

AFTER 483 ACRES OF ORD MOUNTAIN SOLAR COMES 990 ACRES OF SIENA SOLAR, even as opponents packed the August 8th hearing on the Renewable Energy and Conservation Element to be added to the County General Plan.

That's not to mention the Calcite Substation alongside Ord Mountain that SCEdison wants to build to service these two projects, and who knows how many more?

The Environmental Impact Statements for this runaway development must skate over that "cumulative impacts" part.

Cumulative Effects

These projects follow the disasters in Lucerne Valley built recently on Camp Rock Road: Poster projects for what not to do to generate power from renewable resources. Relatively small when compared to Ord Mountain and Siena, they created havoc for the residents, displaced rodents and snakes into homes, and do not produce what the developers promised. And what can be done about it? That pesky mitigation part of the deal?

"Mitigation" means to make something more bearable or less severe. No mitigation has been

attempted, or if it has been, it has not worked.

The Ord Mountain-Calcite-Siena complex would be a powerhouse for dust production and other proven ills, and will be the rocket that leaves a trail of more cumulative effects, launching over Lucerne Valley, Johnson Valley and beyond the Homestead Valley.

In the Supervisors' hearing we saw and heard the builders who say these projects will benefit the communities, bring jobs and increase sales and incomes.

Take a drive up Camp Rock Road from Hwy 247 to Hwy 18. And they plan more there, too.



We find plain English sometimes when we least expect it.

Since the campaign for Scenic Highway status for SR 247 began in 2009, we have known the State Scenic Highway Program deemed this roadway eligible for the scenic designation.

On the California Department of Transportation website, see the plain English found on this link:



<http://www.dot.ca.gov/ser/vol1/sec3/community/ch27via/chap27via.htm#scenic>

Under Chapter 27 – Visual & Aesthetics Review we find two statements:

"The intent of the State Scenic Highway Program is to protect and enhance California's natural scenic beauty."

"If a highway is listed as eligible for official designation, it is also part of the Scenic Highway System and **care must be taken to preserve its eligible status.**"

Ord Mountain and Siena Solar Projects (above) plan to build on both sides of 247, not just in the scenic corridor but next to the roadway. If the County approves these projects, they are plainly not taking care to act on the state's plain English.

See the presentation on www.scenichighway247.com

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