

DOCKETED**09-RENEW EO-1**

TN 72730

FEB 25 2014

**Officials of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management
and California Energy Commission:**

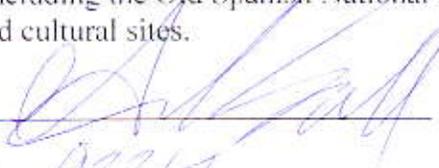
I am writing to express my opposition to the Silurian Valley Wind and Solar project, as proposed by Iberdrola USA.

This naturally, culturally, and historically rich area deserves protection to preserve its unique values and to protect the significant conservation investments that have been made in this remarkably beautiful region. The Silurian Valley is part of a larger landscape that includes Death Valley National Park, the Wild and Scenic Amargosa River, the historic Old Spanish National Historic Trail, multiple Wilderness Areas, the Kingston Mountains, and the Dumont Dunes. This aggregate of scenic areas should not be compromised.

Moreover, many people in local communities of the California Mojave project strongly oppose it, as destination tourism dollars are a key part of their economic lifeblood. Many small businesses have been created to serve visitors—both American and from overseas—to this region, and there is deep concern that this project will harm those local economies.

Instead of approving an industrial-scale power plant in a remote scenic and environmentally sensitive area, I urge that you use your regulatory power to ensure that:

- BLM designate this beautiful and rich landscape as a part of the National Conservation Lands.
- BLM and CEC oppose this energy project through the variance criteria and not pursue an EIS process. This project conflicts with the Visual Resource Management protections (class II) set forth in the variance rules. The project is inappropriate as it introduces harm to natural, cultural, and historic resources that are irreplaceable, while the project site could be easily moved to a more appropriate location. No contracts for the project are in place.
- BLM and CEC not designate this outstanding valley as a development focus area (DFA).
- BLM and CEC do not allow energy development in the remote Silurian Valley, and instead encourage the generation of clean energy on rooftops and on already-disturbed lands closer to our cities. This project is located distant from urban centers that would receive its electrical power, yet its impact will fall upon a remote and beautiful desert landscape which is critical to local communities to attract tourists.
- BLM and the state of California should designate the roads connecting Joshua Tree National Park, Mojave National Preserve, and Death Valley National Park (Amboy, Kelbaker, and SR 127) as National Scenic By-ways as they connect millions of visitors annually to nationally significant resources.
- The BLM and CEC recognize that the Silurian Valley is a scenic and natural treasure for visitors to the desert. It is rich in the history of human transportation across the Mojave Desert, including the Old Spanish National Historic Trail, and Native American trade routes and cultural sites.

Signed  City Pomona, CA

Zip Code 92267

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Signed Laurel Wier City Pasadena

Zip Code 91105

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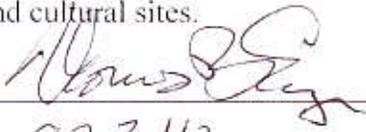
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Signed  City Heleandale
Zip Code 92342

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Signed

Monica Ayuda City Claremont

Zip Code 91711

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Signed

Chris Clark

City

Joshua Tree

Zip Code

92252

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Signed

Tom Bradley

City

Los Angeles

Zip Code

90049