

From: Eric Solorio
To: Docket Optical System
Date: 1/14/2010 1:11 PM
Subject: Fwd: Solar plant Indian Wells Valley

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>>> "Jack & Su Tipton" <jackrnch@gmail.com> 12/21/2009 1:20 PM >>>

I think we in the Indian Wells Valley have a big issue facing us. I hope all of the kern County Supervisors are as concerned as I am. This is regarding the large solar system that is on a fast track by the BLM.

I feel that the people making the decisions aren't knowledgeable of the hydrology in our valley. I have read that the Ridgecrest water district sees no problem with the extraction an additional 130 acre feet of water per year.

The district's board aren't qualified to make that kind of a decision. They are just elected by popular vote. If this plant is permitted, and if they are economically successful, they will expand. The aquifer can't support the demands now.

We have Larger water users already in the valley:

Trona plants & community
 Naval weapons center
 IWV water district
 Ridgecrest public works Parks and road mediums
 Cerro Coso College
 Inyokern Service District
 Hay fields north of Inyokern
 and numerous orchards.

Water problems facing the IWV:

1. We have no known way to make water
2. A very small chance to import any water
3. little recharge to our aquifer
4. An undisputable yearly drop in the water table
5. No recharge by rain on the valley floor.

With these facts, how can the valley supply more water?

Do we just keep using water until there is no more? Let the younger generations suffer the consequences of our greed. Greed is involved in this plan, somewhere .

Our country needs solar power, but this purposed plant uses enormous amounts of our dwindling water supply. There are solar systems that don't require water to operate.

I suggest that a waterless solar system be built here or the planed plant be moved to a location that can supply water and could import water in the future.