Comment Letter F40

Draft Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) and Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS)

Comment Form

Commenter: Karl Zeiler, Indian Wells Gem & Mineral Society

Contact Information: zeilerkm@msn.com, Ridgecrest, CA 93555.

I am concerned in general about losing further vehicle access to our public lands due to the DRECP, especially about the two following two rockhound sites being included in the study:

BROWN BUTTE A.K.A. LONELY BUTTE:

GPS Location: 34.976746 Latitude -118.024271 Longitude

OEM HILL:

GPS at one area of collection: 34.926220 Latitude -118.221222 Longitude

Please consider current recreation use loss impacts for the proposed areas, including rockhounding, especially for the two sites mentioned above.
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Response to Comment Letter F40

Karl Zellner
November 28, 2014

F40-1 Thank you for your comment. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has taken it into consideration in developing the BLM Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) Proposed Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As described in Chapter I.1, Phase I of the DRECP is the BLM LUPA and Final EIS that addresses activities on BLM-administered lands only. See also Volume II, which includes revised descriptions and mapping for the range of alternatives considered for the BLM LUPA, including substantial reductions in Development Focus Areas (DFAs), as compared to that proposed for the Plan-wide Draft DRECP alternatives. The locations mentioned in the comment are no longer part of DFAs; please see responses to letter G5 for further information.
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