



Solar Energy Development

Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

Scoping Comment Form

The U.S. Department of Energy and the Bureau of Land Management invite you to participate in the scoping process for development of a programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS). The PEIS will focus on issues associated with facilitating development of solar energy projects in six western states through establishment of environmental policies and mitigation strategies.

The Public Scoping period is open from May 29, 2008 until July 15, 2008. You can submit comments via the project web site <http://solareis.anl.gov>, by folding and mailing in this form (postage is required), or by mailing other materials to the address provided on the other side of this form.

FOLD
HEREFOLD
HERE

WITHHOLDING OF PERSONAL INFORMATION: Commenters should be aware that the entire comment - including personal identifying information (including address, phone number, and e mail address) - may be made publicly available at any time. While one can request in the comment that personal identifying information be withheld from public review, this cannot be guaranteed. If you wish the Agencies to withhold your name or street address from public view, you must check a "withhold" option below. The Agencies will honor such requests to the extent allowed by law. All comments from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

- My name and address are provided for the public record (see below and return address on other side)
- Withhold my name and address from the public record
- Withhold only my address from the public record

Name: Mark Orr

Address: PO Box 87, Hinkley CA 92347 (36714 Hidden River)

Comments:

Please see attached letter from Mark Orr
on July, 8, 2008 for U.S. Dept of
Energy, BLM, Solar Energy Development.
Pages 1 thru 5.
I request the BLM and Dept. of Energy consult
the EPA, Fish and Game, and Fish and Wildlife on
my following requests. Please reply my letter with
answers.

FOLD
HEREFOLD
HERE

Please mark the box indicating how you would like to receive additional information. If an email address is provided, you will only receive information electronically.

- By Email to: _____
- By Postal Mail to: Mark Orr, POB 87, Hinkley, CA, 92347
- Do Not Want To Receive Additional Information

JULY 8, 2008

Mark Orr
POBox 87
(36714 Hidden River Rd)
Hinkley, CA 92347
760-253-5304

ATTN: U.S. Dept of Energy, U.S. Dept. of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management, Solar Energy Development
Programmatic EIS Scoping Argonne National Laboratory EVS/900
9700 S. Cass Ave. Argonne IL 60439.

RE: Establishment of additional solar energy operations in
SouthWest region of United States, including Arizona,
California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah.
Establishment of additional solar energy operations in
regards to Title II, Section 211, of the Energy Policy
Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109-58).

I request the U.S. Dept of Energy and the Bureau of Land
Management regard and reply my following request concerning Solar
Energy Development seriously, and not just as an included number
towards the Met requirement of public involvement in any PEIS,
CEQA, or any other environmental impact statement or process.

I request the U.S. Dept. Of Energy and the Bureau of Land
Management regard with all serious concern the impact of solar
energy sites, and modes of construction or operation, using
mirrored or reflective devices and/or requiring the clearing of
bulldozing of large acres of land as causing present or potential
adverse alteration of normal localized and/or regional climate
or weather patterns, and perhaps even the contribution to
global warming via creation of artificial high pressure areas
above such mirrored solar sites, or such mirrored solar sites
contributing or enlarging existing high pressure cells, areas,
or systems.

JULY 8, 2008

MARK ORR/ Solar Energy Development
BLM, U.S. Dept. of Energy

As a citizen residing in the Mojave Desert, California, in the Hinkley and Barstow areas, I was presented with opportunity over the past 25 years of observing the effect large mirrored solar energy or heating operations in this region caused upon normal climate and weather.

I often observed moisture laden clouds would rise in altitude atop areas of heat created above the mirrored solar sites, then dip down and deposit unusually large amounts of precipitation of unusually heavy rain only upon a single line after traveling past the mirrored solar site, while all other land would remain almost totally devoid of rain.

If the weather was warm enough (80 degree or higher) then I observed the heat reflected from the solar sites using mirrors would effect a larger local or even regional area. When present moisture in clouds and humidity levels said the normal rain in the Mojave should be occurring, instead the cloud levels would rise and the storm systems would simply pass on with the trade winds. This was contrary to the normal thunderstorm activity existing in the desert over 25 years ago, and was not part of the normal rain shadow effect I observed in the past. Rain was occurring elsewhere, primarily away from the mirrored solar sites.

High pressure cells already tend to linger longer over the Mojave Desert region, so I am greatly concerned that the addition of additional large mirrored solar energy sites will

JULY 8, 2008

MARK ORR/ Solar Energy Development
BLM, U.S. Dept. of Energy

cause or contribute to larger climate alterations over the Mojave Desert or any other Southwestern region. Effects of added heat to existing High Pressure systems could then effect surrounding regions.

Similar effects can be studied in the concept of Heat Islands over cities, though by my reading of EPA and other research materials the emphasis is placed on those living or working conditions and structures within a recognized heat island, and not necessarily upon the effects of emitted heat on overall local or regional climate. Thus reflection of heat is advised as a means of cooling buildings, but no emphasis is placed to the effects that reflective heat produced would impact climate, especially when smog is involved.

I contend that the Heat Island effect of cities with reduced vegetation providing little evapotranspiration will be worse with large solar sites using mirrors and all vegetation bulldozed away. Some comparison with the cooling reflection of lakes was made by some internet sites I visited, but such comparisons are unrealistic since evaporation of water also occurs at lakes or oceans, while at large mirrored solar sites no such comparable evaporation will occur.

Much research seems to be concentrated on surface or near surface air temperatures when concerning mirrored solar sites, while in my opinion no emphasis is placed on heat emissions or reflected heat upon higher air or atmosphere conditions.

