

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

CC 17
12/09/14
MVB

Date: December 9, 2014

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Brian S. Ludicke, Planning Director

Subject: **Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the Del Sur Solar Facility (CUP 14-15 and CUP 14-16)**

Recommendation:

Authorize the retention of Aspen Environmental Group for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Del Sur Solar Facility project and related development applications on approximately 725 acres generally bounded by 93rd Street West, 105th Street West, Avenue H, and Avenue G.

Fiscal Impact:

\$258,459.00 which includes a 10% contingency fee of \$23,496.00 for consultant services to prepare an EIR for the proposed project. The applicant would also be required to pay a \$25,000.00 deposit to cover the City administrative costs.

Discussion:

Silverado Power, LLC has filed two conditional use permit applications (CUP 14-15 and CUP 14-16) for the development of 100 megawatts (MW) of photovoltaic solar power on approximately 725 acres. Due to the size of the proposed project, the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required as part of the approval process.

On October 24, 2014, a request for proposals (RFP) for the preparation of an EIR for the proposed project was sent out for consideration to 12 environmental consulting firms. Five proposals were submitted to the City by the deadline of 4 p.m. on Monday, November 17, 2014. Staff and the developer have reviewed the consultant proposals and staff is recommending that the City retain the services of Aspen Environmental Group to prepare the EIR. Aspen Environmental Group has the relevant experience and staff expertise to ensure the successful completion of the EIR process in a timely fashion.

Council authorization would allow staff to proceed with an agreement for services between the City and the consultant for the preparation of the EIR.

BSL:jr

Attachment:

Aspen Environmental Group Proposal is available for review in the City Clerk Department