

Energy - Docket Optical System

From: rwilhelmy@sbcglobal.net
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To: Energy - Docket Optical System
Subject: DRECP NEPA/CEQA



To Whom It May Concern:

In-basin, Distributed Generation

As a homeowner with two homes equipped with rooftop solar, I am writing to bring to your attention issues that will require the development of an alternative that was not previously given serious consideration. Specifically, the issue I wish to bring to your attention is distributed, in-basin generation, aka rooftop solar. In the DRECP this “alternative” was placed in a category called “Alternatives Considered but not brought forward for Detailed Analysis.” The rationale given for not performing a detailed analysis was because this alternative would not lead to the “development of a streamlined process for the development of utility-scale renewable energy.” (Vol. II, Section 8, Page 9) This rationale for not performing a detailed analysis of rooftop solar means any alternative method of creating 20,000 megawatts of generating capacity that does not meet the a priori criteria of utility-scale facilities is not really an alternative.

The rationale described above for not carrying forward rooftop solar for a detailed analysis is an example of a flawed analysis that substantially changes conclusions. The flawed analysis used in this section of the DRECP means that any alternative that does not lead to a predetermined outcome—utility-scale generating facilities—cannot be given serious consideration. The correct analysis of each and every alternative, including rooftop solar, should be on the basis of cost, technical feasibility, generating potential, and environmental impacts. Otherwise you concede the need for hundreds of miles of transmission lines to get the power to the location where it is needed. These transmission line corridors will cause much 'collateral' damage besides what the installation of the large-scale power generation itself would do.

Why pave thousands of acres of pristine open space when you could use space already occupied by roofs? Why build hundreds of miles of transmission lines when with rooftop solar they would not be needed?

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