

Final                      Final                      Final

**Desert Tortoise Council  
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**

**9 January 2016  
Sam's Town, Las Vegas, Nevada**

The meeting was called to order by Ken MacDonald at 10:07 a.m. **Action items are in blue, with responsible parties in red. Motions made, seconded, and approved (or not) are shown in bold red font.**

**Attendees:** Kristin Berry, Glenn Stewart, Pete Woodman, Ken MacDonald, Cristina Jones, Scott Abella, Jason Jones, Mari Quillman, Bruce Palmer, Becky Jones, Joe Probst, Michael Tuma, Ed LaRue. **Absent:** Maggie Fusari and Chris Noddings. **Guests:** Tracy Bailey.

**A. Introductions:** Tracy Bailey was here to report on her coordination efforts with the Symposium.

**B. Review Agenda:** New issues were incorporated as needed.

**C. Meeting Minutes of 11 and 12 September 2015:** Ed LaRue prepared draft minutes at the last strategy meeting with federal agency personnel and Board meeting in Ontario, California which were distributed, reviewed, and approved today as final with minor changes. **Motion made (Kristin Berry), seconded (Mari Quillman), and unanimously approved to accept the draft minutes as amended to be final.**

**D. Review of Board Actions Since Last Board Meeting:**

**1. Copper Mountain College Grant:** The Council awarded Dr. Paul Delaney \$5,309 to purchase telemetry equipment to assist in monitoring tortoises at this junior college in Joshua Tree, California.

**2. Agency Meeting:** It was agreed during the interim since the September 2015 meeting to abandon the agency meeting on 8 January 2016 due to schedule conflicts.

**E. Officer Reports:**

**1. Treasurer's Report:** There was no Treasurer's Report, but **Joe Probst will email the report within the next week.** • **Kristin Berry** asked that a 2016 budget be developed and that the budgets for the past several years be brought to the next Board meeting.

**2. Corresponding Secretary's Report:** Becky Jones distributed an electronic version of the report several days before this Board meeting. An Eagle Scout in the Ridgecrest area recently completed his Eagle Scout Project at Maturango Museum, which include captive tortoises and a camera to see the tortoise in its burrow. **Michael Tuma with input from Becky Jones will put a write-up in the newsletter; Kristin Berry will work with DTPC to invite the Scout to attend their annual banquet at the end of January 2016.**

**3. Membership Coordinator's Report:** Mari Quillman distributed an electronic version of the report several days before this Board meeting. There are now 386 active members (6 since Mari distributed her report several days ago). She is continuing to send out email blasts to encourage participation at the upcoming Symposium. **Mari will check with Mary Cohen about problems with information received on Wild Apricot cell phone applications.** She has not worked on the membership policy statement. We still need to determine the terms of membership. For Workshop students becoming members in November, they are members for the subsequent year.

## **F. Committee Reports:**

### **1. Ecosystems Advisory Committee (EAC) Report:**

**a. Review of EAC Table for 9/12/2015 to 1/8/2016:** There were several projects that were not endorsed in a timely manner; and one project (Snow White Mine EA) that was not commented on because Ed LaRue had a conflict of interest. In the case of the ADOT Passenger Rail Corridor Study, Ed asked that Board members from Arizona take the lead, which did not happen, and no comments were submitted.

**b. Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP):** We missed the opportunity to join a formal protest due to problem with protocol; Ed LaRue failed to indicate exactly how we would be adversely affected. **It would be appropriate for Ed to develop a paragraph that could be cut-and-pasted into future protest letters.**

**c. Cosign Letters:** The Council cosigned several letters with National Parks Conservation Association, as indicated in the EAC table.

**d. West Mojave Route Designation:** Ed LaRue has been working with Jeff Aardahl of Defenders of Wildlife to identify ways to strengthen conservation in demonstration areas, now that route designation will be absorbed into the DRECP process. The Council (no member identified) should formally request information from BLM, through the Freedom of Information Act, asking for maps of mitigation lands and what BLM has been doing to specifically manage those lands.

**e. Stump Springs Translocation Plan:** These are wild tortoises that would be translocated from several projects in Clark County. Stump Springs is not within tortoise critical habitat. Scoping comments for this draft plan are due on 22 January 2016. Jason Jones reported that he helped study tortoises at Trout Canyon where they found more tortoises than was originally expected. This site may also be a potential location for solar development, as it occurs within a Solar Energy Zone, which if developed, would affect these translocated tortoises.

