



**RIVERSIDE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
IN COOPERATION WITH  
THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

**John R. Hawkins ~ Fire Chief**  
210 West San Jacinto Avenue ~ Perris, CA 92570  
(951) 940-6900 ~ www.rvcfire.org

PROUDLY SERVING THE  
UNINCORPORATED AREAS  
OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY  
AND THE CITIES OF:

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- BEAUMONT
- CALIMESA
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- COACHELLA
- DESERT HOT SPRINGS
- INDIAN WELLS
- INDIO
- LAKE ELSINORE
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DISTRICT 5

**DOCKET**  
**09-AFC-6**

DATE	FEB 06 2010
RECD.	FEB 17 2010

February 6, 2010

California Energy Commission  
Alan Solomon, Energy Commission Project Manager  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

**RE: Blythe Solar Power Project, Certification Supplement (09-AFC-6)**

Dear Mr. Solomon,

Thank you for providing the Riverside County Fire Department the opportunity to review the Certification Supplement for the Palen Solar Power Project in Blythe, California.

With respect to the referenced project (09-AFC-6), the Riverside County Fire Department has the following comments:

The proposed project will have a cumulative adverse impact on the Fire Department's ability to provide an acceptable level of service. These impacts include an increased number of emergency and public service calls due to the increased presence of structures, traffic, hazardous materials and service vehicles. The proponents/developers shall participate in the Development Impact Fee Program as adopted by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors to mitigate a portion of these impacts. This will provide funding for capital improvements such as land, equipment purchases and fire station construction. The Fire Department reserves the right to negotiate developer agreements associated with the development of land and/or construction of fire facilities to meet service demands through the regional integrated fire protection response system.

In the interest of Public Safety, the project shall provide an Alternate or Secondary Access(s) as stated in the Transportation Department Conditions. Said Alternate or Secondary Access(s) shall have concurrence and approval of both the Transportation and Fire Departments, and shall be maintained throughout any phasing. Secondary onsite and offsite access shall be provided for fire and emergency medical responders to all areas of the complex.

Secondary access leading into the complex is inadequate on the site plan. A second point of ingress shall be provided to the facility. The only access that is provided to the project area is off an unidentified road from Interstate 10. A single point of access to the project would create extend response times.

Additional fire impacts will be addressed in the Environmental Impact Report.

The California Fire Code outlines fire protection standards for the safety, health, and welfare of the public. These standards will be enforced by the Fire Chief.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at (951) 940-6349 or contact me at [jason.neumann@fire.ca.gov](mailto:jason.neumann@fire.ca.gov)

Sincerely,

***Jason Neuman***

Jason Neuman, Captain

Strategic Planning Division

Riverside County Fire Department