Feb 13 2015

DRECP BLM, CA Energy Commission

Subject: Help ensure our magnificent California desert is protected for future generations!

Dear DRECP BLM, CA Energy Commission,

While I support The Desert Renewable Energy Plan I believe that we should not lose sight of those unique and ecologically sensitive areas. Such special places must be protected and not lost to solar/renewable energy development.

As such I recommend that any lands identified as wilderness quality must be off limits to development. Additionally, more areas must be added to the National Conservation Lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management as protection from renewable energy development. This includes the Sierras Nevada.

Renewable energy projects must be restricted to so-called "development focus areas" and limited to those areas which are already degraded and most suitable and will not adversely impact important wildlife habitat.

Royalties generated from energy development should be returned to the desert in the form of restoration projects. We can accommodate renewable energy projects while also protecting sensitive desert areas.

Sincerely,

Mr. Richard Santoyo
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Response to Comment Letter F230

Richard Saretsky
February 13, 2015

F230-1  Thank you for your comment. While it has not resulted in a change in the document, the BLM has taken it into consideration.

F230-2  See response F228-2.

F230-3  BLM requires that holders of right-of-way grants fund monitoring associated with those grants (43 CFR 2805.16-17). For large-scale development, this is done through preparation and funding of an Environmental and Construction Compliance Monitoring Plan to ensure compliance with BLM terms, conditions, and stipulations in the right-of-way grants, the Plan of Development, and required mitigation as provided for in the Record of Decision.