

DOCKET	
09-AFC-9	
DATE	APR 28 2010
RECD.	APR 28 2010

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To: <carspp@blm.gov>, <esolorio@energy.state.ca.us>
Date: 4/28/2010 12:45 PM
Subject: Scoping Comments for Proposed Solar Millenium-Ridgecrest Project

The Executive Committee of the Owens Peak (Ridgecrest) Group of the Sierra Club has voted to oppose the proposed Solar Millenium-Ridgecrest Solar Power Project. Sierra Club policy on siting of large solar power projects is that they should be located on already disturbed lands and avoiding ecologically sensitive lands. The proposed Ridgecrest site is good quality habitat for threatened and endangered species, such as the desert tortoise, and so should not be approved.

We are also concerned about the use of scarce water and the large amounts of dust that are likely to be created during construction. We believe Solar Millenium has underestimated the amount of water needed during construction. Also we are opposed to the "fast tracking" of the Project since it does not allow for the careful consideration of important issues as required by CEQA.

Dennis Burge
Owens Peak Group (Sierra Club) Chairperson