May 2, 2018

TO:  
David W. Louie, Chair  
Elvin W. Moon, Vice Chair  
Doug Smith, Commissioner  
Laura Shell, Commissioner  
Pat Modugno, Commissioner

FROM:  
Anthony M. Curzi, Regional Planning Assistant II  
Zoning Permits North Section

Conditional Use Permit No. RPPL2016001556 - Environmental Assessment  
No. RPPL2016001561 - RPC Meeting: May 2, 2018 - Agenda item: 5

The above-mentioned item is a request for a conditional use permit to authorize the development, operation, and maintenance of a 42-megawatt solar renewable energy facility on a 107-acre property in the A-2-5 (Heavy Agricultural – Five Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) Zone in the unincorporated community of Roosevelt in the Antelope Valley.

Please find attached a comment letter from the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for the above-referenced item, which was received subsequent to hearing package submittal to the Regional Planning Commission.

If you need further information, please contact Anthony Curzi at (213) 974-6443 or acurzi@planning.lacounty.gov. Department office hours are Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Department is closed on Fridays.

SD:AMC

Attachment: Letter from MRCA
April 27, 2018

Mr. Anthony Curzi
County of Los Angeles
Department of Regional Planning
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Conditional Use Permit No. RPPL2016001556
Environmental Assessment No. RPPL2016001561

Dear Mr. Curzi,

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) submits the following comments for the above referenced Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a 42-megawatt photovoltaic solar facility within the Antelope Valley East zoned district. The strongest protection should be provided for wildlife movement within the vicinity of the project, as the proposed project is located within the Antelope Valley Significant Ecological Area (SEA).

Although the applicant proposes to dedicate the eastern edge of the site as open space to allow for wildlife movement, the area of dedication should encompass the undeveloped area east of the proposed project footprint to maximize the opportunity for wildlife movement (see attached figure).

To effectuate the applicant’s proposed open space dedication, the applicant should be required to dedicate a conservation easement in perpetuity to a public agency in order to preserve open space for wildlife movement over the highlighted area in the attached figure. The MRCA or the Desert and Mountain Conservation Authority would be willing to accept the conservation easement. As part of the dedication process, the applicant should also be required to provide a property title report prior to easement recordation, dated no earlier than May 2018.

We appreciate your consideration of our comments. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or questions you may have. I can be reached by phone at (310) 589-3230, extension 125, or via email at jessica.nguyen@mrca.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Jessica Nguyen
Project Analyst

A local public agency exercising joint powers of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the Conejo Recreation & Park District, and the Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District pursuant to Section 6500 et seq. of the Government Code.