

DOCKET

08-AFC-5

DATE MAY 21 2010

RECD. MAY 21 2010

May 21, 2010

Mr. Christopher Meyer
Project Manager
Attn: Docket No. 08-AFC-5
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: Imperial Valley Solar (formerly Solar Two 08-AFC-5)
Errata Sheets for the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail
Visual Impact Analysis
URS Project No. 27657103.00200

Dear Mr. Meyer:

On behalf of Imperial Valley Solar Two, LLC, URS Corporation Americas (URS) hereby submits the Errata Sheets for Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Visual Impact Analysis (VIA). These errata sheets revise language in the original report referring to the Anza Monument to correctly refer to the Yuha Geoglyph Monument.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also certify that I am authorized to submit on behalf of SES Solar Two, LLC.

Sincerely,



Angela Leiba
Project Manager

AL: ml

R E P O R T

**GTTCVC"UJ GGVU"HQT"SES SOLAR TWO -
ANZA TRAIL VISUAL IMPACT ANALYSIS**

Prepared for

SES Solar Two, LLC
2920 E. Camelback Road, Suite 150
Phoenix, AZ 85016

URS Project No. 27657102.00420



Seth Hopkins
Environmental Planner/Visual Resources Specialist

January 21, 2010

URS

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KOP #2 – Yuha Geoglyph Monument and Geoglyphs

The visual environment contains distant views of the mountains and open desert expanses. Background views include Plaster City. In the foreground Yuha Basin appears as a complex group of ravines and washes.

This image was taken from the Yuha Geoglyph Monument overlook located along the Anza Trail approximately 2.5 miles to the south of the Project site (see Figure 1, Viewshed Map, and Figure 6, Existing View from KOP #2). KOP #2 has partially obscured views to the Solar Two Project site due to topography which descends to the north between this location and I-8. I-8 is not visible within the view and the Project site is partially occluded by intervening topography. This view represents a “worst case” recreational user view from the middleground to the south. The Project would be in a semi-direct line of sight of potential viewers with a small amount of topographical and vegetative interference separating the viewer from the Project site. Atmospheric conditions on most occasions would render the visible Project features in full view. There is some degree of spatial contrast and visually dominant landscape features in the foreground views available at this location that would detract from the attention given to the Project within this view. Visually dominant features at this location include the Geoglyphs, the Yuha Geoglyph Monument and the overview of the Yuha Basin. The Project would not be highly visible, however because of the flat, open viewing conditions, viewers might notice the presence of Project features due to the size and scale of the development.

This view is typical of the visual environment in an expansive desert wilderness with some manmade elements. The existing Viewshed has been modified with the presence of existing transmission and telephone lines/poles and Plaster City. However, this viewing area is generally characterized by the more scenic areas of the Yuha Desert form with diversity in landform created by the Yuha Basin which provides complex topographical relief. There is little texture and color variation (mainly from patches of sparse low-lying vegetation). The desert rock and sand provide a medium and relatively uniform rough texture and low contrast of generally mute desert tones. Tertiary gray, tan and brown are the most prevalent hues with light color values and dull chroma. The horizon line is composed of a digitate edge of distant mountains. Other line elements include existing transmission lines. There is very little movement occurring in this view.

The existing scenery is rated by the BLM as having “good” Class B scenery. The Yuha Basin has been assigned to VRM Class II.

KOP #3 – Anza Trail Looking South Towards Project

This image was taken from a location to the north of the Project along the trail approximately 1.0 miles to the north of the Project site (see Figure 1, Viewshed Map, and Figure 8, Existing View from KOP #3). KOP #3 has a slightly obscured view of the Project since Plaster City is located between this site and the Project. However, KOP #3 has mostly unobscured views to the Solar Two Project site and is representative of views available along the trail to the north. The Project would be highly visible because of the flat, open viewing conditions. This view represents one of the “worst case” recreational user views from the north. Views of the Project from KOP #3 are proximate foreground views. The Project would be in a direct line of sight of potential viewers with a small amount of topographical interference separating

