

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

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February 15, 2023

File No.: 835.17276.19197

California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Inland Deserts Region 6 (CDFW)
3602 Inland Empire Blvd, Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764

Subject: SCH# 2023010319

The Barstow Area of the California Highway Patrol received the "Notice of Preparation" of the environmental document for the proposed Soda Mountain Solar Project for State Clearinghouse (SCH# 2023010319). The California Highway Patrol's interest in commenting, surrounds our concern for the safe and legal operation of commercial truck trailer combination vehicles hauling large quantities of potentially hazardous materials e.g., batteries, as well as that of the construction workers commuting to and from the worksite.

The Department's concerns with the potential impact of this project could include the following: increased traffic congestion, hazardous materials transportation, additional enforcement demands, and increased incidents requiring emergency response during construction. Commercial truck trailer combination vehicle traffic on local roadways and freeways will increase as materials and products are transported to, and from the worksite. This project could have a negative impact on our operations due to the increased traffic congestion, which would necessitate the need for additional traffic control measures to mitigate the potential increase in traffic collisions. We are hopeful work project operators will diligently establish, monitor, and enforce work project rules related to vehicle safety as CHP personnel work to assure compliance with the California Vehicle Code provisions.

If you have any questions regarding these concerns, please contact me at (760) 255-5900

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Meeker".

E. MEEKER, Captain
Commander
Barstow Area

cc: Special Projects Section

