

From: [Slovick, Mark](#)
To: [Smith, Ashley](#); [Brown, Bronwyn](#); [Koutoufidis, Nicholas](#)
Subject: FW: [External] NO JVR Energy Park - August 18 2021
Date: Monday, August 16, 2021 2:29:07 PM

Thanks,

Mark Slovic, Deputy Director
County of San Diego | Planning & Development Services
T. [619.517.8067](tel:619.517.8067)

From: Rebecca Person <personre@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2021 2:10 PM
To: Anderson, Joel <Joel.Anderson@sdcounty.ca.gov>
Cc: Kazmer, Gregory <Gregory.Kazmer@sdcounty.ca.gov>; FGG, Public Comment <PublicComment@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Slovic, Mark <Mark.Slovick@sdcounty.ca.gov>
Subject: [External] NO JVR Energy Park - August 18 2021

Dear Supervisor Anderson,

We in Jacumba Hot Springs reside in a unique East County destination which has for years attracted travelers from all over the world - many of whom come from San Diego and Yuma to enjoy our desert/mountain oaks climate and landscapes.

Jacumba sits on a designated California Scenic Highway ... and the beauty of the area is known to many. Historic Old Highway 80 starts in San Diego and its eastern end is at Tybee Island GA.

Our town is located on the Southern Tier of the Adventure Cycling Assn. routes, and this route goes from San Diego to St. Augustine FL. I have talked to people, including a family with two children, who were indeed riding their bikes to the Atlantic Ocean.

For many years classic car clubs have come our way:





We have many casual and serious hikers living in and coming to our area to enjoy a wealth of trails and landmarks - our Impossible Railroad and Desert View Tower (in photo above) are just two attractions of the area. Add the newly renovated Lake Lazar to this list. (lake photos below)



We have several AirBnb locations for travelers not staying at Jacumba's historic Hot Springs resort (being renovated). The AirBnbs include the Desert View Tower and Stone House at InKoPah Boulder Park, the Quartz House situated at a lovely local goat farm, panoramic Casa Agave at Inkopah Spirit Retreat, a health/yoga retreat and Jacumba Hot Springs High Desert Retreat - as well as several cabin, full house and room accommodations. I mention these to illustrate that our area is still an active tourist destination and many here feel these businesses and tourism would be threatened by the building of JVR Energy Park.

While living in Jacumba for the past 4+ years I have met artists, photographers, writers and crafters. Jacumba hosts many events like Earth Day, Jacumba's monthly Bathhouse Bazaar, the Jacumba Blues Festival, Healing Women Celebrations, Festival of Sunflowers and other Pop-Up Art Exhibits at Gilliam Gallery. We make sure our San Diego neighbors hear about our local events. We are working to revive our town and many have joined the efforts toward that goal.

About JVR Solar's impact on our town:

There are many considerations to be made against the proposed JVR project, but one I will mention is the threat to bird populations here. Below is a chart of our local bird life, and a revealing article on the threats that large solar installations make to bird populations world wide. I have personally talked to visitors from Canada who came to Jacumba to see the migration of tri-color blackbirds to the area.

Hiking, wildlife appreciation, sightseeing, cycling, boulder exploring, Native grinding hole sites, wildflower viewing and relaxing are just a few of the reasons we treasure our high desert home and want it protected. Old Highway 80 is still a great way to take an old-fashioned Sunday Drive.

Thank you and I hope sincerely that you will consider what information I'm providing here in the best interests of Jacumba Hot Springs, its wildlife, residents and visitors.

<https://www.sciencealert.com/this-solar-plant-accidentally-incinerates-up-to-6-000-birds-a-year?fbclid=IwAR3YCKgILuAlMUYPign-nDBtJH0eKLVkDmjlnUy3N4kGoWEcssQs62apeY>



Sincerely,

Rebecca Person - 4 year resident
Jacumba Hot Springs CA

