



City of Needles, California Request for Commission Action

CITY COUNCIL BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES Regular Special

Meeting Date: October 1, 2024

Title: Accept the Engineering Evaluation & Feasibility Study, Needles Solar Energy Sites Evaluation dated August 12, 2024 as prepared by Unisol Solar Energy Solutions

Background: The Board of Public Utilities established an Alternative Energy Ad Hoc Committee in 2022. The mission of the Alternative Energy Ad Hoc Committee is to review different potential energy generation sources and meet the State of California’s renewable energy goals.

The Committee has reviewed solar PPA proposals/developments, wind and pump hydro alternatives. The Committee has requested a solar feasibility study be issued to seek professional consulting services to evaluate and determine the suitability of facility rooftops and site developments of City-owned sites. On April 2, 2024 Unisol was selected and awarded the contract to develop a solar feasibility plan.

This solar engineering feasibility study aims to analyze possible solar energy sites to supply power to the City’s utility via a Power Purchase agreement or a city-owned design-build solar field. The primary focus is photovoltaic (PV) system installations as a ground-mount array on one or more of ten (10) possible sites on or near the 69KV transmission service line for the Needles Public Utility Authority utility provider.

The audit field team focused on these 10 Sites with the audit concentrating on deriving feasibility ratings for potential solar projects that can be employed to reduce costs, improve reliability and achieve CARB standards in the most economical way.

Fiscal Impact: \$37,513 was funded by the adopted FY23/24 electric budget.

Environmental Impact: Reduction of Renewable Energy Credits and Greenhouse Gas Allowances required by the NPUA.

Recommended Action: Accept the Engineering Evaluation & Feasibility Study, Needles Solar Energy Sites Evaluation dated August 12, 2024 as prepared by Unisol Solar Energy Solutions.

Submitted By: Alternative Energy Ad Hoc Committee

City Manager Approval: Rainie Torrance for Patrick Martinez Date: 9/25/24

Other Department Approval (when required): _____ Date: _____

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| Approved: <input type="checkbox"/> | Not Approved: <input type="checkbox"/> | Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | Agenda Item: _____ |