

# County of Riverside

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**SUPERVISOR JOHN J. BENOIT**  
FOURTH DISTRICT

July 8, 2010

Mr. Alan Solomon  
c/o California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-29  
Sacramento, CA 95814

<b>DOCKET</b>	
<b>09-AFC-6</b>	
DATE	JUL 08 2010
RECD.	JUL 13 2010

**Subject: Support for Solar Millennium Palo Verde Solar I Project**

Dear Mr. Solomon,

I'm writing to request your support for Solar Millennium's Application for Certification of the Palo Verde Solar I Project. This project advances California's goal of promoting energy independence and increasing the use of renewable power.

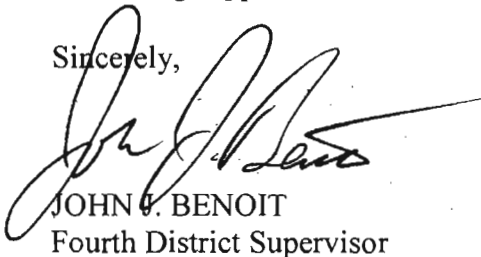
Located on 9,400 acres of Bureau of Land Management land eight miles west of Blythe, California, this proposed project would generate 2 million MWh/year. By using heat energy from the sun collected onto parabolic trough mirrors, the project would create enough power for 300,000 homes. The facility will use dry-cooling technology to cut its water usage by 90 percent from the traditional wet-cooled design.

This renewable energy project is expected to create 221 permanent jobs during its 30-year operational period and more than 600 construction jobs during the 69-month construction period, infusing millions of dollars into our local economy. The project is supported by the full Blythe City Council and the Blythe Chamber of Commerce.

The project addresses California's initiative to generate more of its power needs from renewable sources that do not create greenhouse gases. Parabolic trough mirrors systems are clean and will annually avoid 221,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions. This project also helps preserve our precious water resources while generating economic stimulus for our community.

I encourage approval of Solar Millennium's Palo Verde Solar I Project application.

Sincerely,



JOHN J. BENOIT  
Fourth District Supervisor

JJB:das

cc: Holly Roberts, Bureau of Land Management, Palm Springs South Coast Field Office