

**DOCKETED**

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Soda Mountain Solar
<b>TN #:</b>	269637
<b>Document Title:</b>	Support for Soda Mountain Solar Project
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<b>Filer:</b>	Jonah Henry
<b>Organization:</b>	Climate Action California
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April 27, 2026

California Energy Commission  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### **24-OPT-03: Support for Soda Mountain Solar Project**

Dear Chair Hochschild, Vice Chair Gunda, and Commissioners Gallardo, McAllister, and Skinner,

Climate Action California (CAC) is a volunteer-based organization with over 7,000 supporters that advocates for pragmatic, science-based solutions to effectively combat the climate crisis. Our volunteers possess decades of combined experience in researching energy technology, electricity markets, and land conservation, and we apply this expertise to our advocacy on local and state-wide policy and regulatory issues.

We write today to request that your Commission vote to certify the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Soda Mountain Solar Project and issue a certificate for the construction and operation of the Bighorn Sheep Buffer and Relocated Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Alternative #2 project. Although the project will have unavoidable impacts on the Soda Mountain environment, this alternative will best protect the native bighorn sheep population.

California must install 52,000 MW of battery storage power capacity by 2045 in order to meet our SB 100 goal of 100% renewable and zero-carbon electricity by 2045. This 300 MW (1,200 MWh) project will lower electrical prices, improve grid resilience, and help southern California retire the gas-fired power plants that are warming our planet and poisoning fenceline communities with toxic air particulates. Climate change is the single greatest threat to biodiversity in the Mojave Desert and throughout the world, and the rapid deployment of utility-scale renewable energy is one of the greatest tools we have to address this threat.

We strongly support the Soda Mountain Solar Project and we urge your Commission to approve it without delay. Thank you for considering our perspective.

Sincerely,

Stephen S. Rosenblum  
Energy Policy Team Lead  
Climate Action California