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MARK ORR/ Solar Energy Development
BLM, U.S. Dept. of Energy

Cities often have yard, garden, park, and other water functions that provide cooling evaporation. Mirrored solar energy operations will not produce comparable evaporation unless it also involves extreme heat emissions in my opinion.

Please research carefully and address my concerns of impact of mirrored solar energy or heating sites upon climate both localized and regional.

I am also concerned by the addition of roads and power lines involved with the establishment of additional solar energy sites in the Southwest United States. It would not be logical or prudent for citizens to lose homes or properties due to eminent domain. Also, the impact of such roads or lines for power on wildlife (especially endangered or habitat limited wildlife) should be kept in strong consideration. Solar energy is regarded by many as an environmental solution, not as a means of removing peoples from their homes for a single companies advantage, or as a threat to wildlife. I request that more meetings be held to discuss possible road or powerline etc. impacts, and that such meetings be held at the local areas effected rather than 20 or 30 miles away or more, or in another county. Such meetings should concentrate on alternative solutions, and not just announce BLM or Dept. of Energy intentions.

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MARK ORR/ Solar Energy Development
BLM, U.S. Dept. of Energy

I request the BLM and the U.S. Dept. of Energy research and address the concern that any mirrored or reflective solar energy device or operation could harm or disrupt the normal life, behavior, or activity of pollinating animals or insects, including: Bees, Wasp, Hummingbirds, native flies, bats, or native moths etc. in the Southwest United States of America, especially in regards to pollinators of any native cactus, other succulants, or flowering plants, including those of endangered status. Concern is for loss of habitat due to solar energy land requirements. Concern is for animals or insects being harmed or killed by being attracted or caught in construction or extreme temperature generation of any mirrored or reflective solar energy device. This would also apply to any solar energy device of open construction that would allow animals or insects to enter, including stirling engine based technologies.

I request the BLM and U.S. Dept of Energy research and address the concern that mirrored or reflective solar energy device, especially when arranged as massed arrays, could attract the attention of migratory birds who could mistake the devices reflections as bodies of water, causing the bird flocks to waste crucial time and energy descending upon a false location not providing food or water. These could lead to large number of bird fatalities. I myself have witnessed birds being fooled by solar mirrors or even wet tar in the Mojave Desert.

JULY 8, 2008

MARK ORR/solar energy development
BLM, U.S. Dept. of Energy

I am also concerned by the use of water to any additional Solar Energy sites in the Southwest United States, and the impacts of possible water overdraft may have on citizens or wildlife.

With concern for the health and quality of life of the citizens and wildlife in the Mojave Desert, San Bernardino County, California, and for that of all people and wildlife in the Southwest United States, I ask the BLM and U.S. Dept. of energy to seriously research and address the environmental concerns I have presented in this letter. Thank You.

I also request that an additional month of time be added to the scoping PEIS process so that citizens can better gather related data and materials on this topic of solar energy development, and approach the subject with more research and details concerning environmental impacts and modes of operation of solar energy sites and plans.

Please reply my letter with answers. Thank You.

MARK ORR

HINKLEY, CALIF.

JULY 14, 2008

MARK ORR
POBox 87
(36714 Hidden River Rd)
Hinkley, CA 92347
760-253-5304

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ATTN: U.S. Dept. of Energy, U.S. Dept. of Interior Bureau
of Land Management, Solar Energy Development
Programmatic EIS Scoping Argonne National Laboratory
EVS/900 9700 S. Cass Ave. Argonne IL 60439.

RE: Establishment of additional solar energy operations
in South~~west~~ region of United States, including Arizona,
California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah.
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regards to Title II, Section 211, of the Energy Policy
Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109-58).

ADDENDUM to requests and concerns written on JULY 8, 2008
and already mailed/postmarked on JULY 9, 2008. Please add a
request for research and address of the concern for the entire
possible impact of materials (be they solid, gas, vapor, or
liquid) being added or coordinated with any Solar Energy operation
or project site as a by-product or emission of the solar energy
operation, or as a by-product or emission from a project or industry
working alongside or in coordination with any solar energy
operation or project site. This would include any carbon based
emissions (be they solid, gas, vapor, or liquid) including any
dioxide or monoxide (CO₂, CO) materials or emissions that might
be piped or transported to any solar energy operation or site
with purpose of usage, storage, release, or injection into water
or ground. I request a complete disclosure and public informing
of any such above mentioned solar energy projects or sites
accepting and/or using any such materials, or releasing them,
(be they solid, gas, vapor, or liquid) as well as providing full
Federal, State, and Public involvement in related Environmental
impact reports or studies before or after a solar energy site or
operations establishment.

JULY 14, 2008

MARK ORR/ SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT
BLM, U.S. DEPT. OF ENERGY

A projected solar energy project between Hinkley and Barstow California, along or near Lenwood Road, according to local newspaper media, intends to pipe or transport Carbon gases and inject them into the ground where we are told they will become coal. No mention has been made that this coal will form in my opinion 10,000 to one million years plus in the future, or what impacts on groundwater or any atmospheric release might be. Hinkley is the site of a massive Chromium 6 groundwater contamination by PG&E, so it is natural that we desire to avoid future problems with other industries and business, especially those involving energy.

I and many other citizens desire that solar industry for energy remain by definition and practice a clean business and industry. One of the primary goals of planning and obtaining solar energy is to achieve energy without byproduct or emission pollution of our air, water, or ground. It is not the desire of I and many citizens to support solar energy development that has byproducts or emission that may contribute to air, water, or ground quality problems, or coordinates with other projects, business, or industry that has byproducts or emissions that may contribute to air, water, or ground quality problems. I request that solar energy development remain as pollution free as possible, and not coordinate with projects, business, or industry with byproducts or emissions that could contribute to air, ground, or water quality problems.

*Mark Orr,
Hinkley.*