

Thank you for your comment, William Carr.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is SolarS50525.

Comment Date: July 15, 2008 11:44:25AM  
Solar Energy Development PEIS  
Comment ID: SolarS50525

First Name: William  
Middle Initial: L  
Last Name: Carr  
Organization:  
Address: 28500 M60 W  
Address 2:  
Address 3:  
City: Cassopolis  
State: MI  
Zip: 49031  
Country: USA  
Email: Jkirk3279@beanstalk.net  
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record  
Attachment:

Comment Submitted:

I've read about the environmental impact study involving Concentrating Solar in the American Southwest.

The main concern seems to be: Water.

Concentrating Solar plants need water to run their steam turbines; ironically the the best place for these solar plants is in the desert...

I don't believe water use will be a serious issue, contrary to some statements issued by the BLM.

I've read that up to 90% of the country has access to a sub-layer of brackish water.

Even here in Michigan, we have oil wells, and the oil well across the street from our business is now chiefly a source for brackish water: it's used to wet down unpaved roads during dry periods.

The first priority for the location of a Concentrating Solar plant depends on proximity to the power transmission grid.

Obviously the second criteria for site selection will be availability of the brackish water reservoir to allow for plant operation.

And the upside is that once having used the brackish water for turbine operation, the clean steam can be condensed, stored, and perhaps used to support the local wildlife.

I strongly feel that properly managed, a Concentrating Solar plant can actually be beneficial to the local environment, while supplying America with much needed electricity, and also creating job opportunities.

And remember, that every megawatt generated by clean solar power is another megawatt's worth of coal and natural gas we won't have to burn.