

DRECP Framework Conservation Strategy Report

Comment Form

Commenter (Your Name)	Comment #	Comment Location:					Reviewer Comment (e.g., organization, content, grammatical comments)
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Dr Cherry Good							

Commenting on: (Clean version, track changes version) _DRECP EIR/EIS
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I am a resident of Pipes Canyon, Pioneertown, in California’s high desert, and strongly oppose the six scenarios proposed by DRECP at the Ontario Stakeholders’ meeting April 25/26. I attended this meeting, and oppose all six scenarios on the following grounds:

1. The scenarios are incomplete in that they fail to reflect developments which are in the early stages, eg the planned industrial wind turbine project by Element Power on Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa in Pipes Canyon, Pioneertown. This project has been the subject of an Environmental Assessment, with wind measurement masts constructed on both buttes, and is representative of a large number of exploratory or early-stage projects which are not reflected in the DRECP scenarios.
2. At the recent DRECP Stakeholders’ Meeting there appeared to be an attitude that one of the scenarios MUST be chosen. This is incorrect and unacceptable. There are other alternatives to covering pristine desert areas with wind turbines and solar panels. The buttes of Pipes Canyon are home to valuable flora, fauna, birdlife and cultural sites. This is not an area which should be sacrificed to

the frantic pursuit of alternative energy 'at all costs'. Nor is this a subject on which we should rush to make decisions which are frequently based on superficial studies. This is the time to slow down and think about decisions which will have long-lasting repercussions.

3. We need to consider alternatives to covering our ever-dwindling wild places with development, and to redirect federal and state incentives towards local generation of energy such as rooftop solar. And we need to be less greedy in our consumption. If we fail to change our ways, future generations will condemn us for our hastiness, our greed, our lack of foresight, and for the way in which we sacrificed our precious lands so thoughtlessly.
4. We need the Bureau of Land Management to carefully consider the whole question of the level of protection accorded to Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. At the Stakeholders' Meeting I asked the BLM representatives for clarification on this point, and received none. This question needs to be addressed immediately.

Please do not hesitate to contact me concerning further discussion of these points. I shall look forward to hearing from you.

Dr Cherry Good