

**Additional Preliminary Questions and Topics for  
Solar Flux Workshop, August 28, 2012  
Center for Biological Diversity**

The Center for Biological Diversity<sup>1</sup> is providing additional preliminary questions and discussion topics that we hope can be addressed by the applicants and staff at the scheduled August 28, 2012 joint workshop regarding the Rio Mesa and Hidden Hills solar projects. These are provided in addition to the list of discussion topics and questions provided by Energy Commission staff on Monday, August 20. The Center anticipates that additional questions and topics will arise at the workshop and thereafter.

Technical Questions:

- Impacts to air temperature from increased solar flux at varying distances from the tower and at varying times of day including dusk and early evening.
- Impacts to air currents from solar flux and air temperature changes.
- any information about solar flux and/or air temperature at the Solar 1 site (for comparison)

Biological Questions:

- In addition to the question in 12(b) “the safe ocular exposure levels and assumptions or data used to estimate exposure level”, the Center would like the workshop to address the likely impacts to avian vision from both the brightness of the tower receivers and the solar flux and the impacts of temporary and/or long-term loss of vision on avian species’ survival.
- Impacts to eagles and other avian species due to heat effects from changed air temperature
- Impacts to eagles and other avian species use of the area due to changes in air currents
- Impacts to bats from changed air temperature due to solar flux including residual heat during active periods and any impacts to bats from associated changes in air currents
- Identification of invertebrates in the area. There is some evidence that this is a “migratory” area for butterflies (CITE to butterfly data base info on Ivanpah Valley)
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<sup>1</sup> The Center is an intervenor in both the Hidden Hills and Rio Mesa matters before the Energy Commission.