

# Silver Valley Realty

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January 24, 2018

Mr. Tom Nieves  
Contract Planner  
Land Use Services Department  
385 North Arrowhead Ave, First Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0187

SUBJECT: DAGGETT SOLAR (P201700679) AND MINNEOLA SOLAR (P20180004) AKA THE  
NEWBERRY SPRINGS SOLAR SLAUGHTER PROJECTS

Dear Mr. Nieves:

In regard the above two industrial solar projects my comments are:

- 1--This is a low income, low education rural community long targeted by the San Bernardino County Supervisors for adverse industry projects.
- 2--This community is economically disadvantaged and thus subject to economic racism at the whim of the County supervisors and in particular the First District Supervisor. We are a dumping ground for sewage sludge compost, a failed application for a toxic dump, trash-heap businesses and blight ignored by the County. Our Scenic Route 66, now named National Trails Highway, gets no respect from the County and neither do the viewsapes of the federal wilderness areas at the south edge of Newberry Springs: The Newberry Wilderness Area and the Rodman Mountains Wilderness Area. The County has the red carpet out for illegal freeway billboards in Newberry Springs and the adjacent Harvard area, in violation of federal spot zoning<sup>law</sup> and zone changes specifically for a freeway billboard, in violation of scenic route designations, and in violation of the California Outdoor Advertising Act Business District requirement. Plus I-40 and I-15 are supposedly protected by the Bonus Act.
- 3--The Verdict a good-government publication by Judicial Watch, a Washington, D.C. non-profit, rates San Bernardino County as one of the three most corrupt governments in the United States (February 2017 issue).
- 4--Our First District Supervisor is in the process of raping the County General Plan to accomodate the above two industrial-scale solar projects. Who is going to stop him?
- 5--The airport at Daggett is located adjacent to the above two projects. The County has mapped the surrounding area as an AR 3 (Airport Safety Review Area 3). The airforce does low level training flights over the area. I would imagine they might have a problem with 125' transmission poles and a 75' tall substation.
- 6--Doesn't the CEQA law require serious consideration of alternative sites for a monster project, such as the above two? What were the alternative sites that were reasonably rejected? How about some sites not in the midst of an existing community?

January 24, 2018

Mr. Tom Nieves  
Contract Planner  
Page 2

7-How do the two proposed solar projects comport with County General Plan Vision statements on Page I-9, and subsequent pages?

Continued "rural" character in many areas of the County, with buffering as needed adjacent to more urban areas (see Goal LU-2)

A sense of "place" and community identity in distinct communities where residents may choose to remain in unincorporated neighborhoods (see Goal LU-10).

Growth and development consistent with the maintenance of environmental quality (see Goal LU-7)

Communities that allow residents and visitors to enjoy the natural and local setting within reasonable limits of infrastructure....

LU POLICY 1.2 states: The design and siting of new development will meet locational and development standards to ensure Compatibility of the new development with adjacent land uses and community character.

The Minneola Solar project doesn't come close to meeting that policy.

LU Policy 1.4 states: Encourage preservation of the unique aspects of the rural communities and their rural character.

Suggest you take a drive out here and see if the Minneola Solar project meets that standard.

LU 11.1 POLICY states: Foster intergovernmental cooperation among federal, state and local agencies on key land use decisions.

Although I became aware of this nasty environmental invasion of our community in an indirect way last summer, I had no idea of its magnitude, until the just recent revelation. Obviously, the County has not given this community the courtesy of a heads up. The CSD just found out about this assault evidently engineered by Supervisor Lovingood and friends. Our Community Services District upon learning of the County's adverse intentions just this week has called an emergency meeting next Tuesday at 6 PM. Perhaps you might care to attend.

LU 10.1 Policy states: Adopt community plans with goals, policies and programs to recognize unique characteristics, issues and opportunities for communities within the County. That is definitely not happening in Newberry Springs.

GOAL D/LU 3 states: Ensure that commercial and industrial development within the region is compatible with rural desert character and meets the needs of local residents.

These two solar, industrial scale projects don't meet this standard.

January 24, 2018

Mr. Tom Nieves  
Contract Planner, SBC  
Page 3

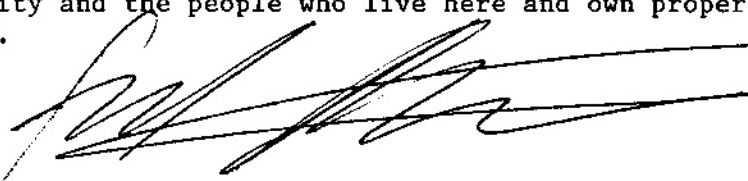
8--It is my understanding that Southern California Edison and all other California utilities have told the CPUC that they don't need or want any more solar project "procurement" until 2030 or so. They have more than they can use.

So, big question, do these two proposed solar projects have power purchase agreements with Southern California Edison? If not, can you explain the rationale of these applications, from that standpoint?

9--I don't blame the County Planning Division for the environmental racism that this community is subjected to. All the nastiness comes directly out of the District Supervisor's office. His obvious contempt for this community and the people who live here and own property here is astonishing.

Sincerely,

Fred Stearn



cc: mr. ken alex, director, governor's office of planning & research  
cc: ms. kathleen rollings-mcdonald, executive officer, lafco  
cc: san bernardino county planning commission  
cc: mr. chuck bell, lucerne valley economic development association  
cc: mr. robert vassar, president, newberry springs/harvard property owners assn.  
cc: mr. ted stimpfel, newberry springs community alliance  
cc: ms. vickie paulsen, newberry springs community services district  
cc: mr. gavin erasmus, phd  
cc: supervisor robert lovingood, san bernardino county 1st district  
cc: mr. tom hudson, director, san bernardino county land use services dept.  
cc: ms. terri rahhal, director, planning division, san bernardino county  
cc: mr. robert berkman, president, ceqa-now, newberry springs chapter

P.S. to Mr. Nieves: Can you please provide the elusive assessor parcel numbers for the above two referenced solar energy projects?

2nd P.S. to Mr. Nieves: Fort Irwin National Training Center utilizes the County Airport at Daggett. Will you be contacting them for their comment about these projects' proposed 125' tall power poles, etc.? And will you be confirming that the project applicant's have valid purchase agreements with all property owners covered by their applications?