



California Energy Commission

DOCKETED

09-RENEW EO-1

TN # 74516

FEB 13 2015

February 5, 2015

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

RE: Draft DRECP EIS/EIR Development Focus Areas, Imperial County.

Dear Sirs,

I have had the opportunity to review the Development Focus Areas (DFA) for the DRECP Preferred Alternative and wanted to bring two areas of high cultural resources sensitivity to your attention. My own previous research in Imperial County and the Colorado Desert over the past 35 years and a review of site location data at my command indicate both areas have high densities and diversity of preserved cultural resources. Without getting into detail on the types of resources and specific locations, I can generally indicate those areas of high sensitivity. They include:

1. The area of East Mesa north of State Route 78 between the Imperial Sand Dunes and agricultural lands. Target 95, administered by Navy Air Field, El Centro, is at the center of this area.
2. The checkerboard of public and private lands to the west of Salton City and any undeveloped lands in the vicinity of State Route 86 in this area.

I would recommend that these areas be withdrawn from the DFA, or if they cannot, that renewable energy applications be limited to geothermal projects which can be more effectively designed to avoid significant cultural resources.

Otherwise, I support and commend your obvious efforts to direct renewable energy development applications to previously disturbed agricultural lands and areas of otherwise low sensitivity for impacts to cultural resources.

Thank your for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jerry Schaefer'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jerry Schaefer, Ph.D.
Director and Principal Investigator