



Renewable Energy



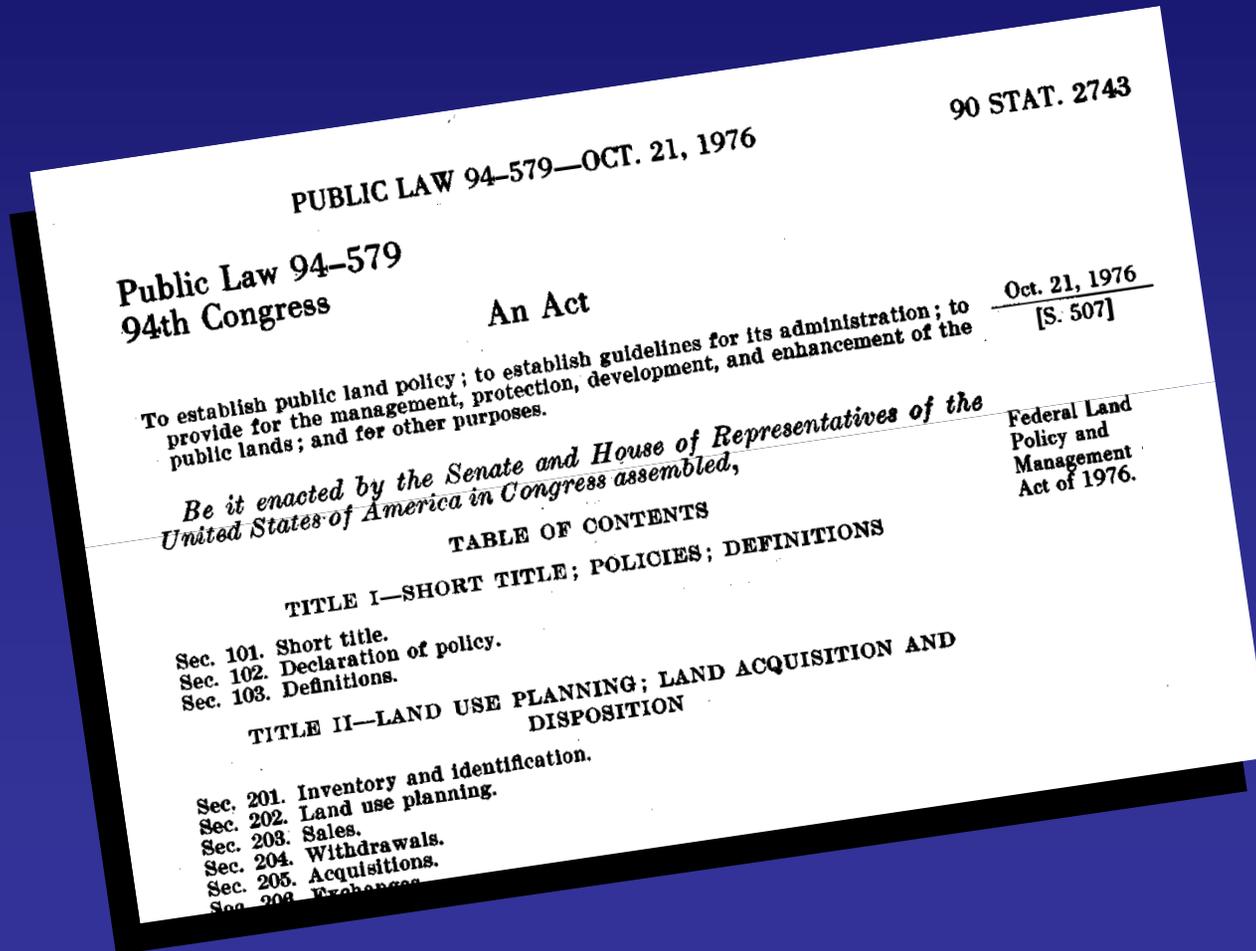
California Desert District Office – Moreno Valley, California

