

Attributes of ideal CREZs
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1. Proximity to existing infrastructure (transmission interconnects)
2. Proximity to major highways
3. Availability of wastewater resources for cooling and cleaning
4. New roads not needed or diminished
5. Makes use of previously disturbed sites, for example:
 - a. Farmland not under conservation easement, conservation reserve or other reserve programs, or otherwise important for wildlife habitat; and,
 - i. which is under consideration for conversion to energy development by willing lessors or sellers.
 - ii.
 - b. Contaminated sites (agricultural or industrial, such as Westlands Water district selenium lands Superfund or RCRA sites)
 - c. Other
6. Minimizes development within sensitive resource areas (Categories 1 and 2), and minimizes development adjacent to or surrounding legally excluded areas or other sensitive resource areas when that development would negatively impact those areas. Sensitive resource areas include but are not limited to:
 - a. ACECs
 - b. DWMAAs
 - c. Proposed and Potential Conservation Reserves in HCPs and NCCPs
 - d. Important Bird Areas
 - e. USFWS designated Critical Habitat for federally listed endangered and threatened species
7. Efficient production of electricity
 - a. High output per acre
 - b. Accommodates more than one source of power
 - c.
8. Minimizes scenic concerns
9. Biological Factors such as:
 - a. Species Richness/Diversity
 - b. Number of habitat types in CREZ
 - c. Percentage of area in 5 or x mile buffer of CREZ that falls into A+B list