

Name: Maria Book

Address: 10000 1st St #100

Date: May 29, 2013

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Docket No. 09-RENEW EO-01
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.ca.gov

California Energy Commission
DOCKETED
09-RENEWED-1
TN# 71192
MAY 31, 2013

SUBJECT: Description and Comparative Evaluation of Draft DRECP Alternatives of 12/17/12

I am deeply concerned about how the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan is being developed and its ultimate effect on Morongo Basin communities and the area's unique and sensitive desert lands.

Request Public Meeting. The citizens in this area have been completely ignored in the DRECP planning process, with no public meetings being held in the region. We have the right to ask questions and be informed on this complex issue that will dramatically affect us, and I request a public meeting be held in the Morongo Basin before the DRECP planning process proceeds further.

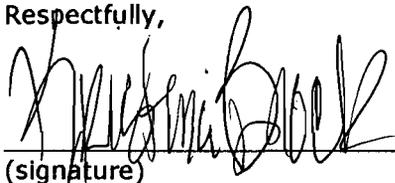
Development Focus Areas Inappropriate in the Morongo Basin. Our high-desert small towns and rural communities and their surrounding pristine public lands should not be destroyed by utility-scale energy development; the area is inappropriate for industrial development, and I request that all DFAs in the Morongo Basin be eliminated from the DRECP. Such development would destroy the quality of life of the area's citizens and would devastate our economy, which is dependent on tourism, with visitors attracted to Joshua Tree National Park and the area's surrounding scenic beauty. Many of the proposed DFAs would also sound a death knell for biodiversity, as the DFAs would replace critical wildlife linkages with industrial development.

No Utility Corridor Exists. Common to all of the current alternatives seems to be a lack of understanding of the fact that there is no approved utility corridor in the Morongo Basin. Area citizens successfully opposed a previous attempt by LADWP to designate a utility corridor in this area; our united voice and committed effort resulted in LADWP withdrawing its Green Path North transmission line application. I oppose DFAs being planned in an area where the will of citizens has clearly shown they will not allow a utility corridor to transmit energy.

Eliminate Variance Lands. I request that variance lands be removed from the DRECP, as they have not been evaluated as part of the DRECP process and their placement in the Morongo Basin is inappropriate as cited above regarding DFAs.

Consider Alternatives to Remote, Utility-Scale Renewable Energy Development on Public Lands. I request that distributed generation within the built environment at point of use be considered within the DRECP as opposed to unnecessarily destroying pristine desert lands within the DRECP area.

Respectfully,



(signature)

Name: David Sperry

Address: 10088 West #12

Morongo Valley CA 92256

Date: 5-27-13

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1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.ca.gov

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Respectfully,

David Sperry
(signature)

Name: Melvin Denny Aiko
Address: 56925 Yucca Trail #436
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
Date: 5/27/13

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RE: **Description and Comparative Evaluation of Draft DRECP Alternatives of 12/17/12**

LUCERNE VALLEY AND APPLE VALLEY ARE INCLUDED WITHIN AND SURROUNDED BY DEVELOPMENT FOCUS AREAS (DFAs) IN ALL ALTERNATIVES.

DRECP representatives have neither consulted with us nor have held any local/regional meetings.

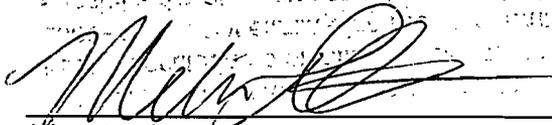
Said DFAs trump and violate our community plans and the San Bernardino County General Plan, constituting a significant adverse impact on our communities' current and future land uses—potentially eliminating real economic progress. Utility-scale renewables are so heavily subsidized that many cannot economically operate on their own yet will displace other land uses that can. The acreage requirement per solar/wind MW is a poor tradeoff of desert resources within the total mix of energy options.

BLM and State energy planning (without local involvement) is unraveling a multitude of conservation efforts that citizens and BLM have spent decades implementing. We're dismantling the integrity of the California Desert and its communities, losing the whole of it by giving away its parts.

We need to adopt a policy to fill up rooftops and parking lots with photovoltaic (PV) solar where necessary transmission and infrastructure exists (which alone would substantially meet renewable goals) **before** considering any use of the DRECP's proposed DFAs. PV-covered parking lots in Palm Springs and Las Vegas alone could generate MWs better and cheaper than in our communities, closer to the areas of demand and with existing infrastructure.

The costs and impacts of transmission lines and substations to accommodate even a portion of build-out within the DFAs would be significantly disruptive. DFAs should be designated by the county and communities—not by the state or federal government—with appropriate planning to reflect a community's existing land uses, objectives, and constraints, e.g., limited water supplies for solar thermal and even for construction of PV plants, specifying low profile panels, buffering from residential uses, absolutely no utility-scale wind turbines—factoring in transmission potential and access to SCE substations that can accommodate the power. This should be a LOCAL zoning effort—not usurped by state dictates.

Respectfully,


(signature)