

Thank you for your comment, Chris Odell.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is SolarS50389.

Comment Date: July 14, 2008 16:12:27PM
Solar Energy Development PEIS
Comment ID: SolarS50389

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To Whom It May Concern:

I have been living in the Las Vegas area for fifteen years. My family and I chose to come to this area due to the abundant off-road recreational activities available to us at the time. Over the past few years, we have noticed a very unfair situation taking place here in the Vegas area regarding land closures. As the Vegas Valley has grown immensely, the growth has been taking chunks of land we used for OHV recreation at an astonishing rate. We have been whittled down recreating in two areas, Jean/Primm and Nellis Dunes, for off-highway recreation. And now you are proposing taking one of the remaining two areas away for solar power development.

I am all for renewable/alternative energy sources, but there many other areas that can be utilized for this purpose. Why do you always go after the OHV areas? There are 2 million people living here in Las Vegas and OHV use is at the top of the list for families to participate in. You cannot keep taking OUR land away and funnel us like a herd of cattle into parcels of small acreage! It is unsafe and unhealthy! There is no reason to take OUR (the OHV) land away to use for the proposed solar plant. None whatsoever. We are tax payers and this is OUR land. You must allow a percentage of land to be available for us to recreate on - you can't just keep taking it and not giving anything back. There are hundreds of thousands of acres of desert available for this type of project that would be just as suitable.

This closure would impact an already devastated economy. There are 5 sanctioning bodies that utilize the land proposed for the solar plant to hold sanctioned events on. These events bolster not only the local Vegas economy, but as many participants come from the California and Arizona areas to enjoy the desert in the Jean/Primm area in this arena, if it is closed to OHV use, it would greatly impact all of the businesses that are tied to our sport. It is a ripple effect and one that I just can't see justified. You must give our families a place to recreate and this place needs to stay as the Jean/Primm area.

Thank you.