



**Friends of Jawbone**  
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501. C3 not for profit



February 25, 2013

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Docket No.09-RENEW E0-01  
1516 Ninth St.  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512  
Via E Mail: [Docket@energy.State.ca.us](mailto:Docket@energy.State.ca.us).

*Re: Description of Comparative evaluation of Draft DRECP Alternatives*

Dear Commissioners:

The Friends of Jawbone is a 501.c3 not for profit organization dedicated to preserving recreational opportunities for all who love the great outdoors, no matter what your form of transportation and recreation are.

We are pleased that the Energy Action Team (REAT) listened to the importance of OHV recreation as it relates to open areas. These open areas have been hard fought for during many years of BLM process, and is vitally important to those recreationists who love to race, love to shoot rockets, and film companies who love to make movies in our own backyard.

Because of the threat of the 29 Palms Marine Base wanting to take over Johnson Valley, the delicate balance we now have with existing Open OHV areas could put us into a very precarious position on how to accommodate millions of visitors of OHV open areas. Then we face the possibility of losing this by military takeover. We need more Open Areas.

We want to continue to request that no solar or wind energies projects be established in any OHV Open Areas. They just are not compatible with how we recreate in open areas for pleasure or commercial purposes.

In regards to the Special Recreation Management Areas, (SMRA): We want to make sure that all these areas are excluded from having large scale Solar or Wind Energy (ROW's) from any SMRA as proposed in the Conservation Management Actions in Appendix E. We support the creating and designation of new SMRA with the condition that DRECP include a comprehensive Trails and Travel Management Section to cover all routes in the California Desert. These are to include all those trails listed inside of the DRECP boundaries, regardless what agency did the designation, and the state motorized Trail System, (SMTS. Because the percent of conservation areas will increase from 52% to possibly 90%, or more, in all the alternatives, it is imperative that management of these trails, from signings, maintenance, maps, etc. be funded.

The Friends of Jawbone has 12 full time employees that maintain trails and signs for the Ridgecrest BLM five days each week. These employees are funded by State of California OHV funding grants program. It is not possible for the State to continue to fund these actions on their own. DRECP will have to take this into account if you will have all these SMRA and preserve our trail system, as it is today.

We also would like DRECP to provide a comprehensive education program for the entire desert for all visitors to understand the entire mission of DRECP and the importance in protecting special species while at the same time recreating and utilizing our public lands. The Rand Mountains management areas permit should be disbanded and in its place a desert wide education program established by the DRECP together with the BLM.

In advance, we appreciate the DRECP for their realization of the important of OHV as the number one means of visiting the California Desert. No matter what your pursuit is, you just cannot get there without an OHV, or a vehicle that goes off the pavement.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

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