



ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3400

David Harlow  
Director, Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

February 12, 2013

Dear Mr Harlow,

As follow-on to my letter of 24 July, 2012, this letter provides amplifying information in support of the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP).

I understand that the DRECP document, once completed, will contain a Section titled, "Conservation and Management Actions, including Allowable Uses and Use Restrictions". The intent of this section is to provide agency stakeholders a venue to articulate their respective expectations in order to streamline proposed projects under NEPA/CEQA within the DRECP planning area.

In my letter of 24 July, 2012, I provided a Department of Defense (DoD) comprehensive matrix detailing potential military operational constraints by Development Focus Area. The results of our analysis were included in the matrix by renewable energy technology but shown separately on several maps. Each map contained three (3) distinct color codes, briefly described below:

### Red Areas

Represent locations where there is a significant likelihood of an unacceptable risk to national security, and the technology identified might impact military operations, testing, and training.

### Orange Areas

Represent locations where there is a likelihood of an unacceptable risk to national security, and that the technology identified might impact military operations, testing, and training.

### Yellow Areas

Represent locations where there is some likelihood of an unacceptable risk to national security, but that the technology identified probably will not impact military operations, testing, and training.

In an effort to continue DoD's support of the DRECP initiative, we recommend the following be incorporated as part of DoD's input towards the "Conservation and Management Actions, including Allowable Uses and Use Restrictions" section of the DRECP:

- A. Red Areas – No streamlining of projects unless a written letter is provided by the DoD Siting Clearinghouse stating military impacts have been mitigated.
- B. Orange and Yellow Areas – Streamlining of projects permitted following consultation with DoD at the regional level that results in a DoD assessment of no mission impact. DoD regional level shall have 30 days to determine mission impact assessment. However, within the 30 day DoD review period, should DoD assess that the project might result in a significant possibility of an unacceptable risk to national security, then such project shall not be streamlined, and referred to the DoD Siting Clearinghouse.
- C. Notification to DoD at the regional level for a military impact assessment and determination to streamline a project within the DRECP planning area shall follow DoD Service level points of contacts established by SB 1462.

I appreciate and value the excellent collaborative relationship that exists between our agencies to ensure compatible renewable energy development while protecting and sustaining the military's mission.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Aimone, P.E.  
Executive Director  
DoD Siting Clearinghouse