

2/18/15

to: Chris Beale, DRECP Acting Executive
Director and
James Ramos, San Bernardino County
Supervisor

Dear Sirs,

I have lived in Joshua Tree
for nine years, and am a business
owner here.

I am writing today of my concerns
about the DRECP.

I think that further studies need
to be done, especially as concerns
possibilities of rooftop solar in many
of the areas where the transmission lines
will take the power generated by
solar farms. It seems to me far more
advantageous to put solar on roofs
where it's needed rather than bulldoze
large areas for solar farms and then
have to build the infrastructure to
get that power to where it's needed.
That could at least reduce the
amount of land used for alternative
energy, whether it be wind or solar.

Also, I think it would be good to look at repurposing $\frac{1}{2}$ or upgrading the wind farms, like in Palm Springs, rather than spending more money and using up more land to build new ones.

Many areas have been protected for conservation needs, but I feel that many more need to be considered. I include an attachment that lists these places. Many are wild life linkages, so that the protected species will be able to travel as global climate change alters present situations. The Soda Mountain area is especially sensitive.

I request a revised & recirculated DRECT plan, with lots of local community input, carried out in an open public process, with attention to non-harming of our air & water supply, & protecting the life of our rural community.

Thank you,
Vera Topinka

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Attachment 3. Places that require conservation in the Preferred Alternative of the DRECP

Active sand dunes
Avawatz Mountains (including "Bowling Alley")
Big Maria Mountains and surrounding flats
Bristol Lake (excluding mineral leasing and salt mining areas)
Cadiz Valley/Iron Mountains
Chuckwalla Bench
Coso Range area (including Olancho Dunes - not including OHV area)
Danby Lake
Desert Tortoise Natural Area (ACEC)
Eagle Mountain
Existing critical habitat
Joshua tree woodland habitat
Lower Centennial Flat
Lucerne Valley wildlife linkages
Malpais Mesa (including northwestern Talc City Hills, Santa Rosa flat & Conglomerate Mesa)
Microphyll woodlands
Morongo Basin wildlife linkages
Mule Mountains
Orocopia Mountains area
Palen Lake
Pinto Mountains area
Pisgah Valley (ACEC)
Red Mountain
Riparian areas
Riverside Mountains area
Rodman Mountains area (lands abutting existing Wilderness)
Rose Valley/McCloud Flat (area in DFA)
Sacramento Mountains
Silurian Valley (including BLM Special Analysis Area and additional acreage)
Slate Range
Soda Mountains - south slope
Sperry Hills/Kingston Range
Tehachapi Mountains and Southern Sierras - areas of conservation interest
Valley Mountain
Vidal
Wildlife Linkages
Whipple Mountains area