

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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DOCKET

11-AFC-2

DATE FEB 27 2012

RECD. FEB 27 2012



Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

FILE: 11-AFC-2

PROJECT TITLE: Hidden Hills SEGS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Location:	
NAME: Christina Snow	DATE: February 27, 2012	TIME: 1:11 PM	
WITH: Anthony Parisi, Head, Sustainability Office NAVAIR Ranges			
SUBJECT: HHSEGS and Military Operations			

Candace Hill CC'd me on an email regarding potential impacts to the Department of Defense military operations. I sent a follow-up email requesting further clarification.

The following is the content of our email conversation:

>>> "Parisi, Tony NAVAIR" <anthony.parisi@navy.mil> 2/19/2012 8:36 AM >>>

Christina,

Solar energy facilities, particularly those utilizing solar thermal technology such as towers or troughs, can impact some types of military testing and training. The main concern would be proposed projects near a military range that tests infrared weapons or sensors, or trains with them. Wind turbines affect radars and our main concern in and around the R-2508 Complex is the effect on airborne radar testing the Navy conducts at China Lake and the Air Force at Edwards.

My response on the Hidden Hills project is specific to that technology at that particular location and does not apply anywhere else. For example, wind turbines in that location would have very significant military mission impacts.

I hope that answers your questions. If you need any more information, let me know.

V/R,
Tony

Anthony M. Parisi, PE
Head, Sustainability Office
NAVAIR Ranges
(805) 989-9209
FAX: (805) 989-7418
Cell: (805) 816-0935
anthony.parisi@navy.mil

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION



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-----Original Message-----

From: Christina Snow [<mailto:CSnow@energy.ca.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 14:54

To: Parisi, Tony NAVAIR

Cc: Candace Hill

Subject: RE: Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System Project-Military Airspace and Training Routes

Good afternoon Mr. Parisi,

I apologize for another question relating to this project, but I do have a follow-up item with regard to Land Use as I am preparing that section for the proposed project. I did some research on land use compatibility issues and came across the Joint Land Use Study for the R-2508 Complex. In that study they discuss potential conflicts with regard to solar and wind renewable energy projects. I just wanted to ask if your initial response only considered the Shoshone Military Operations Area or whether it also took into consideration the other areas within the R-2508 Complex?

I also realize that this is an informal review and I appreciate your input.

You may also contact me at the number listed below if you need further information.

Thank you for your time,

Christina Snow
Planner II
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS 40
Sacramento, CA 98514-5512
(916) 651-3770

>>> "Parisi, Tony NAVAIR" <anthony.parisi@navy.mil> 2/8/2012 2:53 PM

>>>

Candace,

We have reviewed the proposed project and it will not have any military mission impacts. The towers are not under the military training routes.

There is one disclaimer I must include. This informal review by does not constitute an action under 49 U.S.C. § 44718 and that the DoD is not bound by the conclusion arrived at under the informal review. What that means is that DoD could still formally review the project. If that happens, it is highly unlikely that DoD's formal response will be any different than this informal one.

V/R,
Tony

Anthony M. Parisi, PE
Head, Sustainability Office

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-----Original Message-----

From: Candace Hill [<mailto:CHill@energy.ca.gov>]
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2012 13:42
To: Parisi, Tony NAVAIR
Cc: Christina Snow; Carol Watson; David Flores; Mike Monasmith
Subject: Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System Project
-Military Airspace and Training Routes

Hello Mr. Parisi,

I am writing the Traffic and Transportation analysis for the Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System Project. An Obstacle Evaluation Study, dated August 16, 2010 from the Capitol Airspace Group cited your review of the project. Specially, "Additionally, Capitol Airspace contacted the Department of Defense (Mr. Anthony Parisi Head of the sustainability office for NAVAIR Ranges) and requested that a review of the study area be conducted. According to Mr. Parisi, there is no anticipated impact from solar tower development in this area on military operations. However, it should be noted that proximity to military training routes may still result in objections from the Department of Defense that may resonate with local permitting offices or the Bureau of Land Management. (Page 5 - http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hiddenhills/documents/applicant/afc/Volume-2-Appendixes/HHSEGS_Appendix_5-12A_Obstacle_Evaluation.pdf)

FAA issued a Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation for Solar Tower Unit 1 and Unit 2 on 9/2/2011. Question: Who would you recommend I contact to determine if the solar towers proximity to military training routes may still result in objections from the Department of Defense?

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 653-1643 to discuss or if you require additional information.

Thank you for your assistance -

Candace M. Hill
Planner II
California Energy Commission