

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP
FINAL MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR MAY 1, 2015**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 PM, Friday, May 1, 2015 at the Boulevard Fire Training Room behind the Boulevard Fire Department located at 39919 Ribbonwood Road, Boulevard CA 91905

A. ROLL CALL (Determination of quorum):

- **Members present:** 1) Robert Maupin; 2) Earl Goodnight; 4) Donna Tisdale; 5) Michele Strand; 6) Paula Byrd; 7) vacant
- **Absent:** 3) Kevin Keane (excused absence-work)

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

C. APPROVE MINUTES FOR APRIL 2ND MEETING:

- ***M/S: Maupin /Goodnight: Approve the 2nd minutes as corrected: Passed 5-0-0***

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

- Earl Goodnight commented on the UT's Sunday article with pictures of Sempra's new wind turbines in Baja.
- The Chair reported she can see the wind turbines, on the ridge in Mexico, from high points on her ranch, and they appear to be spaced too close together which reportedly increases turbulence and noise impacts.
- The Chair added that in Ocotillo, locals witnessed holes being drilled in the end of the turbine blades to allow the leaked oil to run out.

E. ACTION ITEMS:

1. VOTE TO FILL VACANT SEAT #7:

- The Chair posted the vacancy notice in the Alpine Sun newspaper, at the Post Office, and local bulletin boards.
- Ron Hynum's application was the only one received.
- Hynum's application was certified by the Registrar of Voters. He is qualified for appointment.
- In response to questions from the Board and public, Hynum said he has previous experience with non-profit boards, mostly as staff and accounting; he appreciates our rural character and would like to work with the Planning Group on community issues; he does not support corporate takeovers.
- If approved, Ron's application will go to Supervisor Jacob for a vote by the Board of Supervisors (BOS).
- Some online training and other required filings must be completed before new members can vote with the Group.
- Appointment by the BOS should take about a month to six weeks.
- The Chair thanked Ron for his willingness to get involved.
- ***M/S: MAUPIN/BYRD: Recommend appointment of Ronald Hynum to fill vacant Seat # 7: Passed 5-0-0***

2. 2.9MW CHAPMAN SOLAR RANCH, PDS2015-MUP-15-005. LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-15-21-001: SCOPING HEARING NOTICED FOR 6PM ON MAY 6TH AT THE FIRE STATION AS OPPOSED TO HOLDING SCOPING MEETING AT THE JUNE 4TH PLANNING GROUP MEETING AS REQUESTED.

- The Chair included a map and pictures in the agenda packet.

- Consultant, Jim Whalen, could not attend. He sent a message to the Chair: “...the previous two presentations made by Bruce Chapman and /or me represent the project pretty well. It hasn’t changed—it’s still not a Soitec-like commercial solar project, it’s electricity for the Boulevard community. It is still less than 3 MW and still connects to existing local distribution lines. Please let me know if you have any questions.”
- The agenda and draft minutes were provided to Whalen prior to the meeting.
- He requested a copy of the Chair’s draft comments, in order to answer questions, but there were no draft comments to share.
- Paula Byrd brought up the fact that there is no way to control where the electrons go, once the power is on the grid, it’s all the same. Energy cannot be isolated to Boulevard only.
- Plus, Boulevard already produces exponentially more energy as it uses - 50 MW Kumeyaay Wind.
- There is also a triangle shaped piece of non-participating property shown as part of the easement. However, according to that property owner, there is no easement agreement. Secondary access is mandatory, but not possible due to project location next to I-8.
- There is a PPA with SDG&E, signed last year.
- The project is a for-profit commercial industrial use where no such zoning exists.
- Water source identified as PVMWD, Pine Valley Sanitation and Padre Dam.
- Project Facility Availability – Water (PDS-399W) incorrectly states the project will not use groundwater or reclaimed water.
- Project Facility Availability – Sewer (PDS 399S) incorrectly states they are not proposing the use of reclaimed water
- Project Facility Availability – Fire (PDS399F) : San Diego County Fire Authority : eligible for service; 4.0 minutes to project; conditioned to participate in developer agreement with SDCFA due to cumulative impacts to Boulevard’s emergency services; Fire Protection Plan required with detailed technical report on hazards to emergency responders; how to de-energize project; signage; recommended training for emergency personnel prior to commissioning and on an “as requested” basis; provide information on the unique hazards of PV systems.
- Concerns were raised with volunteer/ reserve staff status of Boulevard Fire and lack of full-time properly trained personnel that will be serving Boulevard. Too many unstaffed “dark days” remain.
- Chair requested authorization to submit scoping comments for group based on public comments and Chair’s research
- ***M/S: Strand/Byrd: Authorize the Chair to send scoping comments opposing the proposed Chapman Ranch Solar project. It is not in the best interest of our community: Passed 5-0-0 (Keane was excused due to work and Seat 7 is vacant).***

