



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
News Release

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**BLM Announces Availability of Granite Mountain Wind Energy
Environmental Document for Public Review**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) and environmental impact report (EIR) for the proposed Granite Wind Energy Project in San Bernardino County.

Publication of the notice of availability for the draft EIS initiates a 90-day public comment period, ending July 1, 2010. Written comments will be accepted by Bureau of Land Management, Barstow Field Office, Attn: Granite Wind Project Manager, 2601 Barstow Road, Barstow, CA 92311, or by email to granitewindproject@ca.blm.gov. Additionally, comments may be mailed to Carrie Hyke, Principal Planner, County of San Bernardino Land Use Services Department, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0182.

Written comments will also be taken at a public open house/informational meeting Thursday, May 20, 2010 from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Lucerne Valley Senior Center, 10431 Allen Way, Lucerne Valley, CA 92356. An additional public informational meeting will be held in Apple Valley, the date and location to be announced later. Oral comments will not be recorded at either meeting.

Granite Mountain Wind, LLC, is proposing the development, construction and operation of a commercial wind energy project on BLM-managed and adjacent private land on the eastern range of the Granite Mountains approximately 6 miles east of the Town of Apple Valley, Calif. in San Bernardino County. The project is proposed on approximately 2,086 acres of public lands administered by the BLM's Barstow Field Office and 670 acres of private lands under the jurisdiction of San Bernardino County. The project comprises 28 wind-turbine generators, pad-mounted transformers, a new main access road, as well as other internal access roads and ancillary facilities.

The draft EIS also includes a proposed amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan. It analyzes the site-specific impacts on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, water resources, geological resources and hazards, hazardous materials handling, land use, noise, and visual resources, as well as transmission system engineering and safety.

The BLM, as the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act, and the County of San Bernardino, as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, have jointly prepared the draft EIS/EIR. Further details, including the environmental documents, can be found at: http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/barstow/granit_wind_energy.html, or by contacting Edythe Seehafer, (760) 252-6021 or Edythe_Seehafer@ca.blm.gov.

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