7345

Comment Letter O8

O8-1

Hingtgen, Robert J

Newberry Springs <newberrysprings@hotmail.com> Monday, March 03, 2014 3:43 PM Hingtgen, Robert J

Sent:

Subject:

San Diego Solar Letter 030314.pages; San Diego Solar Letter 030314.pdf Attachments:

Dear Mr. Hingtgen,

Attached is a letter in .PAGES format and also as a PDF.

Please include the letter in the public record on Soitec Solar's application for PV solar installations in the

Cordially,

Ted Stimpfel

December 2014

Newberry Springs Community Alliance

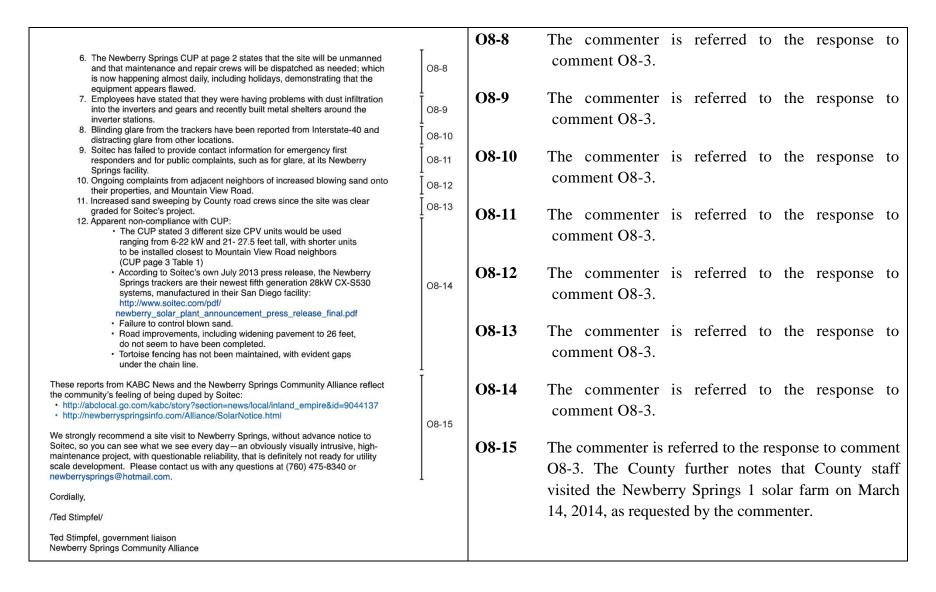
Response to Comment Letter O8

Newberry Springs Community Alliance Ted Simpfel March 3, 2014

O8-1 This comment is introductory in nature and does not raise an environmental issue for which a response is required.

The County of San Diego (County) concurs with this 08-2comment and addresses the specific comments on the **Newberry Springs Community Alliance** P.O. Box 11 Proposed Project below. Newberry Springs, CA 92365 (760) 475-8340 08-3The comment concerns the commenter's observations March 3, 2014 related to the Newberry Solar 1 solar farm, located in Robert Hingtgen County of San Diego Newberry Springs, California, and does not raise an Planning & Development Services Planning and 5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 110 Development Services environmental issue for which a response is required. San Diego, CA 92123 SENT ELECTRONICALLY VIA: robert.hingtgen@sdcounty.ca.gov **O8-4** The commenter is referred to the response to Comments on Soitec Solar Development Program Environmental Impact Report: 3800 12-010; Tierra Del Sol, 3300 12-010 (MUP), 3600 12-005 (REZ), 3921 77-046-01 (AP); comment O8-3. Rugged Solar, 3300 12-007 (MUP); Environmental LOG NO.: 3910 120005(ER) & Request of re-circulation of a revised DEIR Dear Mr. Hingtgen, **O8-5** The commenter is referred to the response to Please include these comments in the public record on Soitec Solar's four development 08-2 comment O8-3. projects that are planned to cover almost 1,500 acres in the rural community of Boulevard. Our comments are based upon first-hand experience with Soitec's 1.5 MW Newberry Solar 1 project that is in our community of Newberry Springs which is located 20 miles east of Barstow. **O8-6** The commenter is referred to the response to Soitec's Newberry Springs site has 60 CPV trackers on 27 acres of a larger parcel comment O8-3. located on Mountain View Road. This industrial facility is directly across the street from residences as proposed for the Boulevard projects. **O8-7** The commenter is referred to the response to Main issues as observed from our impacted rural desert neighborhood in Newberry Springs: 08-3 1. Recent media coverage reports Soitec's Mike Armstrong identified their comment O8-3. Newberry Springs project as a "test site". It was never promoted nor identified as such that we are aware of. 2. Misrepresentations in Soitec's CEQA Addendum to a Mitigated Negative Declaration for an existing Conditional Use Permit (CUP) (Solutions for 08-4 Utilities, Inc), to replace regular PV (6- 7 feet high) with Soitec/Concentrix CPV trackers (27.5 feet high): (http://sbcounty.gov/Uploads/lus/Desert/mitigatedNegativeDeclaration.pdf) 3. CUP statements of "minimal grading", "no glare", and "minimal visual O8-5 impacts" have proven untrue. 4. Soitec's on-site well had insufficient capacity for the amount of water 08-6 required for dust control during construction and off-site water had to be trucked in. 5. Soitec announced the site was complete in July 2013; however, visible 08-7 ongoing problems with a number of trackers continue to this date.

December 2014 7345



December 2014 7345

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<u>December 2014</u> 7345