

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0059
(916) 319-2059
FAX (916) 319-2159

DISTRICT OFFICE
540 WEST BASELINE ROAD, SUITE 16
CLAREMONT, CA 91711
(909) 625-1038
FAX (909) 625-1063

Assembly California Legislature



ANTHONY ADAMS
ASSEMBLYMAN, FIFTY-NINTH DISTRICT
REPUBLICAN WHIP

COMMITTEES
VICE CHAIR, ELECTIONS AND
REDISTRICTING
HEALTH
RULES
BUDGET
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #5:
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/
TRANSPORTATION

January 20, 2010

John Kessler
Project Manager
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
jkessler@energy.state.ca.us

DOCKET	
07-AFC-5	
DATE	<u>01/20/10</u>
RECD.	<u>01/26/10</u>

NEEDED FOR OFFICE
NEEDED, CA
2010 JAN 26 11:07
BUREAU OF LAND
MANAGEMENT
RECEIVED

George Meckfessel
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
Bureau of Land Management, Needles Field Office
1303 South U.S. Highway 95
Needles, CA 92363
ca690@ca.blm.gov

Re: Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System
(07-AFC-5; CEC-700-2008-013-FSA/DEIS DES-09-46)

Dear Mr. Meckfessel & Mr. Kessler,

I am writing in support of BrightSource Energy's Ivanpah Solar Energy Generating System (ISEGS) project, and urge the California Energy Commission (CEC) and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to promptly and successfully complete its permitting process. This utility-scale solar project will bring needed economic development and jobs to California's High Desert, including to my own district. By itself, the Ivanpah project is a great opportunity for our region; importantly, it also represents the first major step in building the new solar industry that will greatly benefit our region.

The Ivanpah SEGS project will serve as a cornerstone of California's new energy economy. It will create 1,000 local jobs at the peak of construction and 86 permanent jobs, and will indirectly create more jobs needed to supply materials and services during the project's construction and operation. Over its thirty-year lifecycle, the project would produce \$650 million in wages and \$400 million in state and local taxes; additional wages and tax revenue would come from indirect jobs and economic activity spurred by the project.

When constructed, Ivanpah SEGS will produce more solar energy than all of the rooftop solar installed in the nation last year, and will more than double the amount of solar thermal energy produced in the U.S. today. It will produce enough clean energy to provide 150,000 homes in

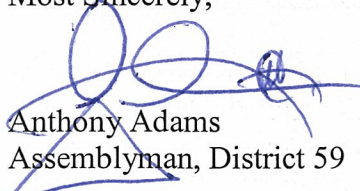
California with clean electricity free from fossil-fuel price volatility. Ivanpah SEGS will be the first project to meet BrightSource Energy's world-leading contracts with PG&E and SCE, and the first BrightSource project to help meet California's 33 percent renewable energy and climate change requirements.

Ivanpah SEGS has been designed to minimize its environmental impacts. It will reduce water usage by 90 percent by using dry cooling, allowing Ivanpah to use approximately 30 times less water than competing technologies. The project will use roughly 100 acre feet of water – the equivalent of 300 homes' annual water usage, and far less than the amount used by the adjacent golf course or nearby casinos. The project will also avoid more than 13 million tons of CO₂ emissions over its 30-year lifecycle, as well as 85 percent of the air emissions from an equally-sized natural gas plant. Its low-impact design reduces grading and minimizes need for concrete pads, keeping much of the site's vegetation in place. The project also makes use of the currently-used high-voltage transmission pathway that transects the site.

In recognition for its vitally important role in helping our nation meet its clean energy and economic goals, Ivanpah SEGS has been identified as a "fast-track" priority by the U.S. Department of Interior for obtaining federal stimulus benefits for California under the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The project has also been selected as the only utility-scale solar project of the sixteen applicants shortlisted for a loan guarantee under the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) 1703 program.

California and the nation need BrightSource's Ivanpah SEGS project, and others like it, to launch a stronger, more independent and competitive economy that once again proudly leads the world. I ask that BLM and CEC undertake everything in their power to promptly approve and support the development of the Ivanpah SEGS project.

Most Sincerely,



Anthony Adams
Assemblyman, District 59