**Table 2
KOP #1 Visual Contrast Rating Results**

| DEGREE OF CONTRAST | | Features | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------|-----------------|----------|------|------|------------|----------|------|------|------------|----------|------|------|
| | | Land/Water Body | | | | Vegetation | | | | Structures | | | |
| ELEMENTS | | Strong | Moderate | Weak | None | Strong | Moderate | Weak | None | Strong | Moderate | Weak | None |
| | FORM | X | | | | X | | | | X | | | |
| | LINE | X | | | | X | | | | X | | | |
| | COLOR | | X | | | X | | | | X | | | |
| | TEXTURE | X | | | | X | | | | X | | | |

Source: URS Corporation, 2010.

KOP #2 – Yuha Geoglyph Monument and Geoglyphs

This KOP will have slightly obscured middleground line of sight views to the Solar Two Project and its structures. The Solar Two Project would be partially visible because of the flat, open viewing conditions, however, intervening topography partially occludes the development as it extends east (see Figures 6 and 7). The Project would create a moderate visual contrast to the existing setting and would alter middle ground views by introducing a band of Suncatchers between this location and Plaster City. However, the Project would not obscure distant/panoramic views of the mountains from this KOP (see Figure 7, Simulated View from KOP #2).

Returning recreational area users are generally highly aware of changes to their immediate visual environment. Visible structural form alterations would result from the dimensional mass of the introduced structures, namely the Suncatchers. The shape of Suncatchers and other Project features make them obvious, however due to the distance of this KOP location from the Project site, they are not likely to dominate the attention of viewers, but may attract attention. The texture of the view towards the Project site will not change significantly, however there will be a definable edge between the natural desert form and the band of Suncatchers. The distance to industrial elements will decrease. The color contrast will be less noticeable because the mirrors tend to reflect the color of the sky. In general, the Project will create a new silhouette line element which stretches across a portion of the northern boundary of this view. Desert vegetation would also be removed from view at the Project site.

Persons utilizing the Yuha Desert wilderness at this location will have an expectation of a high quality visual environment. In addition, potential recreational users at this location are at an elevated viewing position, and would have a line-of-site to the Project site. This view is consistent with a moderate degree of severity for a number of reasons: the distance to the site diminishes the level of contrast, other industrial features that could distract from views of the Project area already exist, and the relative size and scale of the development would not dominate the overall visual character. Plaster City is an existing



KOP 2: Existing view from Yuha Geoglyph Monument along De Anza Trail (approximately 2.5 miles south of Project).