California Desert District Renewable Energy Program





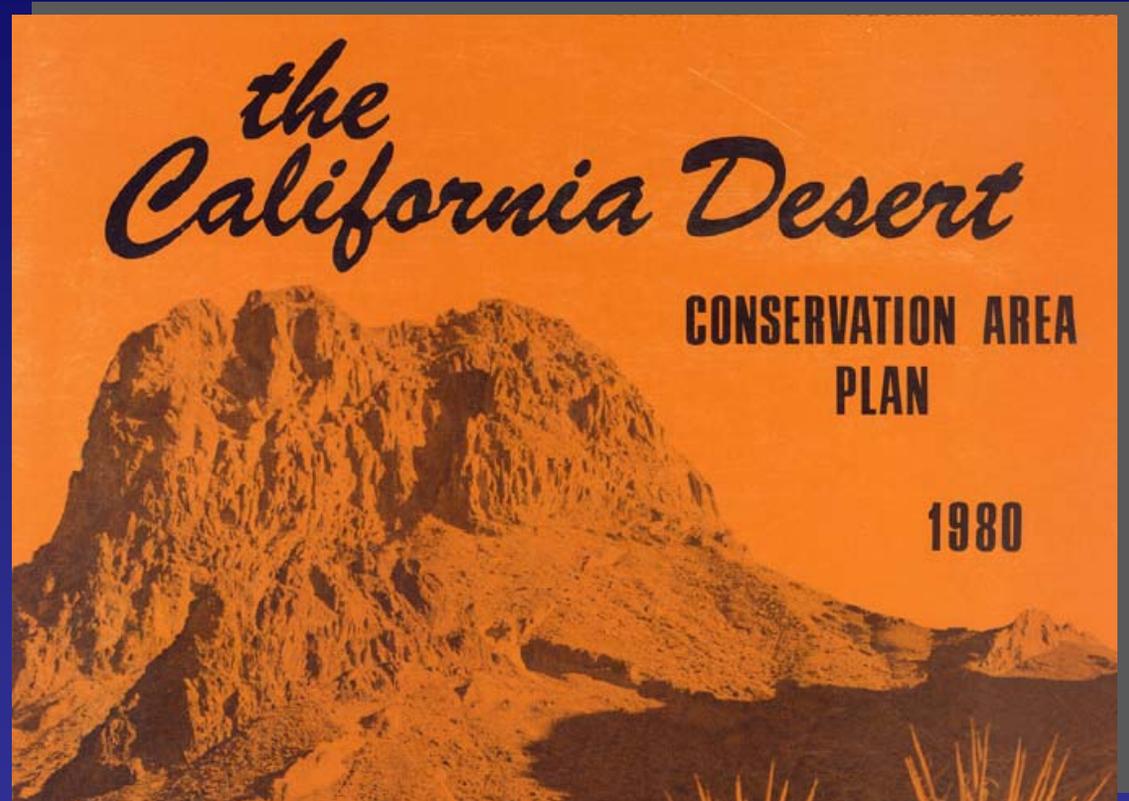
The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 established the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA)





The California Desert Conservation Area Plan of 1980 designated Multiple Use Classes (MUC) and guidelines for management within the MUC classes.

Plan Elements
(resources and uses)





Multiple Use Classes (MUC)

