

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**  
**REPORT OF CONVERSATION Page 1 of 1**

<b>DOCKET</b>	
08-AFC-2	
DATE	APR 16 2008
RECD.	APR 16 2008



**Energy Facilities Siting and  
 Environmental Protection  
 Division**

FILE: 08-AFC-2

PROJECT TITLE: Beacon Solar Energy Project

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone	805-644-1766, ext. 304	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Location:	
<b>NAME:</b>	<b>Judy Hohman</b> USFWS, Ventura Office 2493 Portola Road, Suite B Ventura, CA 93003	<b>DATE:</b> April 16, 2008	<b>TIME:</b> 9:00a.m.
<b>WITH:</b>	Susan Sanders, Biologist, Aspen Environmental Group		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Site Visit; USFWS Low Effect HCP, Impacts to Migratory Birds		

I asked Ms. Hohman if she would be attending the site visit scheduled for Thursday, April 17, 11:00. She said she would not, that she had been to the site before and driven by it a number of times.

Ms. Hohman said that based on the relatively low level of impact of this project on listed species, USFWS plans to do a low effect HCP, and will rely to a large extent on the CDFG's findings for compensatory mitigation. CDFG has a larger regulatory role on this project because of Mojave ground squirrel issues, in addition to the desert tortoise, so they are likely to incorporate CDFG's measures into their HCP. They wanted to avoid having the applicant prepare two separate sets of more or less similar documents. USFWS will focus on adequate avoidance/minimization measures.

I mentioned that the applicant had already submitted an Incidental Take Permit which spelled out their proposed avoidance/minimization measures, as well as a cost estimate using a Property Analysis Record (PAR) analysis for purchase of compensatory mitigation lands. Ms. Hohman said she had not seen that yet, but that a PAR analysis is what they are looking for, given the long life span of this project. She said there is not a big problem finding compensatory mitigation lands, but that the issue was cost, and that applicants typically make an understandable effort to minimize those costs.

I asked about potential impacts to migratory birds from the proposed evaporation ponds. She said that she would be looking for hazing/netting on that, or long-term monitoring to make sure there were no water quality issues and subsequent impacts to birds that would be drawn to the water. She also pointed out that ravens will fly 30 miles to get to fresh water, so that impact needs to be addressed with respect to increased desert tortoise predation.

<b>cc:</b> Rick York, CEC Siting Division Laurel Cordonnier, CEC Siting Division Mark Sazaki, CEC Siting Division	<b>Prepared by:</b> Susan Sanders
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