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Draft Solar Energy Programmatic EIS
Argonne National Laboratory
9700 S. Cass Avenue – EVS/240
Argonne, IL 60439

RE: Draft Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

To Whom It May Concern:

The Inyo County Board of Supervisors submitted comments regarding the draft Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). As indicated, the PEIS is not consistent with the County's plans and policies.

For the last several months, I have been attempting to ascertain why portions of Inyo County are proposed to be excluded in the Preferred Alternative from solar development in conflict with the County's planning. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) staff has informed me that these exclusion areas are due in part to "special recreation management areas" (SMRA), but BLM staff cannot explain what SMRA are or how they were developed. It is not clear that SMRAs are an appropriate screening tool for any alternative, but this determination cannot be made with the information available. This information is essential for meaningful public review of the draft Solar PEIS.

Thank you. Please call me at (760) 878-0263 or email me at jhart@inyocounty.us to clarify this issue or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Joshua Hart, AICP
Planning Director

cc: Board of Supervisors, Inyo County
Kevin Carunchio, County Administrative Officer
Randy Keller, County Counsel
Bob Abbey, BLM
Jim Abbot, BLM
Ashley Conrad-Saydah, BLM
Linda Resseguie, BLM
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