

# CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

## REPORT OF CONVERSATION

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# DOCKET

## 11-AFC-2

DATE NOV 01 2011

RECD. NOV 09 2011



### Siting, Transportation, and Environmental Protection Division

FILE: 11-AFC-2

PROJECT TITLE: Hidden Hills SEGS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Location:		
NAME: Amy Golden	DATE: 11/1/11	TIME: 1:57pm	
WITH: Heather Beeler, Eagle Permit Specialist, US Fish and Wildlife Service			
SUBJECT: Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System, 11-AFC-2 – Golden Eagle/Migratory Bird surveys			

>>> <[Heather.Beeler@fws.gov](mailto:Heather.Beeler@fws.gov)> 11/1/2011 1:57 PM >>>

Hi Amy,

Sorry to keep you waiting. Below is the USFWS recommendations for your eagle data request. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Heather

To adequately address potential risk to golden eagles and other migratory bird species, information on species occurrence and use of the project site and eagle use within 10 miles are necessary. Intensive surveys are essential to assess potential impacts to breeding, wintering, floaters, and sub-adults eagles during all times of the year.

We recommend the project proponent conduct a minimum of 2 years preconstruction surveys for eagles and other migratory birds. Songbird point counts and eagle/raptor observational surveys should be conducted independently although the same survey point may be used for both methods when appropriate.

#### Songbird Point Counts

- Random or stratified random sampling design
- Points at least 250 meters apart
- Spatial location recorded for each point
- Each point repeated at least every other week through-out the year
- 10 minute point counts
- Counts begin approximately 15 minutes after local sunrise and should be completed within 3-4 hours, generally by 10AM

#### Eagle/Raptor Observational Survey

- Random or stratified random sampling design
- Points at least 800m apart
- Adequate points to sample project footprint
- Suggest use of a sampling design which minimizes variance around density estimates such that the largest bound of variance determines the level of concern
- Record eagles and raptors observed within 800m survey plot and map flight path
- Record eagles and raptors observed outside 800m survey plot and map flight path
- Surveys should occur during the time of day when raptors are most active over the site (late morning to late afternoon).

CC: Carol Watson, Staff Biologist

Dick Ratliff, Staff Counsel

Prepared by: Mike Monasmith, Project Manager