

**DOCKETED**

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| <b>Docket Number:</b>   | 24-OPT-03   |
| <b>Project Title:</b>   | Soda Mountain Solar   |
| <b>TN #:</b>            | 258484  |
| <b>Document Title:</b>  | Mojave Water District Response to NOR of Opt-In Application for Soda Mountain Solar Project |
| <b>Description:</b>     | Response Received via email on August 13, 2024  |
| <b>Filer:</b>           | Lisa Worrall  |
| <b>Organization:</b>    | California Energy Commission  |
| <b>Submitter Role:</b>  | Commission Staff  |
| <b>Submission Date:</b> | 8/13/2024 12:58:12 PM   |
| <b>Docketed Date:</b>   | 8/13/2024   |

**From:** [Jeff Ruesch](#)  
**To:** [Worrall, Lisa@Energy](mailto:Worrall, Lisa@Energy)  
**Cc:** [White, Adam@Energy](mailto:White, Adam@Energy)  
**Subject:** RE: --EXTERNAL-- Federal, State, and other agency Notice of Receipt of Opt-In Application for Soda Mountain Solar Project (24-OPT-03) /Request for Comments and Information  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 13, 2024 9:18:15 AM

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Hi Lisa,

Thank you for the information on the Soda Mountain Solar Project. I spoke with Adam White regarding the water supply assessment for this project on July 26, 2024.

The Mojave Basin Area is an adjudicated basin with our final Judgment being entered in 1996. Page 23, paragraph 17 in the Judgment ([https://www.mojavewater.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Judgment\\_After\\_Trial\\_with\\_2002\\_Amendment.pdf](https://www.mojavewater.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Judgment_After_Trial_with_2002_Amendment.pdf)) states “Except upon further order of the Court, each and every Party, its officers, agents, employees, successors and assigns, is ENJOINED AND RESTRAINED from transporting water hereafter Produced from the Basin Area to areas outside the Basin Area.” Raymond Ward is a Party to the Judgment and the owner of record of the land and well listed as the water supplier for the project. He is also the owner of Eagle Well Drilling & Pump Service.

The Soda Mountain Solar Project area is approximately 20 miles outside of the adjudicated area and the source of water indicated is located inside of the adjudicated area and as such is not a viable source of water for this project. Accordingly, pursuant to the aforesaid terms of the Judgment, Mr. Ward is “ENJOINED” from transporting groundwater outside the Basin area.

The Mojave Water Agency is a State Water Contractor and has an allocation of 89,800 acre-feet of Table “A” water rights. However, this allocation is for use only within our service area (~20 miles from the project area).

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you need more information.

Regards,

Jeff

Jeffrey D. Ruesch  
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Mojave Water Agency  
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*“I’m a great believer in luck, and I find that the harder I work, the more I have of it.”*— **Thomas Jefferson**

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**From:** Worrall, Lisa@Energy <Lisa.Worrall@energy.ca.gov>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 7, 2024 1:09 PM

**To:** Pagaling, Reginald@NAHC <Reginald.Pagaling@nahc.ca.gov>; Lakin, Matt (he/him/his)

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**Cc:** Knight, Eric@Energy <Eric.Knight@energy.ca.gov>

**Subject:** --EXTERNAL-- Federal, State, and other agency Notice of Receipt of Opt-In Application for Soda Mountain Solar Project (24-OPT-03) /Request for Comments and Information

You don't often get email from [lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov](mailto:lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov). [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello,

This email serves as notification of receipt of an Opt-In Application under Public Resources Code 25519 for the proposed Soda Mountain Solar Project (24-OPT-03). This project is proposed in San Bernardino County, California. The attached letter outlines project information and the reasons under Assembly Bill 205 why we are contacting you.

If you have questions, please contact me.

I appreciate your timely responses and look forward to coordinating with you as the project moves forward.

Thank you,

Lisa Worrall  
Senior Environmental Planner  
California Energy Commission  
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division  
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