

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	11-AFC-02
Project Title:	Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating Station
TN #:	204260
Document Title:	California Wilderness Coalition Comments: Opposition to Petition
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Comment Received From: California Wilderness Coalition
Submitted On: 4/20/2015
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Opposition to Petition

See attached.

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



California Wilderness Coalition
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To Whom It May Concern:

In the matter of Docket 11-AFC-02, the California Wilderness Coalition opposes the Applicant's Petition for Continued Suspension dated 04-08-2015. The primary reason for this opposition is that the regulatory environment in the area has changed, and thus this project is no longer permissible under local land-use planning.

The Inyo County Board of Supervisors passed a Renewable Energy General Plan Amendment (REGPA) on March 24, 2015. This REGPA was developed with a grant from the California Energy Commission, and ostensibly was intended to harmonize local and state land-use policy regarding renewable energy development in Inyo County. The Applicant's proposal runs afoul of the REGPA Policy LU-1.21, "The County does not support renewable energy solar development other than those that use PV technologies," with PV previously defined as photovoltaic. The Applicant is proposing a solar thermal project.

Thus the Applicant's project is not appropriate for licensure by CEC, and the proceeding should be terminated by denying the Petition for Continued Suspension. It is important the CEC defer to the County's wishes on the matter of solar development on private lands. Through the aforementioned grant and others like it, CEC implicitly recognized the centrality of County-level planning to the permitting of renewable energy. This recognition should be put into action by denying the petition.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda A. Castro". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda A. Castro
Desert Field Organizer