

June 9, 2010

Eric Solorio
Project Manager
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

DOCKET	
09-AFC-9	
DATE	<u>JUN 09 2010</u>
RECD.	<u>JUN 09 2010</u>

RE: Ridgecrest Solar Power Project (RSPP), Docket No. 09-AFC-9, Responses to Western Watershed Project Data Requests Set 1 #1-#4

Dear Mr. Solorio:

As requested, attached please find Ridgecrest Solar I, LLC's responses to Western Watershed Project Requests Set 1 #1-#4. This has been docketed in accordance with CEC requirements.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 510-809-4662 (office) or 949-433-4049 (cell).

Sincerely,



Billy Owens
Director, Project Development



BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
1516 NINTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
1-800-822-6228 – WWW.ENERGY.CA.GOV

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
For the *RIDGECREST SOLAR*
POWER PROJECT

Docket No. 09-AFC-9

PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 5/12/2010)

APPLICANT

Billy Owens
Director, Project Development
Solar Millennium
1625 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 270
Berkeley, CA 94709-1161
owens@solarmillennium.com

Alice Harron
Senior Director, Project Development
1625 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 270
Berkeley, CA 94709-1161
harron@solarmillennium.com

Elizabeth Copley
AECOM Project Manager
2101 Webster Street, Suite 1900
Oakland, CA 94612
elizabeth.copley@aecom.com

Scott Galati
Galati/Blek, LLP
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 350
Sacramento, CA 95814
sgalati@gb-llp.com

Peter Weiner
Matthew Sanders
Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker
LLP
55 2nd Street, Suite 2400-3441
San Francisco, CA 94105
peterweiner@paulhastings.com
matthewsanders@paulhastings.com

INTERVENORS

California Unions for Reliable Energy
(CURE)
Tanya A. Gulesserian
Elizabeth Klebaner
Marc D. Joseph
Adams Broadwell Joseph &
Cardozo
601 Gateway Boulevard, Suite 1000
South San Francisco, CA 94080
tgulesserian@adamsbroadwell.com
eklebaner@adamsbroadwell.com

Desert Tortoise Council
Sidney Silliman
1225 Adriana Way
Upland, CA 91784
gssilliman@csupomona.edu

Basin and Range Watch
Laura Cunningham & Kevin Emmerich
P.O. Box 70
Beatty, NV 89003
bluerockiguana@hughes.net

Western Watersheds Project
Michael J. Connor, Ph.D.
California Director
P.O. Box 2364
Reseda, CA 91337-2364
mjconnor@westernwatersheds.org

*Kerncrest Audubon Society
Terri Middlemiss & Dan Burnett
P.O. Box 984
Ridgecrest, CA 93556
catbird4@earthlink.net
imdandburnett@verizon.net

*Center for Biological Diversity
Ileene Anderson
Public Lands Desert Director
PMB 447, 8033 Sunset Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90046
ianderson@biologicaldiversity.org

*Center for Biological Diversity
Lisa T. Belenky, Senior Attorney
351 California Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94104
lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org

INTERESTED AGENCIES

California ISO
E-mail Preferred
e-recipient@caiso.com

Janet Eubanks, Project Manager,
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District
22835 Calle San Juan de los Lagos
Moreno Valley, California 92553
Janet_Eubanks@ca.blm.gov

ENERGY COMMISSION

JAMES D. BOYD
Vice Chair and Presiding Member
jboyd@energy.state.ca.us

ANTHONY EGGERT
Commissioner and Associate Member
aeggert@energy.state.ca.us

Kourtney Vaccaro
Hearing Officer
kvaccaro@energy.state.ca.us

Eric Solorio
Project Manager
esolorio@energy.state.ca.us

Tim Olson
Advisor to Commissioner Boyd
tolson@energy.state.ca.us

Jared Babula
Staff Counsel
jbabula@energy.state.ca.us

Jennifer Jennings
Public Adviser
publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Elizabeth Copley, declare that on June 9, 2010, I served and filed copies of the attached Ridgecrest Solar Power Project (Docket No. 09-AFC-9) Responses to Western Watershed Project Data Requests. The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is accompanied by a copy of the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at:

[\[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solar_millennium_ridgecrest\]](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solar_millennium_ridgecrest).

