

Energy - Docket Optical System

From: National Parks Conservation Association <nPCA@npca.org> on behalf of Donna Gay <nPCA@npca.org>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 10:16 AM
To: Energy - Docket Optical System
Subject: DRECP NEPA/CEQA

California Energy Commission

DOCKETED

09-RENEW EO-1

TN # 75024

FEB 23 2015

Feb 22, 2015

Mr. Chris Beale

1516 Ninth Street, MS-46, Dockets Office, MS-4, Docket No. 09-RENEW
EO-01
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Dear Mr. Beale,

As someone who cares about (and has visited) our California desert AND cares about our renewable energy future, it is essential that the 22.5 million acre Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan is finalized in a way that does not negatively impact our national parks, wilderness areas and wildlife's habitat and migration pathways.

Please ...

- * Protect Mojave National Preserve, adjacent Wilderness Study Areas, and key desert bighorn sheep habitat by not allowing the Soda Mountain Solar project to be sited next door to Mojave NP.
- * Protect the Silurian Valley adjacent to Death Valley National Park by designating the landscape as National Conservation Lands.
- * Better protect Joshua Tree National Park by preventing development in the Eagle Mountain region that provides important habitat for desert bighorn sheep, golden eagles, and desert tortoise.
- * Do not allow for renewable energy Development Focus Areas (DFA) to be designated in sensitive lands such as the Lucerne region, the desert tortoise research natural area, Cadiz dunes area, and the Mountain Pass area.
- * Protect wildlife routes and bird migration areas by supporting the protection of Sonoran Desert Thorn Woodlands, Sand Movement corridors, and important wetlands like the Wild and Scenic Amargosa River, Salt Creek, and Bonanza Spring.
- * Analyze how this plan impacts the National Park Service. Despite the significant acreage of our national parks in the plan area, the draft does not include discussion of how renewable energy projects will impact their viewsheds, clear night skies, and wildlife-rich neighboring lands.

Thank you for thoughtfully considering all of these important California Desert areas!

Sincerely,

Ms. Donna Gay

280 Pratt St
Mansfield, MA 02048-1522