

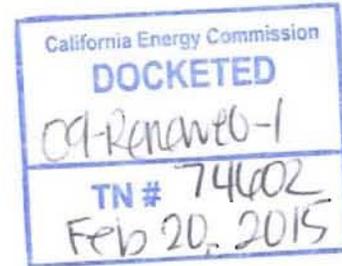
Board of Supervisors
County of San Bernardino

JAMES C. RAMOS
SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT



February 17, 2015

Chris Beale, DRECP Acting Executive Director
California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Docket No. 09-RENEW EO-01
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512



Dear Mr. Beale,

I wanted to take this opportunity to make a comment on the DRECP.

While I understand the consequences of underestimating the need for renewable energy in the Plan Area may be greater than the consequences for overestimating the need, there is no mention of the need to revisit the 20,000 MW planning goal.

The energy calculator's ultimate revised July 2012 scenario estimates that between 17,163MW and 19,491MW of renewable energy capacity would need to be built in the Plan Area by 2040. However, a quick analysis of existing and permitted projects since the DRECP "energy calculator" baseline cutoff date of December 31, 2010 indicates we are approximately half way to the planning goal which appeared to be inflated from the beginning. Thus, much less desert and SBC acreage is actually necessary for the projects and DFA.

Taking the DRECP's stated 20,000 MW goal, at face value, there is only a need for at most 5,000-6,000 MW of "big" solar in the DRECP planning boundary. That is because the California desert region already houses wind and solar power plants that provide renewable energy. Post 2010, the total number of MW production online/ under construction adds up to about 10,400. There are also rooftop alternatives to consider. The DRECP makes no mention of incentives for residents who choose rooftop solar panels to power their homes. Furthermore, a detailed quantitative and qualitative analysis regarding how much of the 20,000 MW of renewable energy generation (irrespective of the size of the projects) could serve electricity demand within the County must be conducted.

Technology and trends are changing on the renewable energy front and many communities and cities in Southern California are striving toward producing as much or more energy as they use. My constituents' vision for renewable energy in the county prioritizes distributed generation on rooftops, parking lots, and sites large scale projects on brownfields and disturbed lands.

Therefore, I see a need to revisit the 20,000 MW. I request an updated energy calculator analysis which I feel is an appropriate immediate task for the commission to undertake.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James C. Ramos".

Chairman James C. Ramos