

Thank you for your comment, Joe Ross.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is SolarM60132.

Comment Date: August 11, 2009 16:14:07PM
Solar Energy Development PEIS
Comment ID: SolarM60132

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11 August 2009

Hello,

By Secretarial Order (No. 3285), Secretary of the Interior Salazar created an "Energy and Climate Change Task Force" (to be headed up by Deputy Secretary David Hayes). It will be important that the PEIS effort be synched up and consistent with that group's function (as delineated in the Order). I would encourage the EIS to clearly explain the parallel efforts and how they are correlated. Further, I would hope that the Dept. of the Interior soon announce the members, meetings and minutes associated with this Task Force. I would encourage the Department to create a website for open, transparent public communications in this regard.

Another issue has "surfaced" that I would like to pass along to you for analysis in the EIS. That is the potential effects of solar development on albedo radiation (light reflected off the earth's surface). Heat would also be associated with this radiation. The widespread development of solar energy could have potentially adverse impacts on albedo radiation and associated warming and climate change.

I presume that the PEIS will also clearly model for insolation (incident solar radiation) at the priority and other areas proposed for development. This should present a quantification of solar energy available per unit area (as kilowatt-hours per square foot per day or as megajules per square meter per year). With a handle on the magnitude of insolation values, you should also provide estimates of the gross energy potential for areas.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Best regards,
Joseph Ross
29 Palms, CA