

<b>DOCKETED</b>	
<b>Docket Number:</b>	24-OPT-03
<b>Project Title:</b>	Soda Mountain Solar
<b>TN #:</b>	268762
<b>Document Title:</b>	Baker Community Services District Kenia Rodriguez Comments - BCSD opposition to proposed Soda Mt Solar Porject
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<b>Organization:</b>	Baker Community Services District Kenia Rodriguez
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*Comment Received From: Baker Community Services District Kenia Rodriguez  
Submitted On: 2/23/2026  
Docket Number: 24-OPT-03*

## **BCSD opposition to proposed Soda Mt Solar Project**

February 19, 2026

California Energy Commission  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### **BAKER COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED SODA MOUNTAIN SOLAR PROJECT**

Dear California Energy Commission,

On behalf of the Baker Community Services District (Baker CSD), I am writing to express our adamant opposition to the Soda Mountain Solar Project that is seeking authorization from your agency.

The Baker CSD is home to over 700 residents and has been authorized by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to provide the following functions: water, sewer, street lighting, fire protection, TV translator, solid waste, and park and recreation. The Baker CSD's service area includes 4.5 square miles located along the Interstate 15 corridor, has numerous tourism related businesses and is a unique desert community that is an attraction for visitors traveling to and from the Las Vegas area and is also considered a gateway to the Mojave National Preserve. We are the closest town to this proposed project.

Alongside hundreds of county residents, local organizations, businesses, scientists, recreation groups, gateway communities, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the National Park Service, we spoke out against the Soda Mountain Solar Project in the past and collectively warned of the threats of this project to wildlife such as the desert bighorn sheep, recreation, the Mojave National Preserve, water resources, and our tourism economy.

Thankfully, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors rejected certifying the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in 2016. Rather than learn its lesson and avoid developing this region, the new project developers are proposing to develop in the same South Soda Mountains area and seeking to fast track under new state regulation.

The Soda Mountain Solar Project undermines our county's interests, harms communities, jeopardizes a national park unit and contradicts our county's renewable energy ordinance. The proposed water source for the project is located just

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The Soda Mountain Solar Project undermines our county's interests, harms communities, jeopardizes a national park unit and contradicts our county's renewable energy ordinance. The proposed water source for the project is located just outside our CSD boundary, but it is from same water table of the CSD, and it therefore has this additional, direct impact to the interests of the CSD.

**We write this letter to yet again express our strong opposition to the Soda Mountain Solar Project.**

Sincerely,

Greg Bowman  
General Manager  
Baker Community Services District