

**PALA TRIBAL HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE**

PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road
Pala, CA 92059
760-891-3510 Office | 760-742-3189 Fax



PALA THPO

April 14, 2015

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

Re: Comments on Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (“DRECP”)

Dear Mr. Harlow,

The Pala Band of Mission Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Office has received your letter requesting our comments on the DRECP. This letter constitutes our response on behalf of Robert Smith, Tribal Chairman.

We have consulted our maps and determined that the DRECP as described is beyond the boundaries of the territory that Pala considers its Traditional Use Area (TUA). Therefore, we have no tribally-specific objection to the DRECP; however, we are aware that affected tribes such as the Agua Caliente Band and the San Manuel Band have made comments that specifically address impacts to important sacred and cultural sites. We wish to lend our support to the concerns of the desert tribes and ask that the DRECP continue consultation with them until they are satisfied that all of their important sites are protected. I am confident that working together, the goals and needs of tribes and of the CEC can all be satisfied.

We appreciate involvement with your initiative and look forward to working with you on future efforts. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 760-891-3515 or by e-mail at sgaughen@palatribe.com.

Sincerely,

Shasta C. Gaughen, PhD
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Pala Band of Mission Indians