

Energy - Docket Optical System

From: Brendan Hughes [hugajoshuatree@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2013 9:02 PM
To: Energy - Docket Optical System; jchilders@blm.gov
Subject: DRECP Draft Alternatives: Protecting the Silurian Valley [09-RENEW EO-01]

Categories: Ready to Docket

To whom it may concern:

My name is Brendan Hughes and I would like to ask that you do what you can to protect the Silurian Valley from industrial solar and wind development. Please consider the following points:

- The Bureau of Land Management and California Energy Commission should not allow energy development in the remote Silurian Valley, and should focus on encouraging the generation of clean energy on rooftops and on already-disturbed lands closer to our cities.
- The Silurian Valley should be designated as part of the National Landscape Conservation System, along with the other natural treasures of the Mojave Desert that provide intact habitat for wildlife and places for people to enjoy the outdoors.
- The mostly undisturbed Silurian Valley provides an important wildlife connectivity corridor between Death Valley National Park, the sky islands of the Kingston and Clark Mountains, the Soda and Avawatz ranges, and Mojave National Preserve to the South.
- The Silurian Valley is a scenic and natural escape for visitors to the desert, and it is rich in the history of human transportation across the Mojave desert, including the Old Spanish Trail and Native American cultural sites.
- The Silurian Valley has been acknowledged for its stunning scenery, with the second highest rating for visual resources under the BLM's visual resource management criteria, and the local community supports designating the two-lane road that crosses the area as a scenic highway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Brendan Hughes
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