



**United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

California State Office
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W1623
Sacramento, CA 95825
www.blm.gov/ca

SEP 20 2013



In Reply Refer To:
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Memorandum

To: Christine S. Lehnertz, Regional Director, National Park Service, Pacific West Region,
333 Bush Street, Suite 500, San Francisco, California 94104

From: State Director

Subject: Memorandum Regarding Proposed Renewable Energy Development in Silurian Valley,
San Bernardino County, California

Thank you for providing my office with your concerns and recommendations related to the Silurian Valley Wind (CACA 51581) and Aurora Solar (CACA 53685) right-of-way applications in Silurian Valley.

The BLM welcomes the National Park Service's engagement in ensuring responsible and appropriate siting of renewable energy projects on public lands. The BLM plans to use the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process and follow the policies defined in our Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Solar PEIS) to better understand the potential impacts of these proposals, including those potential impacts presented in your August 16, 2013, letter. These processes are a critical step in our decision-making, and the National Park Service's participation will be valuable.

Beyond the formal NEPA process, specific opportunities for your engagement will include:

- Pre-application meetings as described in Instruction Memorandum 2011-061. The BLM is preparing to hold pre-applications meetings with the applicant, Iberdrola Renewables, Inc. The National Park Service, along with other federal, state, and local government agencies will be invited to meet with the BLM and the applicant to discuss the applications.

- The solar variance area process as described in Appendix B.5 of the Solar PEIS. The Aurora Solar application is proposed for lands designated as a variance area by the Solar PEIS. As part of the variance process, the BLM will conduct a pre-NEPA public meeting and additional coordination with appropriate government agencies and tribes before determining whether to process the Aurora Solar application. Your August 16, 2013, letter is an important part of this additional coordination.

A copy of your August 16, 2013, letter is being forwarded to the applicant, Iberdrola Renewables, Inc. Feel free to contact me if you have questions, and please contact Greg Miller, California Desert District, RECO Program Manager at (951) 697-5216 for specific technical issues.

cc: Rany Raviv
Vice President, Development Business Manager
Iberdrola Renewables, Inc.
1125 NW Couch Street, Suite 700
Portland, Oregon 97209

(CA610) Teresa Raml, California Desert District Manager
(CA610) Greg Miller, California Desert District Renewable Energy Program Manager
(CA680) Katrina Symons, Barstow Field Manager
(CA680) Joan Patrovsky, Barstow Field Office Project Manager