

Thank you for your comment, Michael Flynn.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is SolarM60147.

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Solar Energy Development PEIS
Comment ID: SolarM60147

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Water must be the primary influence for decisions made on solar plants in desert areas like Mohave county. It should be the make or break criteria.

Several private interests are attempting to green wash some dubious projects in our area as they chase the Federal dollars that will be temporarily offered for these projects. They have used their influence to get the local officials to break the zoning laws using a redefinition to bypass planning and zoning requirements and allow spot re-zoning.

We use the old glacial ice melt that is in underground aquifers and for all intents and purposes it is a finite resource, regardless of which opinion you buy from the geologists. I don't see the United States building desalination plants and pumping water to Kingman if we exhaust this resource.

To avoid regulations these interests are trying to ram through legislation that will subvert our growth plans so they can build these plants. Thus, they are willing to rape one resource for another: water for oil independence.

I don't mind solar energy, build the plant, but don't use water cooling. These plants will consume thousands of ACRE feet of water a year and our water table is already in depletion. The area is also in a long term drought. Facts you can get from local experts as well as USGS.

To avoid being sued and to cater to entrenched interests the politicians are trying to placate the public with a few jobs that the plants will create and side step the regulations.

I have personally talked to the people involved in building these solar plants and they refuse to consider dry cooling or hybrid cooling. The reason they gave me was it would cost more.

On the public front the solar companies have hired slick professional people to run their "public" meetings to appease government requirements. I have been to most of the meetings and these carpet baggers keep changing the information so that they can find the "sweet spot" that will give them the nomenclature to "sell" this bad idea and hoodwink the less informed.

Now, if they are wrong and the water is depleted there is no viable alternative. So the sand will cover over everything here as people move away because of dwindling water resources. Once the water is gone, it is gone and there is no turning back.

Since the local politicians have sold out, we need to get the government to step in and protect the long term interests of the citizens.