I am writing to voice my strong opposition to any further industrial-scale energy projects on public lands. My reasons are as follows:

Rooftop solar and covered parking structures are a superior strategy. Renewable energy can be obtained in the city areas where it is needed without the high costs of large projects or the need to ship the energy long distances.

Large solar and windmill projects are not “green.” These projects rely on the destruction of habitat to be built, and their operation further endangers wildlife. Renewable energy is not environmentally preferable when it encompasses the destruction and endangering of habitat and wildlife. What sense does it make to sacrifice nature in the name of saving it?

Our public lands should continue to be available for appropriate public use. Hiking, exploring and discovering nature, bird-watching, horseback riding, ORV riding, hunting, and the studies of environmental science, botany, geology, anthropology all rely on public lands.

Rural communities adjacent to public lands should not be adversely impacted. Large-scale renewable energy projects cause a reduction in property values and diminish the quality of life for rural residents.

I also request that the comment period be extended to allow more time to review the material.

Sincerely,

Ann Connor
Response to Comment Letter F153

Ann Connor
February 18, 2015

F153-1 Thank you for your comment. While it has not resulted in a change in the document, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has taken it into consideration. The distributed generation alternative does not meet BLM’s purpose and need. Distributed generation was considered but not carried forward, as discussed in Volume II, Section II.8.2.1.

F153-2 BLM has taken this comment into consideration in developing the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

F153-3 BLM has taken this comment into consideration in developing the DRECP Proposed LUPA and Final EIS.

F153-4 This comment is not directed toward any specific discussion or analysis presented in the Draft DRECP Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/EIS Chapters III.23 or IV.23 (Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice). This is a general comment or opinion that BLM will consider during its LUPA decision process.

F153-5 This comment has not resulted in a change to the document but the BLM has taken it into consideration. The Draft DRECP and EIR/EIS had a 5-month comment period (9/23/14 through 2/23/15), which included one extension, and no recirculation of the draft document will occur.

F153-6 This comment has not resulted in a change to the document but the BLM has taken it into consideration.
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