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

### PROGRESS OF WEEK 14 DATE: 14 – 20 NOVEMBER 2011 PUBLIC INFORMATION



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### **Summary:**

The return of the former resident tortoise, #6001, to the Sunlight Translocation Site was the most important event of the week. His second remove was made with every possible consideration for his safety and comfort; he showed no sign of stress during or after the move. He and the other new residents continue to be observed carefully for any such indications. The sudden increase of raven sightings on The Project in the previous weeks has subsided, as the grading work on the safe harbor site drew to a close removing overlooked food subsidies in the beds of trucks also helped. Otherwise, construction of security and tortoise fence continued this week. Observations of wildlife, primarily Kitfoxes and Burrowing owls are ongoing.

### Monday 14 Nov:

The Aggregate subcontractor completed the dirt-work of the Safe Harbor Materials Storage Area yesterday. Today the ravens, which were so interested in that work, seemed to have found other interests.

### **Tuesday 15 Nov:**

Crown Fence continues installation of security fence towards the Southeast corner of the project. Meanwhile, in the Northern part of The Project, a tortoise located there last week (near the route of the temporary tortoise fencing) continues to be carefully monitored.

### Wednesday 16 Nov:

One of the translocated tortoises #6001 walked to within 400 meters of the North side of The Project. An Ironwood Biologist followed his every step, insuring his basic safety.

### Thursday 17 Nov:

A meeting between First Solar, Ironwood, and the Charpieds, was conducted satisfactorily. Biologists returned translocated tortoise #6001, "Mac-Daddy", to the Sunlight Translocation Site in the Northern part of the valley.

### Friday 18 Nov:

Possible Kit-fox shelters were sprayed with deterrent today and the Soil Tech crews are nearly finished with their work for the year.

### Saturday 19 Nov:

The bottom edge of the tortoise fence (along the Northern part of The Project) will be fully buried by this time tomorrow and the Soil Tech crews will head for home. Meanwhile Crown Fence crews continues the installation of the security fence along the South and East sides of The Project.

### Sunday 20 Nov:

The usual monitoring duties became slightly more charged today, as the Crown Fence crews entered onto the Phase 2 areas that have not been surveyed for the Desert tortoise. There were no issues; it was simply more carefully monitored. Off site, the translocated tortoises and the control population were checked upon, there was no sign of activity.