

DOCKETED

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Comment Received From: Judy Branfman
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24-OPT-03 and Soda Mountain Solar Project NOP Comments

Hello California Energy Commission,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the Soda Mountain Solar Project.

The project will overdraw an already taxed water table in drought times “ and potentially be in a flood zone when rain does come tearing down the mountains.

It will cut off access between wilderness areas for a range of wildlife including tortoises and bighorn sheep.

It will destroy a vast desert view that spreads from the Mojave National Monument and across BLM land used for recreation and solitude to the broad valley that includes Soda Mountains and other wilderness areas.

And beyond that, the project will be extremely expensive and only work for twenty years, give or take a few. No one ever talks about that.

There is so much to say about what we would lose and the resulting damage. It would be much more efficient to put solar on home and apartment building rooftops, on top of warehouses and shopping malls, and over all the parking lots (comprising hundreds of square miles), especially in areas where millions of people live who will use the energy locally.

When you think about our real options it makes no sense at all to tear up the remote desert for short-term gain.

Sincerely,

Judy Branfman,

Santa Monica, CA 90401