3. JACUMBA SOLAR MUP PDS2014 MUP-14-041 DRAFT EIR:

- Jesse Marshall, NextEra’s project manager, was invited but declined to attend.
- 81, 108 solar modules
- 23,650 square feet substation; 21,600-square-foot battery storage next to substation
- 1,500 feet of overhead 138 kV line to ECO Substation
- Each battery enclosure would include an air conditioning unit for cooling purposes and a self-extinguishing fire system. The enclosures are similar to shipping containers and are approximately 45 feet long by approximately 9 feet in height, and approximately 8 feet wide.
- Grading - approximately 180,000 cubic yards of cut redistributed across the site.

- Panels washed 2 x year @ 280,000 gallons per year.
- 100,000 gallons of water per day from JCSD during first 6 weeks.
- Peak construction will require of 325,861 (1 AF) per day for 40 days of bulk grading and 1,080,000 gallons a year for operation water demand.
- Report from the 4-28 Jacumba Sponsor Group meeting:
 - No one would admit if there will be a phase II.
 - They refused to discuss the lack of a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for the project.
 - Impacts to Bighorn Sheep are being denied.
 - Jim Bennett told those present that about 2 years of water left in backcountry if drought continues.
 - No significant drop in Jacumba wells was officially reported.
 - A statement was reportedly made that the property of one of the Sponsor Group members abuts the Jacumba Solar project site, and it could be sold to them for expansion/easement.
 - It was also noted that, if true, that Sponsor Group member had a potential conflict and should have declared the conflict, stepped down, and recused themselves.

- Governor Brown's new executive order mandates reduction of GHG emissions to 40% 1990 levels and increases renewable energy percentage to 50%.
- Project Facility Availability – Water (PDS399W): JCSD's signed form falsely states the Project is in the District when it is miles outside their Sphere of Influence Map most recently approved by LAFCO in 2013; there is no amount of water included; and no time limit.
- Project Facility Availability – Water (PDS399W): Padre Dam MWD expires 9-18-15 includes conditions of approval for use of Construction Recycled Water (no specific amount of water identified); form includes a disclaimer that recycled water is based on availability during winter months of Nov-March and requests for out of district water during the rest of the year will be considered based on seasonal circumstances and approved on a case by case basis when surplus recycled water is available.
- Project documents say JCSD Well 6 in Boundary Creek watershed will provide up to 19.2 million gallons. ECO Substation used 15 million gallons from JCSD –Boundary Creek aquifer is located in Boulevard, south of Old 80 and west to TDS road. Map does not include all wells (some were pre-permit era)
- An additional 32 million gallons is the expected demand from JCSD Park well(s) and potential replacement wells for Wells 1 & 2 that are located in Flat Creek Watershed. The Flat Creek Watershed Investigation report is unclear where all that water will go—some will go for construction water sales.
- JCSD Park Well 4 has elevated levels of VOCs and hydrocarbons but the water quality reports are old and JCSD's sphere of influence is limited to 423 acres within district boundary around Jacumba community—does not include Jacumba Solar site.
- Rain gauges and rainfall data used mostly out of area sites in Boulevard, including Tisdale's Morning Star Ranch in the Tijuana River watershed and designated Sole Source Aquifer, west of TDS and Campo.
- 4.7 million square feet of overall improvements according to Minor Storm Water Management Plan <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/pds/regulatory/docs/Jacumba%20Solar/EIR/3.1.4-2-MinorSWMP.pdf> . That is a lot of square footage.
- The list of cumulative impact projects is outdated and wrong– status updates/corrections needed.
- Lack of need for project.
- Figure 1-7 Fire Station locations provides a false sense of full coverage when that is not the case.

