DESERT SUNLIGHT SOLAR PROJECT
WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORT
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES
DESERT CENTER, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 1-OCTOBER 7, 2012

PUBLIC INFORMATION

PREPARED BY

L. CHOW, DESIGNATED BIOLOGIST

IRONWOOD CONSULTING INC.

20 NEVADA STREET, SUITE 300

REDLANDS, CA 92373

Summary:

Kit foxes were tracked daily. An additional kit fox was collared by CDFG on-site and will be tracked daily as well.

All tortoises were tracked throughout the week and many have been found travelling quite a bit. The on-site tortoises have been tracked daily. One of the on-site tortoises was found in a precarious location in the afternoon when it was tracked earlier in the week and was returned back to a deep burrow. Additional surveillance efforts and preventative measures have been put into effect to prevent another occurrence as the daily tracking tracking of the on-site tortoises continued.

Surveys for the control site were completed this week and all the required tortoises were found and transmittered.

All other daily and weekly biological checks were completed throughout the week and no major issues were observed. The grebe continues to be observed underneath the netting of the pond – many efforts continue to be made to help it leave the pond, but have been unsuccessful thus far but will continue in the next week. Daily tortoise fence inspections occurred. First Solar made efforts to remove water from the southern retention basin - the water level is much lower and should dissipate soon. The wheel wash is still not working properly but First Solar has continually provided staff to manually wash all vehicles entering the site.

Aggregate completed site preparatory work in the eastern area, making ditches along the southern vegetation line, and has been focusing on remediation of basins. Soil Tech brought additional plants to add to the western vegetation screen. Beta continued digging for the substation and removed spoils to the same area they cleared of vegetation the previous week.

Monday:

Surveys for the control site began today to search and transmitter the required tortoises for the project through Friday. All tortoises and kit foxes were tracked. One of the on-site tortoises was found in a precarious location and was returned to a deep burrow. The grebe continued to be observed at the pond and openings were made in the netting at strategic times through Wednesday for it to escape on its own will. Aggregate performed site preparatory work in the southeastern part of the site through Thursday. Beta continued digging and removing spoils throughout Friday. Efforts began to remove water from the southern retention basin still containing water throughout the week.

Tuesday:

All kit foxes and on-site tortoises were tracked. Aggregate began working along the southern vegetation line through Wednesday and began remediation efforts along the

basins. Soil Tech brought additional plants on-site for inspection and were all found to be free of weeds.

Wednesday:

All kit foxes, translocated, newly transmittered, and on-site tortoises were tracked. Soil Tech planted the additional plants along the western perimeter.

Thursday:

All kit foxes and on-site tortoises were tracked. Efforts were made to lure the grebe out of the pond through the next day, but were unsuccessful.

Friday:

All tortoises required for the control site were found and transmittered. All kit foxes and tortoises were tracked. Traps were set to capture the mate of the on-site kit fox to give it a radio-collar. Internal tortoise fences were checked and netting in the MSA was also checked.

Saturday:

All kit foxes, on-site tortoises and control site tortoises were tracked. The mate of the on-site kit fox was trapped and given a radio-collar. Daily compliance checks were completed without issue. No construction activities requiring a biological monitor occurred.

Sunday:

All kit foxes, on-site tortoises, and control tortoises were tracked. Daily compliance checks were completed without issue. No construction activities requiring a biological monitor occurred.