



DESERT RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN

DRECP Alternatives

The draft Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) includes six alternatives, or proposed approaches, for achieving the plan's goals. The DRECP's environmental impact statement and environmental impact report analyzed the following action alternatives and a No Action alternative:

- **Preferred Alternative.** Renewable energy development distributed across the plan area; moderate development flexibility. Approximately 2 million acres of development focus areas plus 183,000 acres of variance lands needing more study for development suitability. Nearly 4 million acres identified as BLM National Conservation Lands.
- **Alternative 1 – Disturbed Lands and Low Resource Conflict Alternative.** Renewable energy development confined to low conflict disturbed lands. Approximately 1.1 million acres of development focus areas plus 37,000 acres of variance lands. Approximately 1.7 million acres identified as BLM National Conservation Lands.
- **Alternative 2 – Increased Geographic and Technology Flexibility Alternative.** Renewable energy development distributed across the plan area; maximum geographic and technology flexibility. Approximately 2.5 million acres of development focus areas with an additional 109,000 acres of variance lands. Approximately 5.1 million acres included as BLM National Conservation Lands.
- **Alternative 3 – Geographically Balanced Alternative.** Renewable energy development distributed across the plan area; moderate development flexibility. Approximately 1.4 million acres of development focus areas. Approximately 3.8 million acres included as BLM National Conservation Lands.
- **Alternative 4 – Geographically Balanced Alternative with Variance Lands.** Renewable energy development distributed across the plan area. Approximately 1.6 million acres of development focus areas with all of the nearly 600,000 acres of Western Solar Plan variance lands. Approximately 3 million acres included as BLM National Conservation Lands.
- **Alternative 5 – No Action.** Renewable energy permitting continues on a project-by-project basis with conservation at a landscape-scale.