- ❖ Conservation
- ❖ Limited
- ❖ Moderate
- ❖ Intensive
- ❖ Unclassified



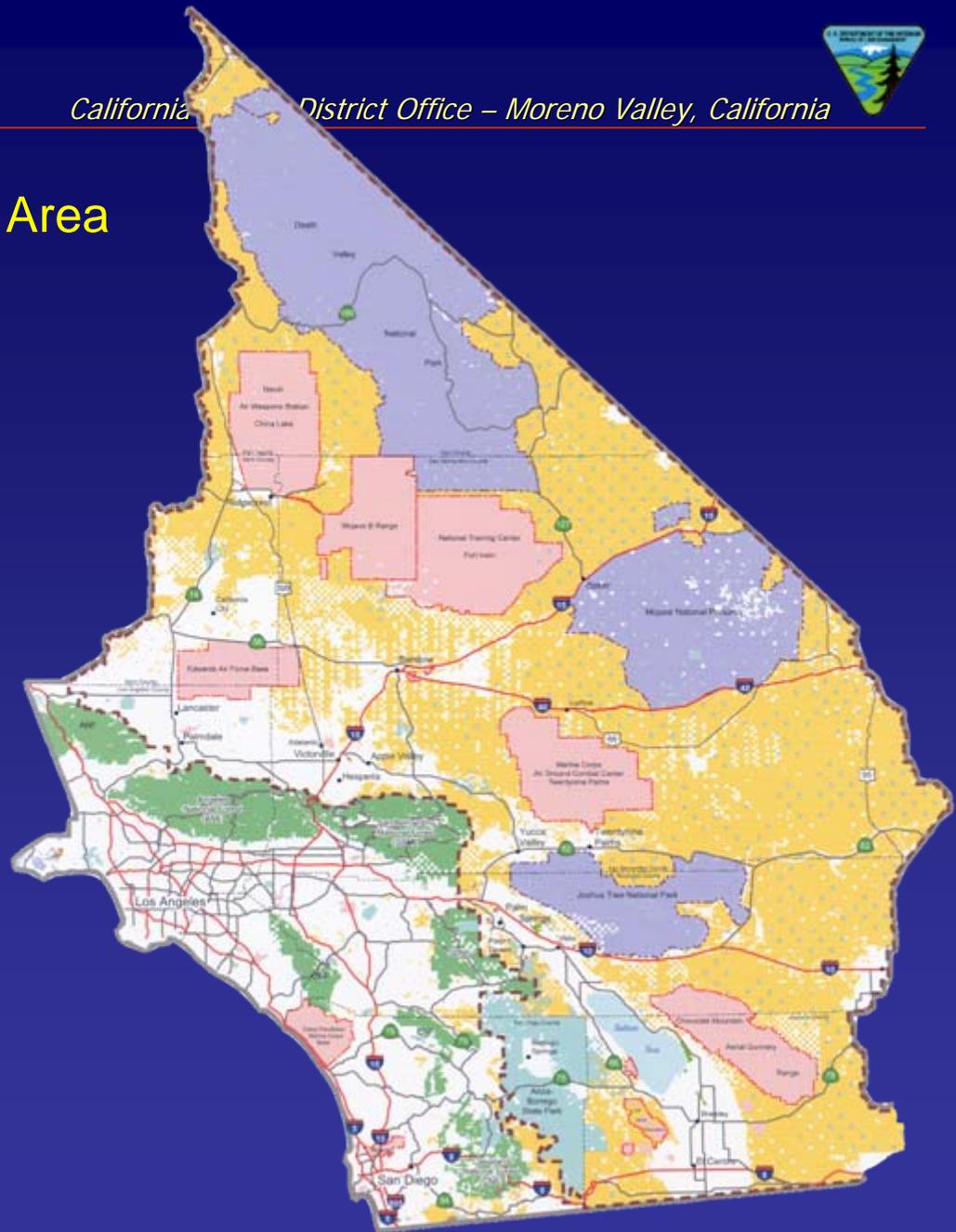
Multiple-Use Class Guidelines

Land Use Activities	Class C Controlled Use	Class L Limited Use	Class M Moderate Use	Class I Intensive Use
Electrical Generation Facilities	Not allowed	May be allowed	May be allowed IAW State/Fed & Local laws	
Nuclear & Fossil Fuel	Not allowed		May be allowed IAW State/Fed & Local laws	
Wind & Solar	Not allowed	May be allowed after NEPA req. met		
Geothermal	Not allowed	May be allowed pursuant to licenses issued under 43 CFR Section 3250, et. Seq. NEPA req. met		
Transmission Facilities	New facilities not allowed, except as provided Wilderness Act 1965 – 16 USC 1133(d) (4) or as spec. by Congress	May be allowed only w/ designated corridors, NEPA req. met (see Energy Production and Utility Corridors Element, CDCA Plan)		
	Existing facilities may be maintained IAW WMP	Existing facilities w/ designated corridors may be maintained and upgraded or improved IAW ROW grants, amend. Existing facilities outside designated corridors may only be maintained.		
Distribution Facilities	New licenses or ROW's for private properties will not be granted, existing may be maintained or improved but not expanded	New dist, sys. may be allowed and will be underground where feasible and placed w/ exist. ROW	New dist. Facilities may be allowed and shall be placed w/ exist. ROW. NEPA req. met	
	Maint. & Ops of existing facilities may be maintained IAW WMP	Exist. facilities may be maintained and upgraded or improved IAW exist. ROW grants		



