



Comments on Draft Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP)

James Ramos, San Bernardino County Supervisor

"The California desert is a world-class destination and we encourage careful planning to protect what is special about our lands while providing feedback on the best locations for renewable energy development. We want to enhance our economies and quality of life, and that can only be done through an open process that listens to public voice."

Michael Gordon, Professional Landscape Photographer

"Over the past 25 years, I have had the privilege of visiting and photographing some of the California desert's most remote and beautiful places. The desert's unique seeps and springs, mountain ranges and sand dunes, and wildlife that depends upon these places are worthy of our protection and stewardship. Visitors from around the world come to see these wild and unfettered Mojave Desert landscapes. Long term renewable energy planning processes are an opportunity to make sure we locate development in well-considered and appropriate locations, but it will take a commitment on the part of agencies to listen to communities and protect our natural and cultural heritage for future generations. This is our obligation and responsibility."

Frazier Haney, Conservation Director for the Mojave Desert Land Trust Joshua Tree, CA

"The California desert is one of the most beautiful and understudied regions in our country. This landscape is rich with national parks, wilderness, long views, rugged mountains, springs, and wildlife. Our organization asks that the powers that be carefully plan for the future of our desert to ensure we can retain those special values, like 10,000 year old plants and hundred year old tortoises."

Curt Sauer, Former Superintendent of Joshua Tree National Park

"As a former superintendent of Joshua Tree National Park and employee of the National Park Service for over 35 years, I've often experienced the wonders of the California desert: spectacular vistas, abundant wildlife, rose hued sunsets and starry night skies. My experience has led me to believe that there is a need for thoughtful, comprehensive renewable energy policy that protects our ecosystems, communities and recreational opportunities, while avoiding inappropriate development that could harm the desert we know and love."

April Sall, conservation director for The Wildlands Conservancy

"The Wildlands Conservancy purchased over 600,000 acres of land in the California desert for natural, cultural and recreation values. We support conservation planning and low impact renewable energy and hope that the DRECP planning process will limit utility scale development to disturbed lands, protecting our precious public lands and internationally recognized desert legacy."

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All comments are available for media use.

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