



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:**

BANNING
BEAUMONT
CALIMESA
CANYON LAKE
COACHELLA
DESERT HOT SPRINGS
INDIAN WELLS
INDIO
LAKE ELSINORE
LA QUINTA
MENIFEE
MORENO VALLEY
PALM DESERT
PERRIS
RANCHO MIRAGE
RUBIDOUX CSD
SAN JACINTO
TEMECULA
WILDOMAR

**BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS:**

BOB BUSTER
DISTRICT 1
JOHN TAVAGLIONE
DISTRICT 2
JEFF STONE
DISTRICT 3
JOHN BENOIT
DISTRICT 4
MARION ASHLEY
DISTRICT 5

September 4, 2010

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

RE: Blythe Solar Power Project, Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (09-AFC-6)

Dear Mr. Solomon,

Thank you for providing the Riverside County Fire Department the opportunity to review the Presiding Member's Proposed Decision for the Blythe Solar Power Project in Blythe, California.

With respect to the referenced project, the Riverside County Fire Department has no further comments.

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 e-mail at jason.neumann@fire.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Jason Neuman

Fire Captain
Strategic Planning

DOCKET

09-AFC-6

DATE SEP 04 2010

RECD. SEP 13 2010



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September 4, 2010

Bureau of Land Management
Palm Springs South Coast Field Office
Allison Shaffer, Project Manager
201 Bird Center Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92262

RE: Plan Amendment/Final EIS for the Blythe Solar Power Project

Dear Ms. Schaffer,

Thank you for providing the Riverside County Fire Department the opportunity to review the Plan Amendment/Final EIS for the Blythe Solar Power Project in Blythe, California.

With respect to the referenced project, 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 proposed Blythe Solar Power Project will create a "**cumulative**" increase in requests for service and will add to the Fire Department's ability to provide an acceptable level of service. These services include increased emergency and public service calls.

Due to the remote location and climate conditions, a response by the fire department would require multiple units to respond. In the event of a fire, medical emergency, hazardous material or technical rescue incident, the fire department will be required to cover or *back fill* stations left uncovered in order to meet service demands and support the region. If an incident were to occur, fire units would be dispatched from Blythe, Indio and the lower Coachella Valley as part of the regional integrated fire protection response system.

The onsite conditions create a high risk potential for a technical rescue, and a hazardous materials incident which would require specialized equipment and trained staff to respond. Extended response times from specialized equipment can be anticipated to the project area.

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 e-mail at jason.neumann@fire.ca.gov

Sincerely,

Jason Neuman

Jason Neuman, Captain
Strategic Planning Bureau
Riverside County Fire Department