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To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing this letter to voice my disapproval of the Ridgecrest Solar Project (09-AF-C-9). Eating up hundreds of acres of public land, especially land that has lots of uses for a multitude of public events for a solar plant which we in Ridgecrest will probably benefit very little from, to me is the wrong way of going about lessening our dependency on foreign oil for electricity. All of a sudden solar companies from all over are coming to California to eat up hundreds of acres of public land for massive solar plants. Before we know it there won't be any public land left for the public to enjoy. To me, the better way of doing this is to require all new construction to put solar panels on rooftops. All commercial buildings should be required to have solar panels. The incentives that are going to be given to this foreign company to put in this solar plant could be put to a better use by making the incentives available to all California citizens. If the incentives were good enough I'm sure that there would be a lot of people interested in putting solar panels on rooftops. I feel that the benefits to all would be far greater doing it this way rather than taking away the use of hundreds of acres of public land. Every building has a rooftop that for the most part does only one thing, which is to shelter the dweller. Other than that the space is pretty much wasted. Most people want to save money on their electricity bill, especially in these tough economic times. Giving the money to a foreign company to make billions of dollars with a project on public land doesn't make any sense to me. Having people putting solar panels on rooftops could also perhaps stimulate jobs. Probably more jobs than this solar plant is going to generate.

Betty Asmundsen