**2. Awards Committee Report:** Glenn Stewart distributed an electronic version of the report several days before this Board meeting. He would like to continue to work on the Morafka Research Award but would like to scale back on other awards. Ed LaRue has been accepted to the Awards Committee since the last Board meeting. The following awards have been determined (but not reported herein to maintain anonymity): Kristin H. Berry Annual Award; Pat von Helf Award that will be given to Joe Probst; Robert Stebbins Research Award is presented to six researchers who are responsible for identifying the third species of tortoise, which will be named within the next few weeks; and another person has been identified for a Glenn Stewart Service Award, which **Mari Quillman will provide Glenn Stewart with background information**

supporting this award. At this time, no one has been identified for receiving the special or service awards. Mari Quillman has agreed to secure the plaques for the above recipients. Garcia and Associates (Ganda) has offered a one-time award to the best applications paper at the upcoming Symposium. This award can be announced but would not likely be presented during the Symposium. There were two applications for the Morafka Award, one of which was superior and selected as the recipient.

**3. Workshop Committee Report:** Pete Woodman and Rachel Woodard developed Goals and Objectives to perform a “Middle Level Training Course for Desert Tortoise Biologists,” which Pete distributed. The workshop would be limited to 20 people, focusing on extensive field work and surveys, and take four days. The Large Scale Translocation Site may be a good location. The timing for this would be late summer of 2016. Pete Woodman will distribute an electronic version and ask that everyone provide feedback in the next few weeks.

**4. Grants Committee Report:** Glenn Stewart distributed an electronic version of the report several days before this Board meeting. With Glenn Stewart’s impending retirement, we need new people to receive and review grants, including those who can review science-based proposals. Scott Abella completed his work on the habitat restoration BMPs, which was well worth the \$8,000 we spent last year for this grant request. There were six grant proposals in 2015 that have been covered in previous minutes. The \$9,975 grant request by Bartoli was not awarded, although he has done some of the work. We rejected the \$3,035 request from Tim Shields for his techno-tortoise for reasons captured in previous minutes. Another grant request for \$10,000 studying fire failed to meet the minimum requirements for a grant proposal. There were three travel grants for \$1,500 that were approved. Dr. Paul Delaney of Copper Mountain College in Joshua Tree was awarded \$5,309 to study tortoises in their translocation area. Kristin Berry was able to reduce this cost by providing transmitters and a few people who are willing to help at a reduced cost.

There is a pending proposal from Coalition for a Balanced Environment to study raven subsidization at numerous residential communities. The target area is five counties and many municipalities. The Council responded that the scope should be reduced. There are some problems with this proposal, including budget issues. The DTPC is already funding about 75% of this proposed study. The total cost would be \$50,000, with a request that the Council provide \$10,000. The first phase would be completed in April 2016, so they would need \$8,500 immediately. Jun Lee of DTPC found that every community has ordinances that manage refuse but that there is no enforcement of these ordinances. The three Board members reviewing this proposal (Kristin Berry recused herself) all felt that this was a good idea but that additional work was needed to address concerns with the proposal. The project would be presented by Ron Berger of DTPC at the Symposium. **Motion made (Bruce Palmer), seconded (Mari Quillman), and approved (Kristin Berry recused herself) to provide Coalition for a Balanced Environment with \$10,000 to perform the activities given in their grant request.**

Glenn Stewart and Michael Tuma have been working on a grants policy statement. The revised policy provides more resolution for why a given grant proposal may be rejected. There was consensus to adopt the proposed wording, with a friendly amendment by Bruce Palmer, which was also adopted. There was a suggestion that grant proposals be entertained only twice a year, and that someone be identified to take on Glenn’s grant responsibilities. The policy should be further modified to entertain grants only in the months of December and May of a given year for acceptance. So, grants will be received in May through June 1, to be awarded in July, and December through January 1, to be awarded in February.