California Desert Conservation Area

Designated by Congress as a California Desert Conservation Area, this 25 million-acre expanse covers most of southeastern California -- almost a quarter of the entire state. Nearly half of its acreage is a desert conservation showcase managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).



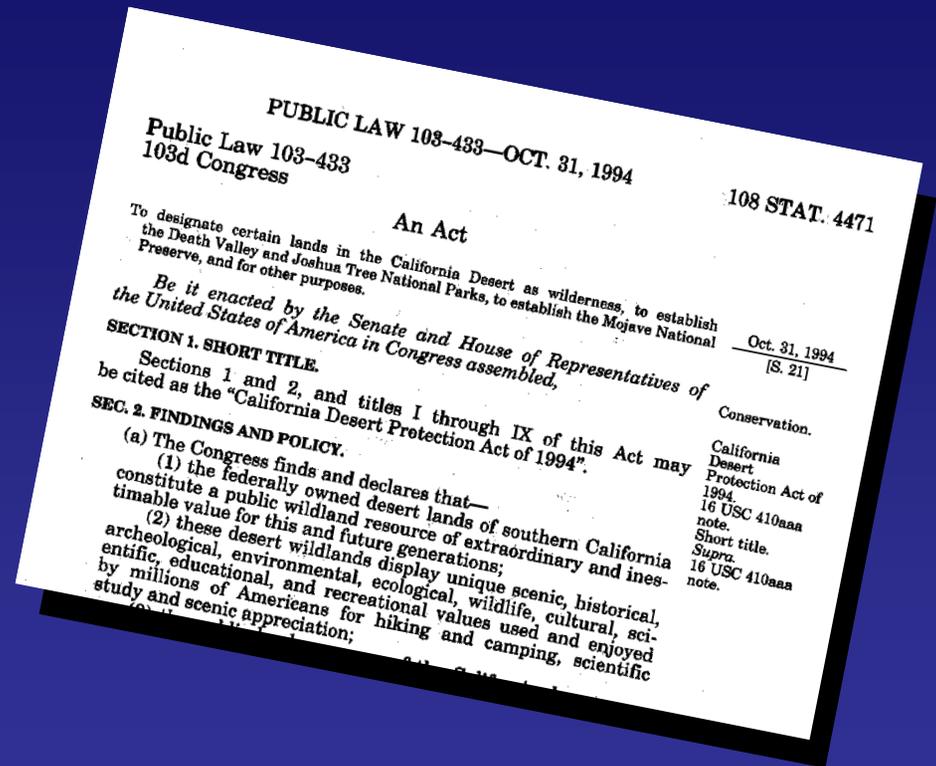
CDCA Boundary 



California Desert Protection Act of 1994 designated wilderness in the CDCA

Established Mojave National Preserve from BLM East Mojave National Scenic Area

Expanded Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments and made them National Parks





Planning History

California Desert Conservation Area Plan – 1980

- Over 25 million acres / BLM manages about 11 million acres

Northern and Eastern Mojave Desert (NEMO) Plan

- 2.7 million acres public land / Decision signed 2002

Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert (NECO) Plan

- 3.8 million acres public land / Decision signed 2002

West Mojave (WEMO) Plan

- 3.3 million acres public land / Decision signed 2006

Coachella Valley Plan

- 1.2 million acres public land / Decision signed 2002

South Coast Resource Management Plan revision

- 130,000 acres public land / Draft in preparation

Eastern San Diego Resource Management Plan

- 103,000 acres public land / currently in protest period





Restrictions on Renewable Energy Development

Wilderness areas (3.36 million acres)

