

**DOCKET**

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***Abengoa Mojave Solar Project***

*Wednesday, April 7, 2010*

Document prepared by: Joe Ramirez

Attention: Craig Hoffman, Project Manager  
California Energy Commission  
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

Summary:

1. Traffic - It was proposed that the contractors driving to the site are to both slow down, and minimize passing on Harper Lake Road. Based on the performance from the last solar project, there was trash thrown out of windows by the contractors. It was also proposed that the trash is to be collected on a regular basis. Fred Redell suggested that a fine could be included in the contractor's agreement to detour littering.
2. Road Conditions - I am concerned of the pot holes that will occur due to the heavy traffic and the repair as a result. Harper Lake Road can at times be dangerous, especially at night. If it were not for the Governor's visit this last week, there would have been many more pot holes to drive around. This road is not designed to handle the weight or traffic load being proposed with this project. Between both the heavy loads and numerous deliveries, there will be potentially dangerous conditions. I feel that there should be strong language included in the approved construction documents to repair these unavoidable conditions in a timely manner.
3. Well Water - I was very concerned about the usage of the water and how it might affect our well. Fred Redell had said that the project would use only an estimate of one fifth of the water that would have been used to irrigate the existing fields.
4. View - There is a difference of the term "View" that I would like to state. The View that we enjoy every day is the vista of the existing fields, the dry lake, the mountains, *and* the horizon beyond. There is a beauty with the passing of seasons that we see and enjoy every year, thus concealing us from our treasured View. Without a doubt there will be a change in our View once the construction begins and even when it is completed. There were discussions and photographs of the Views of the fencing and the solar panels that will be seen from nearby roads. As I stated in the meeting, seeing as how we are located at a higher elevation, we would be much more inclined to see the project from a different perspective. Our View will then be of the solar project rather than the dry lake and mountains. The new solar panels, as I understand it, will be oriented both north and south. Although the sun's rays will be focused on the tube in the center of the panel, I do know that there will be some visual excessive light residue that will occur. With the existing solar plant we have no problem, seeing as how it is located several miles away, but with the proposed panels we are pessimistic on the final visual lighting

effects. Though we do understand that the new owner would like to be a good neighbor and propose some options to minimize sight of any unwanted hardscape. We are quite receptive to Fred Redell's proposal to landscaping as one means to provide a visual barrier. I would like to see some drawing or a written section showing the proposed panels and how our line of sight looking north will be affected. Fred stated that he would provide this drawing for our viewing.

5. Temporary Relocation - There was mention of a temporary relocation of residence while grading was being done. This is a relief to know that this action will indeed occur. After talking to Scott Frier I understand that the specifics have not been determined. I trust that in the spirit of good neighbors, we can come up with an agreeable compromise of how long, where, and all other inconveniences can be met.

6. Evaporating Ponds - The understanding is that the ponds will be used to hold water. My concern is that the pond may be an environment for mosquitoes, thus drawing them to our home as well. Although Scott Frier stated that that would not happen, it is still a concern of mine.

7. Illumination - The lighting of the facilities at night can be quite the eye sore, and very distracting of our existing night scene. Fred Redell had mentioned that minimal lighting would be used and pointed towards the ground, thus minimizing lighting in a horizontal direction towards us. Still after our meeting I looked towards the existing solar project and the orange glow from the main plant can be seen for many miles. I ask that someone look into this and review all options to reduce this element from the sight of the local residences.

8. Park and Ride - This is an excellent idea, it could help reduce the traffic and wear on our road. For clarification, will all contractors affiliated with the solar plant be a part of this park and ride while the deliveries of materials and equipment are done on many separate trucks?

9. Emergencies - Recently, there was an explosion out at the existing solar plant. I suppose they felt that we were not in danger, seeing as how there was no assurance from the plant that everything was alright. With this solar plant much closer, how will we be notified in the event of an emergency? Will there be a siren, someone from the plant knocking on our door, or even a phone call? Is there an evacuation plan for the local residence in case of a fire releasing toxins into the air? It was also stated that in case there was some kind of hazardous event that the Hinkley Fire Department could respond in short time, perhaps 20 to 30 minutes. However, in the past, in the case of an emergency help always came from somewhere else, thus arriving in an hour's time rather than the 30 minutes. What assurances do we have that the Hinkley Fire Department will respond, and what assurances do we have that they are indeed capable of handling the possibility of any toxic emergency?