

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment - Group 1

#7

**From:** Steve Ferry <sjferry@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 9, 2021 6:41 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Utility-Scale Solar Ordinance Should Include Specific Environmental Protections



**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors:

I advocated for environmental protection during the approval process for the Cuyama Solar Project. On that project, I believe that Santa Barbara County was deficient in not mitigating environmental impacts that could have been mitigated relatively easily. Despite Santa Barbara County's generally good record on environmental protection, on the Cuyama project, the County was less protective than other counties, especially San Luis Obispo County, and even Los Angeles County!

I hope that Santa Barbara County will add preparing development standards for utility-scale solar projects to the scope of work for the Utility-Scale Solar Comprehensive Plan and Ordinance Amendments. Such development standards would include the following protections for the environment:

Vegetative screening around the periphery of the project using native species to reduce glare and improve visual impacts of utility-scale solar.

Fencing designed with openings to allow wildlife passage.

Glint and glare from the solar panels should be studied and analyzed.

The interior of the solar farms should be planted with native vegetation to provide functioning habitat for pollinating insects, among other fauna. This has been done in Europe for years. (see [https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/can-big-solar-installations-help-foster-biodiversity?utm\\_source=greenlife&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=newsletter](https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/can-big-solar-installations-help-foster-biodiversity?utm_source=greenlife&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter))

Grazing animals should be required as the primary means of weed management (First Solar uses grazing animals at its Topaz solar facility on the Carrizo Plain in San Luis Obispo County).

In California Condor habitat, which is most of the land north of the Santa Ynez Mountains, power line spacing should be least 83 inches to protect the condor from electrocution.

Markers should be required on power lines to make them more visible to birds, particularly large soaring birds.

The use of chemical soil binders should be precluded.

Habitat enhancement features, e.g. manmade burrows, for rare species such as Burrowing Owl and San Joaquin Kit Fox, should be required in areas where those species are present..

As part of the effort to develop a Utility-Scale Solar Ordinance, County staff should investigate development standards already developed by other California counties. Existing standards could be used as a starting point for Santa Barbara County's development standards.

Regards,

Steve Ferry  
5557 Camino Galeana  
Santa Barbara, CA 93111-1042

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** sbcob  
**Subject:** FW: Utility-Scale Solar Comprehensive Plan and Ordinance Amendments - Scope of Work

**From:** Linda Krop <[lkrop@environmentaldefensecenter.org](mailto:lkrop@environmentaldefensecenter.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2021 9:54 AM  
**To:** Ybarra, Jacquelynn <[lybarra@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:lybarra@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)>  
**Cc:** Tara Messing <[tmessing@environmentaldefensecenter.org](mailto:tmessing@environmentaldefensecenter.org)>; Maggie Hall <[mhall@environmentaldefensecenter.org](mailto:mhall@environmentaldefensecenter.org)>; Brian Trautwein <[btrautwein@environmentaldefensecenter.org](mailto:btrautwein@environmentaldefensecenter.org)>; Plowman, Lisa <[lpowman@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:lpowman@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)>; Klemann, Daniel <[dklemann@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:dklemann@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)>; Miyasato, Mona <[mmiyasato@countyofsb.org](mailto:mmiyasato@countyofsb.org)>  
**Subject:** Utility-Scale Solar Comprehensive Plan and Ordinance Amendments - Scope of Work

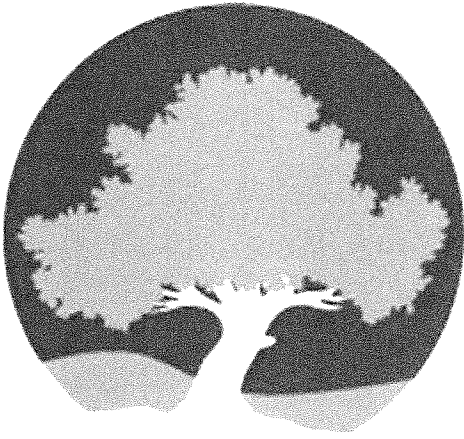
**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Ms. Ybarra,  
Please forward this email to the Board of Supervisors:

Dear Chair Nelson and Board of Supervisors,  
On behalf of the Environmental Defense Center (EDC), I urge your support of the staff recommendations regarding the proposed Utility-Scale Solar Comprehensive Plan and Ordinance Amendments – Scope of Work. EDC is a public interest law firm that protects and enhances the local environment through education, advocacy, and legal action. EDC has been a longtime advocate for transitioning from fossil fuels to clean, renewable energy as a means to prevent further climate disasters, air pollution, oil spills, and threats to public health, safety and wildlife. We supported the Cuyama Valley Utility-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Overlay, and are excited to see the County expand its allowance for similar projects. Accordingly, we support the Scope of Work recommended by your staff.  
Thank you,  
Linda Krop

LINDA KROP (she/her/hers)  
CHIEF COUNSEL  
906 Garden Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
805.963.1622 x 106  
[www.EnvironmentalDefenseCenter.org](http://www.EnvironmentalDefenseCenter.org)

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**environmental**  
DEFENSE CENTER

## Ramirez, Angelica

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**From:** Irene Cooke <irene.cooke@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2021 9:49 AM  
**To:** Evilsizor, Selena  
**Subject:** Utility-Scale Solar

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello,

I will not be able to attend the Supervisors meeting tomorrow but wanted to voice my whole hearted support for this project. Our planet is in crisis and we need swift, bold action to do everything possible to reduce our carbon emissions. Please keep me informed about this project. Thank you for doing this work.

Sincerely,  
Irene Cooke  
Goleta  
970-531-0831

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Irene C. Cooke  
970-531-0831

**Ramirez, Angelica**

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**From:** Jeff <jeffmekala@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2021 1:19 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to Discuss Utility-Scale Solar

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

To: BOS

I oppose development of Utility-Scale Solar in Tepusquet Canyon. Utility Scale Panel farms will degrade the view, beauty, and property values in our small rural community. Utility Scale Panel farms would be an unacceptable Variance to our established neighborhood.

Jeffrey Ehram  
2936 Tepusquet Road  
Santa Maria, CA 93454

**Ramirez, Angelica**

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**From:** Reed Brewer <reedtep555@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2021 2:03 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** uts reed brewer

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

I live at 555 tepusquet road for the last 35 years , I am very much agents this utility scale solar. We do not need more traffic on tepusquet road or do we need to see bright shiny things on the hills or the ock threes cut down an the land bulldoze over for someone or company to get rich, an they live in town an we that love the canyon , try our best to protect it. PLERASE DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN REED BREWER 555 TEPUSQUET ROAD