

Paula Deel

to Me

Thu, Feb 8 9:09 PM

## Solar Projects

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In August of 2017, the Board of Supervisors approved the Renewable Energy and Conservation Element (RECE) to add to the San Bernardino County General Plan. When they did so, they excluded Element 4.10 and sent it back to Planning. This Element would have prevented Utility Grade Solar Projects in Rural Living zones. Most of Newberry Springs is zoned Rural Living.

Other communities have been facing this invasion of solar projects for several years. A number of Newberry Springs residents have joined forces with them to try to stop the invasion of utility grade projects.

At the February 13, 2018 Board of Supervisors Meeting, a number of people are asking the Board of Supervisors to bring the Element 4.10 out of Planning and back to the RECE.

If you are able, it would be a good idea to have a good show of people at the Board of Supervisors meeting. In addition to the San Bernardino location, there are two video conferencing sites (See attachment for more information):

Jerry Lewis High Desert Government Center  
15900 Smoke Tree Street  
Hesperia, CA

Bob Burke Joshua Tree Government Center  
63665 Twentynine Palms Highway  
Joshua Tree, CA

The Element 4.10 that would help us states:

4.10.1: Prohibit development of utility-oriented RE projects in the Rural Living land use districts throughout the County.

4.10.2: Prohibit development of utility-oriented RE projects within the boundaries of existing Community Plans. Which at the time of adoption of this Element are the Bloomington, Muscoy, Bear Valley, Crest Forest, Hilltop, Lake Arrowhead, Lytle Creek, Oak Glen, Homestead Valley, Joshua Tree, Lucene Valley, Morongo Valley, Oak Hills, and Phelan/Pinon Hills Community Plans.

4.10.3: Establish exclusion areas in the Development Code regulations for renewable energy development, beginning with the prohibitions in Policies 4.10.1 and 4.10.2 and provide for additional exclusion areas. Such as new community plan areas to be designated by amendment to the Development Code.

If you have questions, we will try to answer. If you would like to comment to the Board of Supervisors, you can contact them directly or email the comments to me and we will carry them to the meeting. This is a first step.

Paula