- Boulevard and Jacumba are covered with reserve personnel; White Star on TDS is being shut-down when new Blvd station opens—with reserve staffing.
 - FPP Plan @ page 39¹ incorrectly states that construction of the new Boulevard Fire station will add to additional fire fighting resources to the Project. NOT TRUE. The new station replaces the existing volunteer station and once operational will result in the closure of the old Blvd Station and White Star station on TDS resulting in reduced resources.
 - Appendix C Fire Facilities Availability Form is not filled out signed by County.
 - Appendix D Battery Storage downplays overall increased risk, but they do admit the following @ page D-8: <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/pds/regulatory/docs/Jacumba%20Solar/EIR/2.4-2-FireProtectionPlan.pdf>
 - The energy storage containers include electric hazard • The energy storage containers are adjacent to energized solar panels • There is extra energy that may be released from polymeric materials burning (binder, separator, etc.) • Burning batteries would present smoke toxicity and environmental issues • There is no known way to eliminate “ignition sources”; e.g.: fire initiated from an internal short, subsequent to a manufacturing defect • There may be re-ignitions and post-fire monitoring will be required.
 - SDG&E’s Long Term Procurement Plan Track 4 late 2014 for Preferred Resources – with winners selected in 1Q 2015
 - **B. Location / Point of Interconnection**
 - Products must provide capacity that will reduce load or add capacity that will count towards SDG&E’s local Resource Adequacy (“RA”) requirements. This means that projects must be located in SDG&E’s local sub-area – *i.e.*, physically located in SDG&E’s service territory and connected to SDG&E-owned transmission or distribution facilities at a point that is (i) at or electrically west of the Miguel or Suncrest substations and (ii) electrically south of the SONGS 230 kV switchyard (projects connecting at the Miguel or Suncrest substations are considered to be local area projects for these purposes). For DR and EE resource types, customers included must be located in SDG&E’s service territory.
 - SDG&E’s posted Boulevard substation MW capacity is at -0- and generation capacity is at -7.6 MW <https://www.sdge.com/sites/default/files/documents/877084648/Substation%20Area%20Available%20Gen%20Capacity.pdf?nid=2557>
 - Feeder Generation capacity for Boulevard Substation is the same -0- and -7.6 <https://www.sdge.com/sites/default/files/documents/1593864627/Feeder%20Available%20Gen%20Capacity.pdf?nid=2556>
 - ***M/S: Strand/Byrd: Authorize Chair to submit comments in opposition to Jacumba Solar due to cumulatively significant adverse impacts, including groundwater resources: Passed: 5-0-0 (Keane was excused due to work & Seat 7 is vacant)***
4. **2015 GENERAL PLAN CLEAN UP AMENDMENT AND REZONE (GPA14-001; REZ14-001):**
- No Boulevard specific impacts. Mostly cleanups and corrections. **No action taken.**

F. GROUP BUSINESS: Announcements; correspondence; discussion items; project updates

1. SAN DIEGO’S ENERGY STORAGE FUTURE:

¹ <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/pds/regulatory/docs/Jacumba%20Solar/EIR/2.4-2-FireProtectionPlan.pdf>

- Paula Byrd reported that she and Linda Shannon attended CleanTECH's organized discussion on San Diego's Energy Storage Future, held at SDG&E's Energy Innovation Center in Mira Mesa.
- Non-profit organization is promoting battery storage for commercial and residential --self generation incentives.
- As of January 2015, \$95 million in funding already received
- Already reauthorized to 2020
- UCSD professor has been testing on-site for 5-years; will now go off-site.
- Tesla is now selling similar commercial / home batteries
- Green Charge is selling batteries to businesses
- Funded by rate-payers with 10-year warranties.

2. REVITALIZATION REPORT:

- Next meeting to be May 5th at 6:30pm at the Boulevard Training Center.
- May 2nd is the Campo/Lake Morena Annual Round-Up.
- The Blues and Jazz Festival will be at the Jacumba Spa on May 2nd.
- May 28th will be the Supervisor Dianne Jacob Backcountry Matrix Meeting at the Campo Community Center from 2:30-4:30pm.
- CDBG Grant: Tammy Daubach to meet with Supervisor on May 20th, including County staff, Judith Shaplin, and Tzu Chi.
- Only 5 surveys from Jacumba and 6 from Boulevard were received by County staff regarding the community center. A poor showing.