Wilderness Study Areas (350,000 acres)

ACECs (85)

DWMAS (3.1 million acres)

Mohave Ground Squirrel Conservation
Areas (1.5 million acres)

Flat-tailed Horned Lizard Management
Areas (XX million acres)

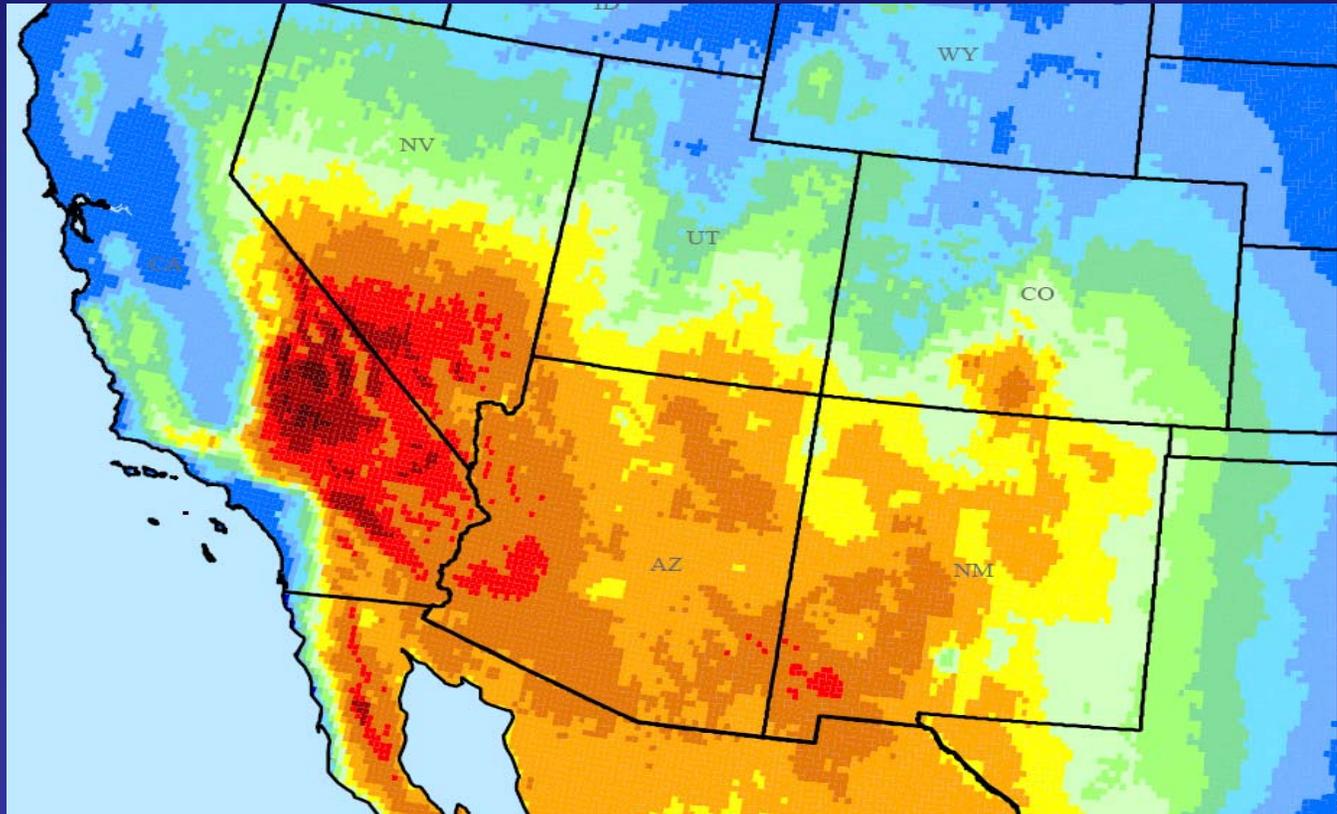


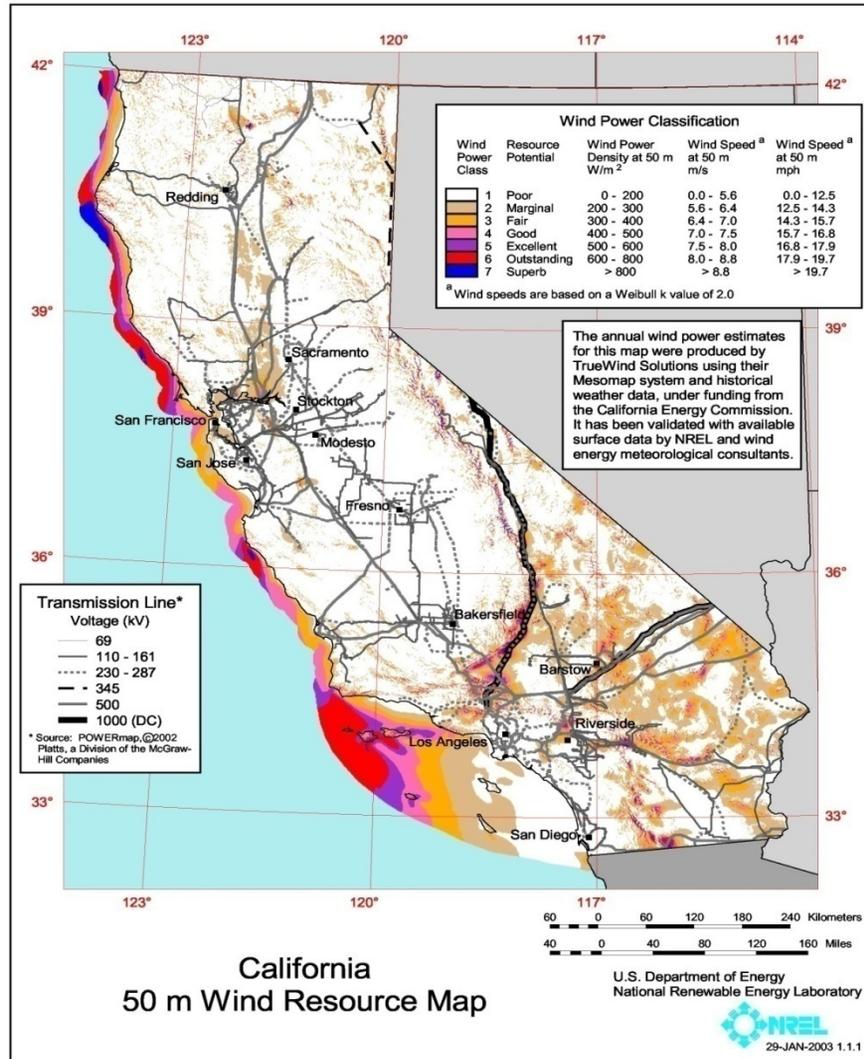
Why Here...

❖ The Mojave Desert is a unique resource

- 300-330 cloudless days per year with level land at a high elevation
- Near to 25 million electricity consumers

Solar Potential







Why Now...

- The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Title II, Sec. 211)
 - requires the DOI to approve at least 10,000 MW of renewable energy on public lands by 2015
- Executive Order 13212, *Actions to Expedite Energy-Related Projects*
 - requires Federal agencies to expedite review of energy project applications
- California Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard
 - Requires CA electric utilities to obtain 20% of all power they supply from renewable energy by 2010; with a possible increase of 33% by 2020 [currently 13% of power is from renewable]



Pending Wind Energy Applications

- ❖ 102 applications for testing and monitoring (State-wide)
- ❖ 74 applications for testing and monitoring (CDD)
- ❖ 7 applications for development
- ❖ 5 applications withdrawn



Pending Solar Applications

- ❖ 77 pending applications 1st in line (CDD only)
- ❖ 17 pending applications 2nd in line (filed on same acres as another applicant)
- ❖ 17 applications rejected by BLM or withdrawn by applicant

Concentrating solar power projects processed jointly with California Energy Commission

Photovoltaic projects processed with BLM as lead agency



Application Process

Wind Energy Projects

- ❖ Processed as Right of Way Authorizations under 43 CFR Part 2800
- ❖ Pre-Application meeting scheduled
- ❖ Applicant submits complete SF-299 Application and Cost Recovery payment
- ❖ Cost Recovery rental based upon ROW Grant type;
 - ❖ Type 1 - \$50/unit/yr
 - ❖ Type 2 - \$1000/yr or \$1/acre (greatest)
 - ❖ Type 3 - \$2,365/Mw phased in; 25% yr 1, 50% yr 2, 100% yr 3



Application Process

Wind Energy Projects (cont.)

