

**A RESOLUTION  
BY THE HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL,  
OPPOSING CACA 48689 ELEMENT POWER/DESERT MESA POWER LLC  
WIND GENERATION PROJECT PROPOSAL**

**WHEREAS**, In January 2011, The Bureau of Land management (BLM) granted a Right-Of-Way to Desert Mesa Power LLC, authorizing construction of up to four meteorological wind testing towers under project proposal CACA48689; and

**WHEREAS**, the grant retains 4,031 acres of publicly owned lands known as Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa in the Pipes Canyon / Homestead Valley areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the grant was solicited for the purpose of testing wind resources, to determine the feasibility of industrial wind turbine project proposal CACA48689; and

**WHEREAS**, neither BLM nor Element Power / Desert Mesa Power notified Homestead Valley Community Council or any other community entity of the Right-Of-Way approval; and

**WHEREAS**, neither BLM nor Element Power / Desert Mesa Power notified Homestead Valley Community Council or any other community entity of the pending installation of two meteorological wind testing towers, each 200 feet tall, which occurred in July 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, this industrial project will ultimately impose the installation of numerous massive wind turbines on the tops of Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa; and

**WHEREAS**, the project area is very well known for its significant cultural and biological resources that are irreplaceable if compromised; and

**WHEREAS**, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians has issued a letter opposing this proposed industrial wind generation project, which if implemented will “have serious impacts on cultural resources and on native flora, fauna, and birdlife”; and

**WHEREAS**, additionally the mesas contribute considerably to the unique scenic value of the Pipes Canyon / Homestead Valley areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Homestead Valley Community Council is currently seeking Scenic Highway designation for State Highway 247, running east and below each of these mesas; and

**WHEREAS**, this industrial project will have a devastating impact on these valuable scenic attributes, which is counter to our scenic designation mission; and

**WHEREAS**, this industrial project will reduce the value of the properties in and around the proposed project area, as shown in every study related to industrial windmill property value impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, this industrial project will require the establishment of costly new transmission lines, already resoundingly rejected by area residents during the LADWP Green Path North debate; and

**WHEREAS**, wind power increases utility electricity delivery costs, which are inevitably passed on to consumers in higher electricity rates; and

**WHEREAS**, we the taxpayers are forced to subsidize a significant portion of the costs of misguided wind energy projects like CACA48689, despite receiving no benefits from them; and

**WHEREAS**, industrial wind power is not environmentally friendly as claimed, does not decrease our dependency on foreign oil as claimed, and does not alleviate grid congestion; and

**WHEREAS**, alternately the Homestead Valley Community Council supports renewable energy policies that promote clean distributed generation, such as PACE loans for home and business point-of-use energy generation installations and energy efficiency improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, San Bernardino County Third District Supervisor Neil Derry has expressed his strong opposition to this project proposal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Homestead Valley Community Council fully supports the efforts of the organization **Save Our Desert** to promote the elevation of the Black Lava Butte / Flat Top Mesa area to Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) designation, providing the area with increased protection against industrial scale projects like CACA48689; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED, AND ORDERED** that this resolution ADAMANTLY OPPOSING the exploitation of Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa through CACA48689 Element Power/Desert Mesa Power LLC wind generation project proposal is hereby approved and adopted by the Homestead Valley Community Council.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Secretary of the Homestead Valley Community Council is hereby authorized and directed to transmit to the project applicant Element Power/Desert Mesa Power LLC, and to the Bureau of Land Management, a certified copy of this Resolution.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 19th day of March 2012.**

ATTEST:

  
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President, Homestead Valley Community Council

  
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Secretary, Homestead Valley Community Council