Michael Tuma suggested that we establish a “student travel award” (say \$500) to be given to a worthy student that would fund their travel to the upcoming Symposium to present their research. In one case, a Texas professor said he would match the Council’s \$500 contribution with \$500 from his university. **Motion made (Michael Tuma), seconded (Joe Probst), and approved (in the absence of a current budget, Ed LaRue and Ken MacDonald vote no) to provide \$1,000 and Symposium compensation to have two students (\$500/student) attend the Symposium with the intent that they provide posters.**

#### **5. Information, Outreach, and Social Media Committee Report:**

**6. Newsletter Editor’s Report:** Michael Tuma is doing an excellent job. **Becky Jones** will provide information on the Eagle Scout service project in Ridgecrest, CA. to be included in the next newsletter.

**7. Web Master’s Report:** Mari Quillman reported that pages were developed for the 2016 Symposium. Mary Cohen has continued to update the website with available EAC reports, final minutes, etc., and is doing an excellent job.

**8. Symposium Discussions:** A primary purpose of today’s meeting in Las Vegas is to plan for the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Business Meeting and Symposium, scheduled for 19 to 21 February 2016 here at Sam’s Town. **It is important for all pertinent Board members to get their reports to Ken MacDonald for the Annual Business Meeting.**

**a. Host Committee:** Tracy Bailey has been doing a great job heading the Host Committee, and was here to coordinate planning, with a handout she distributed. **Jason Jones** will bring the folders, Chums, and raffle tickets left over from last year (we need at least 2,500 raffle tickets, which **Tracy** will bring). Tracy has four or five people who will help her with registration. Mari Quillman indicated that she needs a minimum of seven easels to set up sponsor announcements and other items. Tracy will see that all speakers have name tags, folders, and other materials. **Kristin Berry** will provide Tracy with a list of speakers and others who are compensated. As of yesterday, 54 people were registered for the Symposium. **Mari Quillman** will send out an email blast next week to encourage more attenders. It is critical that the Council computer is at the registration table, and that someone is assigned to enter new members as they sign up. **Mari Quillman** will write up a protocol for entering this membership information. • **Joe Probst** will bring both Kristin’s and the Council’s audio-visual materials, including two projectors. • **Ken MacDonald** will ensure there is a third projector. David Carr and Wendy Turner of ECORP will oversee presentations again this year. **Kristin Berry** will add instructions about best use (or non use) or laser pointers for next year. Analise LaRue and Ben Shefchik will work the lights for the three days. Fluorescent lights will be off until breaks, and the dimmer lights alternating off and on during and between presentations. Tables will be provided for vendors and several featured books. (Assuming he can attend) Scott Abella has agreed to sign his new book “Conserving America’s National Parks,” donate some for raffle items, and to work with the Council to determine the best way to sell copies, which is timely because this is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishing the national parks system. Mercy Vaughn will be provided a table to display information about the third species of tortoise, which will be unveiled in the next few weeks. **Mari Quillman** will bring along all the remaining Council swag materials, including the grocery bags that are to be handed out to all participants; **Joe Probst** will set up a table for these items. • **Mari** will send hats to **Pete Woodman** so he can have them available at the field

trip at \$15/hat, and ensure enough shot glasses are available. • **Pete Woodman** will bring along a few more signed Stebbins field guides and the North American Tortoises books he has. • **Mari Quillman** has asked SNEI if they want to present another mixer this year, which **Kristin Berry** will put on the program to acknowledge them if they say yes. The packet stuffing will be 3:30 until it is done on the Thursday before the Symposium. The breakfast and dinner menus will be the same as last year. **Mari Quillman** will produce award plaques and a Council logo podium sign. • **Tracy Bailey** will work with **Joe Probst** to produce a “Desert Tortoise Council” banner about 18 feet long for display during the Symposium.

Sean Daly will serve as the master of ceremonies on Saturday night to keep the event on schedule. The tentative banquet timeline is to have the book signing at 5:15 p.m.; dinner 6:00 to 7:00, and be sure food is not removed too soon; awards at 7:00; 7:30 to 7:50 for the banquet speaker; with raffle/auction to follow immediately. We want to be done by 9:00 p.m. **Mari Quillman** will work with Par to keep track of successful bids on auction items. • **Mari** needs help from all Board members on identifying more substantial items for the auction. Maggie Fusari has already acquired items that will be used for the raffle. Another raffle item is a free entry to a future symposium. **Ken MacDonald** and **Jason Jones** will buy raffle items locally.

