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California Energy Commission (CEC)
Dockets Office, MS-4
Docket No. 09-RENEW EO-01
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Bureau of Land Management
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And

***This Never made it on the
View Comments***

Bureau of Land Management

RE: Response to DRECP prerelease presentation,

To CEC, DRECP and BLM,

Our organization is the California Desert District Mining Coalition (“CDDMC”) representing mining organizations, mining clubs, mineral organizations, current mining companies not listed in DRECP Appendices E, individual miners and the public who are interested in mining availability and mining rights. This represents thousands of mining claims and tens of thousands of miners in the California Desert District.

In regards to the DRECP, the CDDMC considers itself a “Stake Holder” in the development of the conservation plans for the proposed future renewable energy projects. The CDDMC would like a category for mining and minerals and be listed as a Stake Holder. The CDDMC has an equal share of interest and responsibility as to how the planning and affects are developed by the DRECP. CDDMC offers substantial benefits, knowledge and expertise to our local communities, state and nation with the ability to extract viable and vital minerals, rare earths and metals from public lands.

Mining can be accomplished in a safe, green and environmentally friendly manner and will create the badly needed NEW long-term and high-paying jobs which contribute to the local, state, and national economy with new long-term tax dollars and revenues unlike the renewable energy industry. Once units are up, ie: wind mills solar farms, the job structure is gone. (“Mining

permits are usually anywhere from 20-50 years”). Currently there are many investment groups and companies ready to invest into the mining industry in California and immediately ready to invest into Kern County.

Our “Public Lands” are considered “Multiple Use Areas” defined in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. As stated in the DRECP documents Title 1, Section 102, -12 “that the Public Lands be managed in a manner which recognizes the nations need for domestic sources of Minerals, food timber, etc.” The CDDMC’s intentions is to continue to fulfill that need. There are thousands of mineral claims just in the California Desert District mentioned by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) State District office, some of which that are in the proposed, “Development Focus Areas” considered by the DRECP.

For decades the mining community has worked closely with the BLM (And by extension the Department of Interior) to remain good stewards of our public lands. Just recently there has been more participation, due to education of late, with the BLM regarding planning of the DRECP. It is the vision of the CDDMC that mining will be more adequately represented by the BLM and the DRECP, as the mining interests are very much affected in the future.

We are saddened that you still have disregarded our interests and the fact that the mining and mineral community are stakeholders in this process. Reviewing the pre-release DRECP presentation, we do not approve it. The energy commission and DRECP have left the mining and mineral community out as stakeholders again. All other groups are represented in the presentation except mining.

People, mining makes the wind-mills. Mining makes the solar panels. If it is not grown it is mined. Think about it. The mining community has respectfully asked repeatedly in writing that we be included. Now we are demanding that the mining community be part of the discussions, planning, implementations and recognized in literature and media.

Anyway you look at it. If it’s not grown, it’s mined.

Signed
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