**EXISTING VIEW OF PROJECT FROM KOP #2
SOLAR TWO – DE ANZA TRAIL VIA**

URS

NO SCALE

CREATED BY: AG

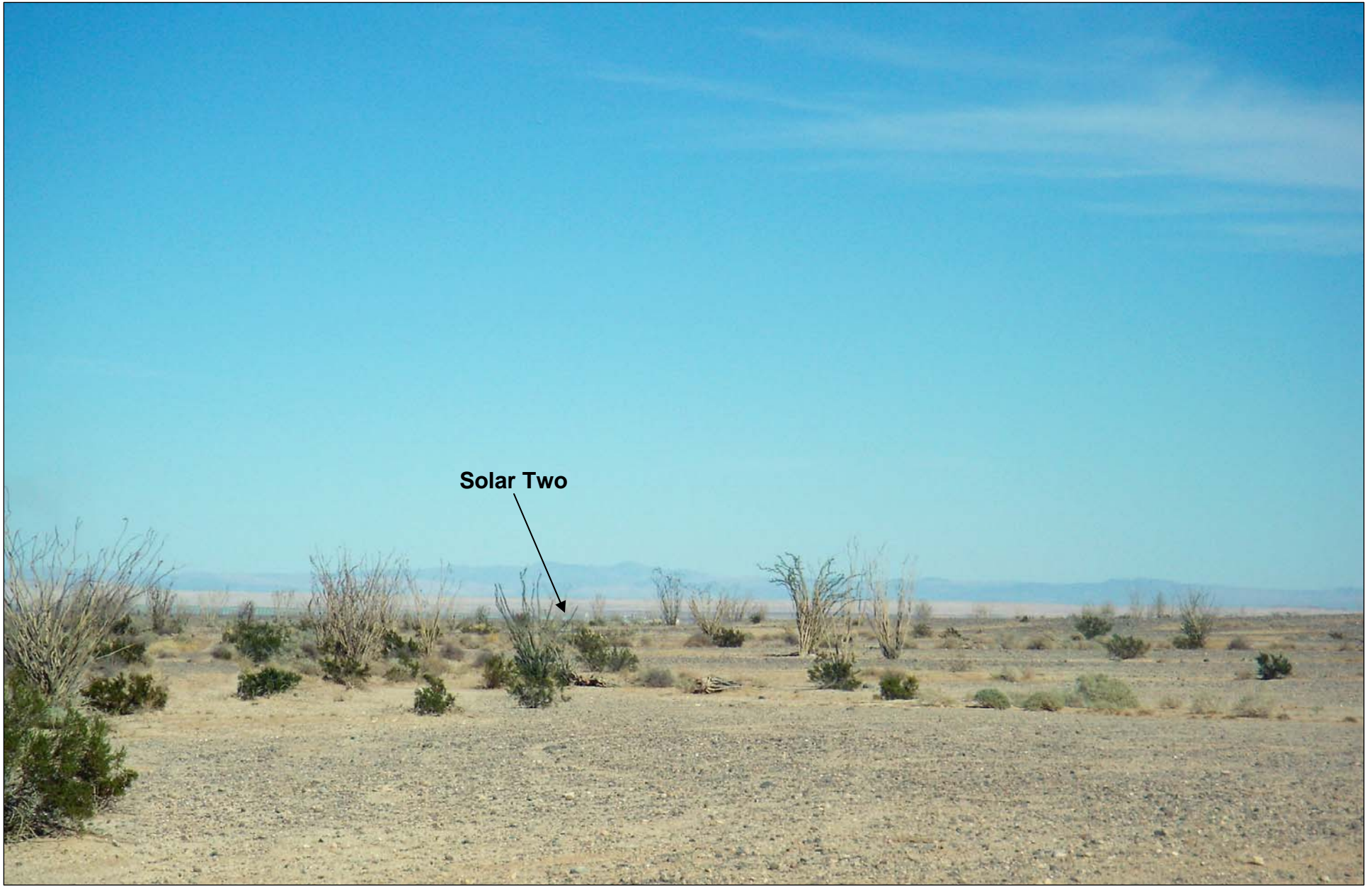
DATE: 01.06.10

FIG. NO:

PM: AL

PROJ. NO: 27657102.00420

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Solar Two

KOP 2: Simulated view from Yuha Geoglyph Monument along De Anza Trail (approximately 2.5 miles south of Project). This photo location is meant to represent “worst-case” views from recreational viewers to the south.

**SIMULATED VIEW OF PROJECT FROM KOP #2
SOLAR TWO – DE ANZA TRAIL VIA**

URS

NO SCALE

CREATED BY: AG

DATE: 01-06-10

FIG. NO:

PM: AL

PROJ. NO: 27657102.00420

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BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
1516 NINTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
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**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE
IMPERIAL VALLEY SOLAR PROJECT**
(formerly known as SES Solar Two Project)
IMPERIAL VALLEY SOLAR, LLC

**Docket No. 08-AFC-5
PROOF OF SERVICE**
(Revised 4/12/10)

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*indicates change

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Corinne Lytle, declare that on May 21, 2010, I served and filed copies of the attached, Applicant's Submittal of Errata Sheets Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Visual Impact Analysis. The original documents, filed with the Docket Unit, are accompanied by a copy of the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: [\[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solartwo/index.html\]](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solartwo/index.html)

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. 08-AFC-5
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, that I am employed in the county where this mailing occurred, and that I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the proceeding.

Original signed by

—

Corinne Lytle