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Renewable energy transmission

Chairman Robert B. Weisenmiller, California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth St., Sacramento, Calif. 95814

President Michael Picker, California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, Calif. 94102

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to let you know that I don't appreciate the fact that we are still looking to rip up the Mojave Desert for energy. Desert residents, such as myself will install point of use solar to supply our needs (many homes can supply more than enough energy their own home and can 'share'). I urge you to STOP planning utility scale projects in the desert. These harm the land, the environment, our neighborhoods, our quality of life, and drastically reduce our property values while wealthy outside investors make all the profit at our expense.

People are installing roof top solar despite the fact that it is not as heavily subsidized as BIG solar or the transmission lines. And there is enough roof space to provide ample energy for our energy needs.

Every 11 minutes, a Pacific Gas and Electric customer switches to solar.

Through the end of 2014, more than 2,500 megawatts of solar power had been installed at 300,000 homes and businesses across California, according to state officials — enough to power well over half a million average homes for a year. More than a quarter of that capacity was installed in 2014. Six cities in the Coachella Valley alone installed at least one megawatt of solar last year, according to GTM Research, a clean-tech consulting firm.

Within the next few years, experts predict, some homeowners will be able to abandon their electric utilities by combining solar panels and home storage systems, like the Tesla's Powerwall batteries.

In addition, more and more business are building facilities and stores that use only renewable energy produced on site. It is just a small step to storing that energy and getting completely off the grid.

The grid is getting antiquated at such a fast rate and the utility companies must move with the times and work harder to find an alternative for everyone to be connected to a large, centralized grid. That system is not as good for our environment as other options and is wasteful.

Please put more of YOUR energy into finding options to optimize point of use clean energy solutions such as rooftop solar.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Jenny Wilder,
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