternative permitting pathway
- Enhances grid reliability
- Ensures benefits to the community and local government
- Conducts regular inspections and compliance checks



Solar photovoltaic or terrestrial wind



Energy storage systems



Stationary power plants using non-fossil energy



Specific manufacturing or assembly facilities for clean energy



Hydrogen production facilities



Potentia-Viridi Battery Energy Storage System

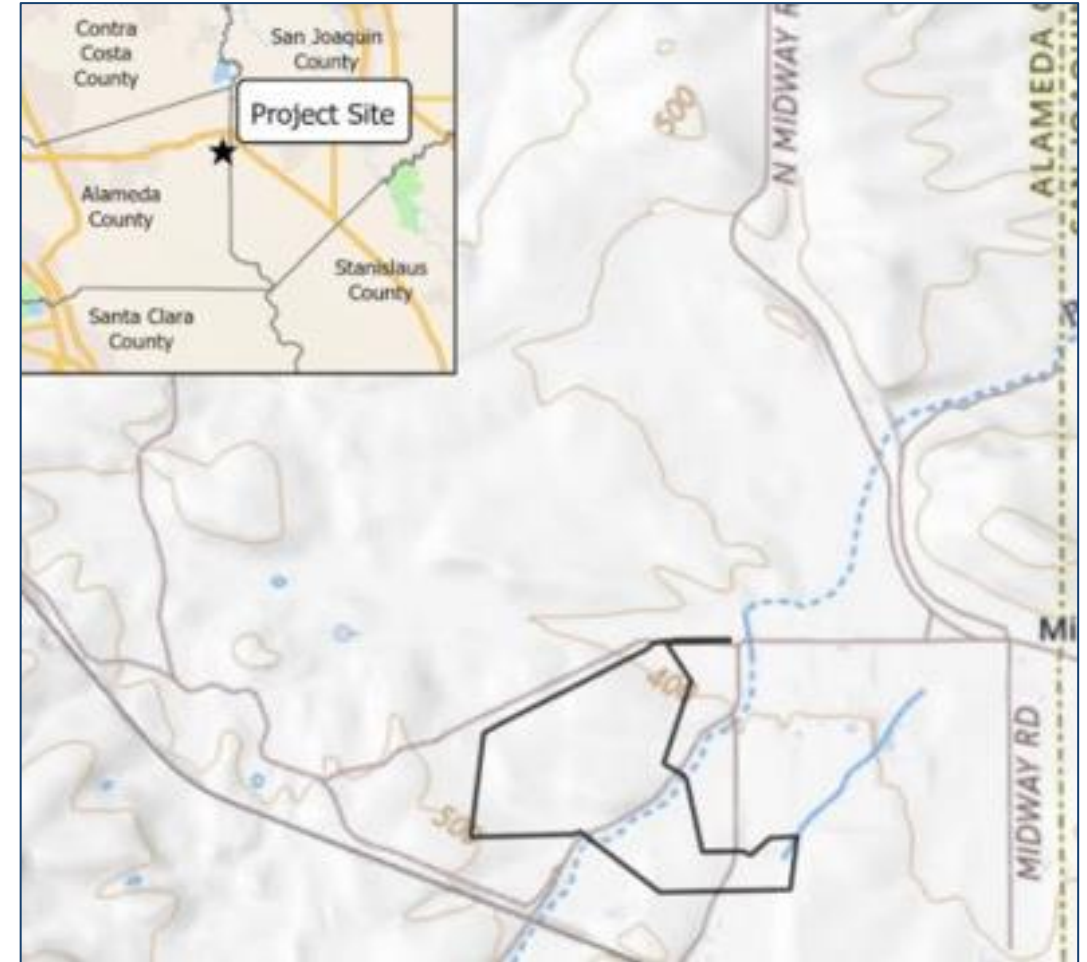
Applicant: Levy Alameda, LLC

Location

- Eastern Alameda County
- Approximately 102 acres

Project

- 400 MW/3,200 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- Substation
- Generation-intertie line
- Interconnection facilities



Source: Project Applicant, TN 261401, Project Site Vicinity



Project Timeline

Potentia-Viridi BESS

Date	Project Milestones
August 7, 2024	Application Filed
August 9, 2024	Notice of Receipt to MOU Agencies
September 6, 2024	Determination of Incomplete Application and Request for Information
August 15, 2025	Tribal Notification Inviting Consultation
August 29, 2025	Determination of Complete Application
September 18, 2025	Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting
January 26, 2026	Staff Assessment Filed
March 2, 2026	Staff Assessment Public Meeting
March 27, 2026	Staff Assessment Comment Period Closed
April 24, 2026	Updated Staff Assessment Filed
May 20, 2026	Staff files Errata to Updated Staff Assessment



Updated Staff Assessment Opt-In Findings

Potentia-Viridi BESS

- Conforms with Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, Standards (LORS)
- Meets Opt-In Mandatory Project Requirements

Opt-In Mandatory Project Requirement	Finding	
1. Pays Prevailing Wage for a Covered Project Under the California Labor Code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requirement met
2. Provides a Net Positive Economic Benefit to the local government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requirement met
3. Signed a Community Benefits Agreement that is legally binding and enforceable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requirement met



Updated Staff Assessment-CEQA Analysis

Preparation of Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- EIR included within Updated Staff Assessment
- Conditions of Certification reduce impacts to Less than Significant with exception of Visual Resources
- Conditions of Certification serve as Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP)



Errata to Updated Staff Assessment

Edits to Biological Resources and Land Use Conditions of Certification:

- **Biological Resources BIO-10 (Crotch's bumble bee)**
 - Clarified protective mowing measures (timing and avoidance of resources)
- **Biological Resources BIO-26 (HM Lands Approval)**
 - Modified habitat requirements for acceptable compensation lands
- **Land Use, Agriculture, and Forestry LAND-2 (Williamson Act contract)**
 - Modified terms and verification of partial contract cancellation



Staff Recommendation

Potentia-Viridi BESS

Approve the Order to:

1. Certify the Final EIR, as included in Updated Staff Assessment and Errata, complies with CEQA, reflects the CEC's independent judgement, and was considered and reviewed before certifying the Potentia-Viridi BESS.
2. Certify completeness of the record of the proceedings.
3. Adopt staff's proposed findings and Conditions of Certification with compliance verifications, serving as a MMRP, and staff's recommended mitigation measures.
4. Adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations for Visual Resources.
5. Issue the Levy Alameda, LLC, a certificate to construct and operate the Potentia-Viridi BESS



Thank You!