

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CALIFORNIA
ENERGY COMMISSION AND THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH
AND GAME REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RENEWABLE
ENERGY ACTION TEAM**

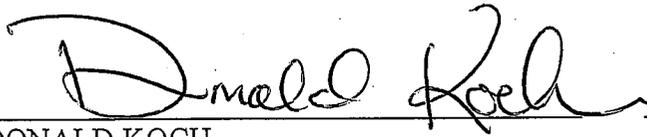
WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger's Executive Order issued on November 17, 2008 directs the California Energy Commission (CEC) and the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to formalize a Renewable Energy Action Team; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Renewable Energy Action Team shall be to provide for a streamlined permitting process for renewable energy projects, to reduce substantially the permit processing time, and to provide guidance to applicants on siting considerations and conservation strategies.

NOW, THEREFORE, the CEC and DFG agree as follows:

1. There is hereby created a Renewable Energy Action Team (REAT) to create a "one-stop" process for permitting renewable energy generation power plants and transmission lines under California law.
2. The REAT shall work closely with the United States Bureau of Land Management and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to integrate this one-stop permitting process with federal permitting requirements and processes.
3. The REAT shall be comprised of officials and employees from CEC and DFG, to be appointed by the Chair of CEC and the Director of DFG, or their respective designees on or before November 24, 2008.
4. The REAT shall coordinate the actions of relevant CEC and DFG staff to expedite review of projects within the jurisdiction of CEC and DFG.
5. The REAT shall establish and define renewable energy development areas in which permit processing times shall be reduced by fifty percent (50%) beginning on February 1, 2009.
6. By December 1, 2008, the REAT shall initiate a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) to be known as the desert renewable energy conservation plan (DRECP) for the Mojave and Colorado Desert regions.
7. By March 1, 2009, the REAT shall identify and publish top priority areas in California where other NCCPs or similar plans should be developed based on their renewable energy potential.

8. By December 31, 2009, the REAT shall identify and publish a Best Management Practices manual to assist renewable energy project applicants in designing projects to emphasize siting considerations and minimize environmental impacts for renewable energy projects in the Mojave and Colorado Desert regions.
9. By December 31, 2009, the REAT, in conjunction with our federal partners and stakeholder groups, shall develop a conservation strategy that clearly identifies and maps areas for RPS project development and areas intended for long-term natural resource conservation as a foundation for the DRECP.
10. By December 2010, the REAT, in conjunction with our federal partners and stakeholder groups, shall complete the draft DRECP and initiate the environmental review process.
11. By June 1, 2012, the final DRECP shall provide binding, long-term endangered species permit assurances, facilitate the Mojave and Colorado Desert project approval process, and provide a vehicle for state and federal conservation funding to implement the DRECP.
12. This MOU may be amended at any time by a writing signed by both parties.

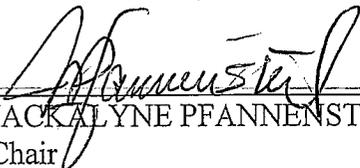


DONALD KOCH

Director

California Department of Fish and Game

Date



JACKALYNE PFANNENSTIEL

Chair

California Energy Commission

Date