

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Energy Resources Conservation
and Development Commission

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10-CRD-1

DATE JUN 15 2010

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Applications for Certification for the
Calico Solar (SES Solar One) Project,
Genesis Solar Energy Project,
Imperial Valley (SES Solar Two) Project,
Solar Millenium Blythe Project,
Solar Millenium Palen Project, and
Solar Millenium Ridgecrest Project.

Consolidated Hearing on Issues Concerning US
Bureau of Land Management Cultural Resources
Data

Docket Nos.

08-AFC-13,
09-AFC-8,
08-AFC-5,
09-AFC-6,
09-AFC-7,
09-AFC-09, and

10-CRD-1

**TESTIMONY OF ALFREDO ACOSTA FIGUEROA ON ISSUES CONCERNING US BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
CULTURAL RESOURCES DATA**

June 15, 2010

The following is the Declaration of:

Alfredo Acosta Figueroa
424 North Carlton Ave.
Blythe, Ca 92225
Phone: (760) 922-6422
E-mail: lacunadeaztlan@aol.com

Submitted To:
California Energy Commission
Hearing Room B
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, Ca 95814

DECLARATION OF ALFREDO ACOSTA FIGUEROA

I, Alfredo Acosta Figueroa, declare as follows:

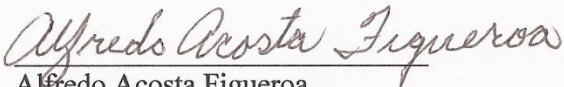
1. I am a native of the Colorado River. I was born in Blythe, California.
2. I am an Elder/Historian and a Chemehuevi Tribal Sacred Site Monitor.
3. For the past 55 years, I have been studying the Aztec Place of Origin, "Aztlán/Chicomoztoc/Hue-Hue-Tlapallan, here in the surrounding Palo Verde/Parker Valleys.
4. I am the author of the book "Ancient Footprints of the Colorado River," published in May 2002.
5. In 1975, we organized opposition against the Sun Desert Nuclear Power Plant proposed to be built at the base of the Sacred Mule Mountains ("Calli" in Nahuatl & "Hamoc-Avi" in Mojave), stopping that project in 1979.
6. In 1992, we organized the Colorado River Anti-Ward Valley Coordinating Committee and after 8-years stopped the proposed Ward Valley Nuclear Toxic Dump located in between the Sacred Turtle and Avi-Kawme Mountains, located 15 miles west of Laughlin, Nevada.
7. In 2000, we organized La Cuna de Aztlán Sacred Sites Protection Circle under the auspices of La Escuela de la Raza Unida, said Circle is comprised of 15 individuals dedicated to physically protecting the Sacred Sites and that on February 5, 2008 were given a Memorandum of Understanding together with the Southern Low Desert Resource Conservation & Development Council to partnership for protection of cultural resources, that included the Blythe Giant Intaglios, other geoglyphs and several hundred Sacred Sites that are located along the Colorado River from Needles, California down to Yuma, Arizona. A true and correct copy of the Memorandum of Understanding is attached hereto as **Attachment 1**.
8. A true and correct copy of the Resolution of the Tribal Council of the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe Supporting the Memorandum of Understanding between the La Cuna de Aztlán Sacred Sites Protection Circle, the Southern Low Desert Resource Conservation and Development Council, and the Bureau of Land Management for the Protection and Preservation of the "Blythe Giant Intaglios", is attached hereto as **Attachment 2**.
9. We oppose the Solar Millennium Blythe Solar Power Project 09-AFC-6, the Solar Millennium Palen Solar Power Project, 09-AFC-7 and the Genesis Solar Energy Project, 09-AFC-8.

10. I have investigated the area in Eastern Riverside County along the I-10 corridor, where those projects would be located.
11. Based on my investigation of this area, I believe it to be the most sacred area of the North American Continent to the Chemehuevi. It is the area where the Aztec Calendar is geographically outlined and located. The area entails from the Kofa Mountains in Arizona, west to the human head image of Copilli-Quetzalli on the crest of the San Jacinto Mountains above the city of Palm Springs, California.
12. The proposed Blythe Solar Power Project is overlaid on more than 25 large geoglyphs that we have found throughout the area. They include the world known image of Kokopilli, Cicimitl (the Great Spirit that takes human spirits to their final resting place in Topock Maze, "Mictlan"). Included in the area is the image of El Tosco, over 5 large windrow mazes, a 9-level pyramid and over 24 sacred images that have not yet been deciphered.
13. The main East/West & North/South trails all lead to and from the Blythe Giant Intaglios. One trail leads to Kokopilli and Cicimitl which traverses west through the south end of the McCoy Mountains to the McCoy Springs. Here the image of Quetzalcoatl takes a bath then goes to the Palen Mountains "Hue-Hue-Tlapallan" (Reddish Earth), where he is lead to the underworld by Xolotl (the Dog), as shown in the petroglyphs at the Palen Mountain Mural Wash.
14. On February 2009, we took 2 archaeologists, Jeffery Adams and Joe that had contacts with BLM to document all the geoglyphs along the Colorado River which included the Sacred Sites of Kokopilli and Cicimitl.
15. On March 2, 2010, we took John Kalish, Bureau of Land Management Field Manager and George Kline, archaeologist of the Palm Springs, California office to the Blythe Solar Power Project area and took them on an onsite tour which included 5 large geoglyphs and the images of Kokopilli and Cicimitl. Unfortunately, we have not yet received a report of the investigations.
16. A true and correct copy of a letter from me to John Kalish regarding the March 2, 2010 tour and the Sacred Sites, dated March 5, 2010, is attached hereto as **Attachment 3**.
17. A true and correct copy of a letter from me to George E. Kline regarding the March 2, 2010 tour and the Sacred Sites, dated March 5, 2010 is attached hereto as **Attachment 4**.

18. I am personally familiar with the facts and conclusions described within this declaration and if called as a witness, I could testify competently thereto.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed on June 11, 2010, at 2:00 PM.


Alfredo Acosta Figueroa