

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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November 12, 2009

Eric K. Solorio, Siting Project Manager
Beacon Solar Energy Project
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, California 95814-5512

File: 09-KER
RFC FSA
SCH #: none

DOCKET
08-AFC-2

DATE 11/12/09

RECD. 11/19/09

Dear Mr. Solorio:

Beacon Solar Energy Project (08-AFC-2) Final Staff Assessment (FSA) September 2009

Thank you for giving the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 9 the opportunity to review the FSA for the Solar Energy Project located in Kern County northeast of State Route 14 (SR-14). We appreciate previous interaction, which has resulted in many of Caltrans concerns already being addressed. We have the following comments:

- Regarding the project SR-14 access, the description contained in the March 2008 document (section 2.5.6.5, page 2-24) was much more complete than that contained in this FSA document (P 4.2-6). Caltrans is expecting that improvements will include acceleration and deceleration lanes as described in 2008. However, it seems that the proposed condition of **TRANS-1** is general enough that such improvements would be covered.
- In June, you and I had some interaction on the Rosamond Community Service District tertiary water pipeline crossing at SR-58. Please include another item under **TRANS-3** to summarize Caltrans requirements:
 - The contractor (or Rosamond Community Service District) shall obtain an encroachment permit from Caltrans District 9 for the water pipeline crossing of SR-58. It shall be installed by bore and jack methodology.
- Regarding **TRANS-5**, Caltrans does not require netting, but traffic control with an encroachment permit. Hence, please replace **TRANS-5** with: The project owner or its contractor shall obtain an encroachment permit from Caltrans District 9 for the SR-14 overhead transmission line.
- For correctness you may wish to ensure that SR-14 is not referred to as an Interstate Route. The FSA sometimes labels it as "I-14."

We value a cooperative working relationship with the California Energy Commission regarding transportation issues. If you have any questions, I may be contacted at (760) 872-0785.

Sincerely,
GAYLE J. ROSANDER
IGR/CEQA Coordinator

c: Steve Wisniewski, Caltrans