2. A FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORT:

- June 5th is the Grand Opening of the new Boulevard Fire Department.
- A new lockbox has been installed at the Jacumba airport for emergency personnel.
- SDG&E wants to use drones to check power lines – Border Patrol is concerned.
- Red Cross has a program for seniors and low income families to have smoke alarms installed.
- Sheriff Dept. meeting had over 20 people in attendance, but no one from Boulevard was invited.

3. STATUS OF LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST THE COUNTY, SUPERVISOR JACOB, DONNA TISDALE, BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP, AND OTHERS BY VARIOUS ENTITIES RELATED TO DEVELOPER GREGORY LANSING: CASE: 37-2014-00025797-CU-MC-CTL: .

- Damage claims appear to have been reduced from \$100 million to \$17 million in the 2nd amended complaint filed on April 10th.
- The signed court order, dismissing the Chair and BPG from case, is included at last page in agenda package.

4. COMPREHENSIVE RENEWABLE ENERGY POD (CREP) 13-007:

- No new meeting date has been announced

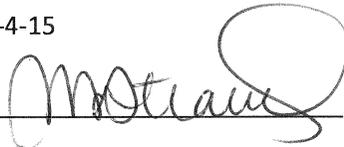
5. ROUGH ACRES RANCH CAMPGROUND/CONFERENCE CENTER: PDS2012-3300-12-021 (MUP): DRAFT EIR IS PENDING:

- In an April 28 e-mail, Project Manager Jim Bennett said *“The applicant has indicated they are going to submit the first Draft EIR within the next 30 days for County review. The actual date for public review and release of the DEIR is still undetermined. Typically we go at least two iterations of review on EIRs so were at least several months away from public review”*
6. **ROUGH ACRES RANCH ROAD – MAJOR GRADING PERMIT PENDING: PDS2011-2700-15622: APPLICANT GREGG HAMANN:**
 - In an April 28 e-mail, Project manager Ken Brazell said *“The County of San Diego has not issued a permit for the road”*
 7. **TULE WIND’S LEASE APPLICATION HEARING WITH STATE LANDS COMMISSION (SLC) FOR WIND TURBINES, ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE, MAY BE PLACED ON AGENDA BETWEEN JUNE AND AUGUST:**
 - The hearing could take place between June and August. People should consider going to testify.
 8. **IBERDROLA’S 200 MW TULE WIND:**
 - No project Power Purchase Agreement, or Eagle Take Permits have been reported.
 - Unresolved appeals in 9th Circuit.
 - Tule Wind formally requested that BLM extend their deadline for their construction Notice to Proceed (NTP) by two years to December 31, 2016. **BLM extended the NTP by one year only, to 12-31-15.**
 9. **TULE WIND PHASE II:**
 - Nothing new to report
 10. **APPEAL OF WIND ENERGY ORDINANCE AND PLAN AMENDMENT:**
 - The County response brief was filed on March 17th.
 11. **SOITEC SOLAR’S FINAL PROGRAMMATIC EIR WAS APPROVED FOR THE 765 ACRE RUGGED SOLAR AND 420 ACRE TIERRA DEL SOL SOLAR PROJECTS BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON FEBRUARY 4, 2015:**
 - Soitec received project approvals but their Board voted to exit the solar business.
 - No buyer was found for their TDS project. Soitec terminated their agreement to connect to the grid.
 - No news on current status of Soitec’s Rugged Solar project or their San Diego CPV manufacturing plant.
 - Rugged Solar has no Power Purchase Agreement.
 12. **DESERT RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN (DRECP) DRAFT DEIR/EIS COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED BY 45 DAYS TO FEBRUARY 23, 2015:**
 - Nothing new to report

G. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:30 PM / NEXT REGULAR MEETING SET FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH, 2015:

Minutes approved by Group on 6-4-15

Michele Strand, Secretary: _____



For More information contact Donna Tisdale, Chair at 619-766-4170 or tisdale.donna@gmail.com