The documents have been sent to both the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit, in the following manner:

(Check all that Apply)

For service to all other parties:

- sent electronically to all email addresses on the Proof of Service list;
- by personal delivery;
- by delivering on this date, for mailing with the United States Postal Service with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid, to the name and address of the person served, for mailing that same day in the ordinary course of business; that the envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on that date to those addresses **NOT** marked "email preferred."

AND

For filing with the Energy Commission:

- sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, mailed and emailed Respectively, to the address below (preferred method);

OR

- depositing in the mail an original and 12 paper copies, as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Attn: Docket No. 09-AFC-9
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.state.ca.us

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



**RIDGECREST SOLAR POWER PROJECT (09-AFC-9)
WESTERN WATERSHED PROJECT NO. 1 DATA REQUESTS #1 - #4**

Technical Area: Biological Resources (Section 5.3)

Response Date: June 9, 2010

Following are responses to Set 1-Data Requests of Western Watershed Project, dated May 17, 2010.

WWP No. 1 DR-1

Data Request:

Provide the Desert Tortoise Field Survey Data Sheet, Data Sheet for Live Tortoise, Health Profile Form for Desert Tortoise, or any other field notes and photographs relating to seven desert tortoises observed on the Solar Millennium Ridgecrest Solar Power Project site that were labeled as of "unknown age" and identified as RDLJ001, RDLXX001, RDLX002, RDLX003, RDLY001, RDLYY002, and RDLY003 on page 4-19 of Attachment 4 of the September 2009 Solar Millennium Ridgecrest Solar Power Project Desert Tortoise Technical Report.

Response:

Desert tortoise field survey data sheets are not available for all desert tortoise documented during biological field surveys. Five of the DT labeled as of "unknown age" were incidental observations made by Project biologists conducting burrowing owl and general wildlife surveys. Generally, only location and general information on DT observations were collected on incidental sightings. Additional information on tortoises documented during burrowing owl surveys can be found in the Burrowing Owl Technical Report (Attachment K) of the Biological Resources Technical Report (Appendix F) for the Ridgecrest Solar Power Project Application for Certification. Data sheets for all DT documented during protocol-level DT surveys are presented in Attachment 3 of the September 2009 RSPP Desert Tortoise Technical Report, which is presented as Attachment J in the Application for Certification.

WWP No. 1 DR-2

Data Request:

Provide copies of field notes from Dr. Phil Leitner relating to his assessment of Mohave ground squirrel habitat on the proposed Ridgecrest Solar Power Project site.

Response:

The survey reports include all necessary information consistent with required protocol. RSPP does not believe it is appropriate to provide personal field notes.

WWP No. 1 DR-3

Data Request:

RIDGECREST SOLAR POWER PROJECT (09-AFC-9) WESTERN WATERSHED PROJECT NO. 1 DATA REQUESTS #1 - #4	
Technical Area: Biological Resources (Section 5.3)	Response Date: June 9, 2010

Provide the methodology used to develop the maps produced in the September 2009 Mohave Ground Squirrel Habitat Assessment.

Response:

The methods used by Dr. Phil Leitner to identify habitat types in the RSPP disturbance area are presented in the Solar Millennium Ridgecrest Solar Power Project Mohave Ground Squirrel Habitat Assessment, which is presented as Attachment L in the Application for Certification, submitted to the CEC on September 1, 2009. Maps showing regional information were prepared by Project GIS specialists using publically-available GIS layers and GIS layers developed under the direction of Dr. Leitner.

WWP No. 1 DR-4

Data Request:

Provide any guidelines or guidance that the California Energy Commission and/or the California Department of Fish and Game provided regarding mitigation for impacts to burrowing owls on the proposed Ridgecrest Solar Power Project site that differs from that specified in the 1993 California Burrowing Owl Consortium Guidelines.

Response:

The CEC requested a Burrowing Owl Translocation and Management Plan. Please refer to response DR-Bio-56 Ridgecrest Power Project (RSPP) Docket No. 09-AFC-9, Responses for Data Requests Set 1, dated December 22, 2009 and Set 2 dated January 19, 2010, for the complete request by CEC, and the response provided by Ridgecrest Solar I, LLC.