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Scoping comments on Soda Mountain Solar Project

This Soda Mountain Solar Project should still be rejected, and to resurrect this project again is a waste of time and money. If the Project moves forward with an EIR, a Supplemental EIS by the Bureau of Land Management must also be conducted. There was virtually no analysis of the Project's impacts to the Old Spanish National Historic Trail (OSNHT) by the BLM. The Project lies within the OSNHT Corridor and cultural landscape impacts must be analyzed within this corridor. Visual impacts are only a part of the analysis, and impacts to the Trail should not be reduced to the geographic centerline of the OSNHT Corridor. A full Section 106 analysis according to regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act must be conducted, with consultation interviews with individuals and organizations familiar with the history and cultural resources of this part of the Mojave Desert. In conclusion, an EIR under CEQA and a EIS under NEPA should be developed in cooperation with each other.