

## Energy - Docket Optical System

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**From:** Teresa Sitz <teresa\_stewart\_sitz@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 23, 2015 12:53 PM  
**To:** Energy - Docket Optical System  
**Cc:** Ken Sitz  
**Subject:** DRECP Comment

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED**

**09-RENEW EO-1**

TN # 75132

FEB 23 2015

Issues requiring clarification or modification of an alternative,  
Issues requiring development of an alternative that was not previously given serious consideration,  
Issues that would lead to a revised or supplemental EIS/EIR,  
New information,  
Missing information, or  
Flawed analysis that would substantially change conclusions.

I write this letter to officially request that a new alternative be considered for the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan.

The current Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) includes no alternative that accurately reflects existing California state energy priorities that require energy efficiency measures of all types, including rooftop solar (classified by the state as an energy efficiency measure), be fully implemented prior to developing large, remote power generation projects of any type, nor one that incorporates the US-EPA's Re-Powering America's Lands program when siting the latter. The DRECP draft EIR/EIS states:

"Multiple commenters noted that distributed generation, energy efficiency, and the siting of renewable energy on brownfield sites should be considered as components of a single alternative rather than as independent alternatives..." (Section II.8-3). This failure to consider detailed analysis of viable, cost-effective and less harmful alternatives to those listed in the existing draft DRECP appears to violate both NEPA and CEQA and should be remedied by including a point-of-use, energy efficiency and solar alternative.

We have one desert and once it is destroyed, it is destroyed forever. Carbon sequestration in the desert has only recently been discovered. Destroying large acreages of desert land may imperil us in ways we cannot predict.

Blading the desert releases dust into the air, dust that then must be suppressed with water - water that has taken millennia to collect. Using desert water for energy creation has the potential to destroy all desert life and displace vibrant rural communities that depend on that water for their livelihoods. There are few rural communities left in America and the desert community deserves to be protected, especially when viable alternatives have not been fully researched.

It would be a shame to squander our country's birthright to enrich a few energy corporations and in the meantime, destroying for ALL time, one of the last few wild habitats left, and the communities dedicated to protecting them.

Thank you,

Teresa Sitz

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