From:	Sierra Club on behalf of Violeta Villacorta
To:	Energy - Docket Optical System
Subject:	Protect California deserts while building a renewable energy future (DRECP NEPA/CEQA)
Date:	Monday, February 23, 2015 12:48:51 AM

Feb 23, 2015

California Energy Commission
CA

Dear Energy Commission,

The Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) must include long-lasting wildlife protections, preservation of key landscapes like the Soda Mountain area and Silurian Valley, as well as resilient habitats for climate change adaptation. It also needs much more detailed analysis of where the right places are for solar, wind and geothermal power plants. Let's be sure we put energy projects on more degraded lands, and create stronger protections for wildlife habitat, water quality and air quality at the same time.

Please direct your staff to develop a revised Supplemental plan that addresses the draft's flaws, analyzes development areas in much greater detail, and provides protections for California's desert wildlife and habitats that last as long as the impacts of renewable energy development.

I am a proponent of alternative energy. While solar and wind farms and geothermal are the solutions to commit to now and into the future, we must protect the fragile ecosystems that are used and being planned for locations for these alternative solutions. Roof solar farms and caged wind turbines are even better location alternatives for harvesting sun and wind energy; the electricity is collected and used in the same location, all excess can be diverted to the electric grid.

In 2005, I converted my home into a solar electric producer, where 2/3 of the electricity collected on my roof went to the grid. I believe that all homes in ideal locations can be perfect alternatives to farm the sun's and wind energy.

Sincerely,

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