- ❖ Site Testing Authorized under 43 CFR 2800
- ❖ Limited to 3 years
- ❖ 3 types of Wind ROW Grants
 - ❖ Type 1 – 3 yrs only, site specific for testing equipment, no extensions
 - ❖ Type 2 – Potential to extend beyond 3 yrs, required to submit new SF299 and POD for future development
 - ❖ Type 3 – Commercial wind facility, 30 – 35 yrs



Application Process

Wind Energy Projects (cont.)

- ❖ POD submitted to BLM before end of testing period
- ❖ NOI published for NEPA document
- ❖ EA/EIS approx. ~2 years to complete; includes plan amendment
- ❖ Record of Decision leads to issuing ROW Grant



Application Process

Solar Energy Projects

- ❖ Processed as Right of Way Authorizations under 43 CFR Part 2804
- ❖ Pre-Application meeting scheduled
- ❖ Applicant submits complete SF-299 Application and Cost Recovery payment
- ❖ Anticipated most Cost Recovery Categories for Solar would be Category 6



Application Process

Solar Energy Projects (cont.)

- ❖ Cost Recovery Letter and Plan of Development (POD) template sent to Applicant
- ❖ Applicant submits complete POD prior to BLM publishing Notice of Intent for and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- ❖ NOI Published, EIS prepared
- ❖ Approx. 2 year for EIS/include Plan amendment (varies depending on cooperating agency)
- ❖ Record of Decision leads to Issuing ROW Grant



Application Process

Geothermal Energy Projects

- ❖ Processed as a Lease under 43 CFR Part 3200
- ❖ 2 types of leasing
 - ❖ Competitive Leases under 43 CRF 3203 or non-Competitive under 3204
 - ❖ Direct use lease under 43 CFR 3205



Application Process

Geothermal Energy Projects (cont.)

❖ Rental Rates

❖ Competitive Lease

❖ \$2/acre yr 1; \$3/acre yrs 2 through 10

❖ Non-Competitive Lease

❖ \$1/acre for 10 yrs; \$5/acre after 10 yrs

❖ Royalties are applied under Minerals Management Service regulations at 30 CFR Part 206



Planning

- ❖ CDCA Plan amendment required for alternative (renewable) energy facilities
- ❖ Removal of other public land uses (solar)
- ❖ Transmission line outside existing designated corridor, require amendment or exception
- ❖ Grazing – two year notification to permittee, concurrent with application process (solar)



Planning

Transmission Infrastructure

- ❖ Energy and Utility Corridors (CDCA Plan)
- ❖ Contingent Corridors (CDCA Plan)
- ❖ West-Wide Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS –
Section 368 Corridors under Energy Policy Act 2005



Concurrent Planning Efforts

- ❖ Solar Energy Development PEIS
- ❖ Wind Energy Development PEIS
- ❖ Draft West-Wide Energy Corridor PEIS
- ❖ Draft Geothermal Resources PEIS
- ❖ California Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI)



Issues

- ❖ Cumulative Impacts
- ❖ Reasonably foreseeable development scenario
- ❖ Alternative Sites
- ❖ Transmission infrastructure
- ❖ Cultural Resources (site density)
- ❖ Landscape issues
- ❖ Visual Resources
- ❖ Water
- ❖ Tortoise translocation
- ❖ Stormwater management



Military Issues

- ❖ Military Expansion (proposed)
- ❖ Military Training Routes (MTRs) (wind turbines and solar power tower)
- ❖ Proximity to bases (habitat islands)
- ❖ Interference with radar (wind)

