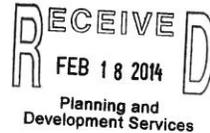


Comment Letter I77

February 15, 2014

Mr. Robert Hingtgen, Planner  
 Planning and Development Services  
 5510 Overland Ave, Suite # 110  
 San Diego, CA 92123



Hello Robert,

My name is Blanca Cruz and I recently moved to Boulevard, CA in January 2014 from San Clemente, CA to get out of the city to enjoy some peace and quiet, that only Mother Nature can offer.

I live on Ribbonwood Road and located in the 100 year flood plain. I mention this, as this is the area slated for the Soitec Solar project on the Rugged Acres Ranch is also in this same flood plain.

It's hard to imagine choosing a site for over 3000 solar panels in an area that could potentially flood. It's just not logical. The people who live in this area depend on wells for water, and Soitec wants to tap into the same water table to use 50 millions gallons of water just to wash these panels off. What a waste of precious water in this area, with no regard for residents whose ability to survive depends on this water supply. What will be the consequences if the residents wells go dry or capacity is reduced?

Using Ribbonwood Road as an access road to bring these big units in to the Rugged Acres Ranch area poses another whole set of risks and poor judgment that just doesn't make sense. This is a substandard narrow road that is in poor shape. I had to call the county road department last week after the little rain we had, caused the asphalt to break off on the shoulder and large ruts developed. Can you imagine heavy semi trucks loaded driving on this road? Not to mention the danger of driving on a narrow road with big rigs. Even now without that, it can be difficult pulling out of your driveway with poor visibility. It would be outright dangerous.

What about the thousands upon thousands of San Diego residents and others that enjoy driving through the beautiful rugged backcountry to enjoy getting out of the city for a chance to take in the beautiful sights this very unique landscape has to offer. It would be a real tragedy to sacrifice this beautiful rural backcountry area for another large scale industrial project in the name of Green Energy. It's anything but Green when you consider the significant environmental impacts it will have. The damage to the

I77-1

I77-2

I77-3

**Response to Comment Letter I77**

**Blanca Cruz**  
**February 18, 2014**

**I77-1**

Issues raised in this comment were considered and addressed in the DPEIR. See Section 3.1.5.3.1 for a discussion of potential impacts related to flooding, and see Section 3.1.5.3.4 for a discussion of potential groundwater-related impacts. The amount of water used for solar panel washing cited by the commenter is incorrect. The commenter is referred to common response WR1 and WR2 for a discussion of water demand revisions associated with the Proposed Project. Common response WR1 and WR2 also discusses the Groundwater Mitigation and Management Plans that will be implemented to ensure that well interference impacts remain less than significant.

**I77-2**

Please refer to the responses to comments I31-6 and I34-4. In addition, please refer to common response TRAF1, which addresses maintenance of Proposed Project area roads.

**I77-3**

Impacts related to scenic vistas and the visual change that would occur as a result of the Proposed Project were considered and addressed in the DPEIR; see Chapter 2.1. Also see response to comment I17-5.

<p>ecosystem this project is going to cause is irreversible. The magnetic field caused by these massive number solar panels will create an unknown risk to the health of the residents and visitors adjacent to this area.</p> <p>I oppose this Project as it is just too close to homes, destroys the rural character of Boulevard, will deplete the water supply, reflection and glare from the units, poor location sight being in a flood plain, substandard narrow Ribbonwood Road as access path, significant impacts to the natural environment and wildlife, and the impact it will have on the adjacent residents quality of life and property values, and the placement of a large scale industrial project in a wildfire prone area.</p> <p>For all these reasons, I support the NO PROJECT alternative listed in the Soitec Pier.</p> <p>I urge you to take an ethical stand, and take the above reasons into account and turn down this project and keep the San Diego backcountry for future generations to enjoy.</p> <p>Is this the message that San Diego County wants to project to the rest of the country? Is this the Green Energy legacy that San Diego County, wants to leave to future generations?</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Blanca Cruz 2597 Ribbonwood Road Boulevard, CA 91905 714-930-5799</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">↑ I77-3 Cont. ↓</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I77-4</p> <p>The County acknowledges the commenter’s concern associated with electric and magnetic fields (EMF). Recognizing there is a great deal of public interest and concern regarding potential health effects and hazards from exposure to EMFs, the DPEIR provides information regarding these potential issues; see Section 3.1.4.5 of the DPEIR. However, the DPEIR does not consider EMFs in the context of the CEQA for determination of environmental impact because there is no agreement among scientists that EMFs create a health risk and because there are no defined or adopted CEQA standards for defining health risks from EMFs. As a result, the EMF information is presented for the benefit of the public and decision makers. Furthermore, in response to this comment and other comments regarding EMF, a memorandum was prepared by Asher R. Sheppard, PhD to support the information provided in the DPEIR and provide more detail; see Appendix 9.0 of the DPEIR. The memorandum concludes that EMF from the Proposed Project are highly localized and pose no known concern for human health.</p> <p><b>I77-4</b> The County of San Diego acknowledges the commenter’s opposition to the Proposed Project and their support of the No Project Alternative. The environmental issues raised in this comment were addressed throughout the DPEIR. The information in this comment will be provided in the Final Program Environmental Impact Report for review and consideration by the decision makers.</p>
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