**b. Program Chair:** Kristin Berry distributed an email yesterday that includes the draft program, opening with Taylor Edwards and Michael Tuma presenting genetics studies. On Friday afternoon, there will be a large government session, with 10 speakers. There are 10 papers on big horn sheep on Saturday, with a hosted luncheon getting tortoise and bighorn sheep disease experts together. At this time, there are no posters. Four student papers have been identified. There will be three or four disease presentations on Saturday afternoon. There is a conservation panel including DTPC, Center for Biological Diversity, and National Parks Conservation Association. There’s a five-paper fire session on Sunday and a headstarting session with five or six presentations. There are three papers on camera monitoring, and four or five papers from Arizona. Not sure about the banquet speaker at this time. Abstracts do not go out until about the first of February; the draft Program should be available 30 days prior.

**9. Nominations Committee:** With Glenn Stewart’s retirement, there will be one vacancy on the Board. Bruce Palmer’s two-year term is fulfilled this year. We also need to nominate a Chair-elect for 2016. It would be important to identify someone in academics to strengthen the Board, particularly with Glenn Stewart’s retirement. It was suggested that the Chair position be extended to a two-year term position, which would effectively be a four-year position, because the Chair would also serve as Past Chair for two years. This would also mean nominating the Chair-elect every other year rather than annually. Currently, Board Members At Large serve for three years and Officers serve for two years. **Motion made (Joe Probst), seconded (Glenn Stewart), and unanimously approved to propose an amendment to the Bylaws for the Chair to serve as a two-year term appointment.** This motion would be brought before the general membership at the Annual Business Meeting. • **Bruce Palmer** will provide the wording for the Bylaws amendment. This term would apply to Michael Tuma who is the Chair-elect and intended Chair for 2016.

It may be necessary to increase the number of Board members to cover all our responsibilities. Should we increase the membership beyond the current 15 members? All are encouraged to help identify members and other people who can fulfill various responsibilities. Kristin Berry suggested that we develop a list of needs and Board member types, possibly including



academicians, grant writers, legal experts, marketing/business, etc. It was suggested that we change the wording from “15 Board members” to “up to 20” (for example) to increase our flexibility and to allow this change to the Bylaws to be voted on next month. **Motion made (Bruce Palmer), seconded (Glenn Stewart), and unanimously approved to propose the amendment to the Bylaws to allow up to 20 Board members.**

## **G. Discussions of Old and New Business:**

**1. Fundraising:** To effectively pursue fundraising we need to identify people who can write grants. No additional discussion.

**2. Council Staffing:** Still may be necessary to hire staff to help with our workload, or to increase membership in various committees to help with the work. We need to be more proactive in defining specific task descriptions and expectations to ensure interested persons follow up with action. We need to renew ethics training for both existing and new Board members. We also need to consider what the responsibilities would be if we hire someone to support the Board. First, we need a group conscience on whether a hired person is appropriate, which was positive. We need a specific job description (administrative, grant writer, care for logistics) and legal review/input to ensure our approach is sound and legal. It may be best to have an on-call contractor, up to \$1,000 per year, for example. The Chair would be responsible for oversight of this person. **Ken MacDonald will be responsible to talk to potential people to serve as a subcontractor (not an employee) to support our mission.**

**3. Policy Statements—Best Management Practices** (schedule and assignments): There are numerous BMPs that have been previously discussed, for which there was no formal discussion today. The EAC revised policy was not discussed in the absence of Maggie Fusari, who led previous discussions.

**4. Council Position Letters:** Two letters previously discussed regarded the Large Scale Translocation Site and requests of the Desert Tortoise Recovery Office. There was insufficient time to discuss these issues today.


**5. Agency Collaboration and Interaction:** It’s still a good idea to meet with agencies at least once a year to engender cooperation with agency biologists. It may be a good approach to have a two-day meeting, one for agency cooperation and one for business meeting, once a year. Some suggested that BLM may be the best federal agency to target, and we may want to consider how we may interface with counties and local jurisdictions. Ed LaRue attended the recent Management Oversight Group (MOG) meeting in Las Vegas to better understand how member agencies intend to protect tortoises. Ken MacDonald established an “Interagency Coordination Committee” to facilitate communication among the agencies, with Cristina Jones as the Chair, Jason Jones and Becky Jones as committee members, including the Chairperson and Recording Secretary. We will need to request travel reimbursement on a case-by-case basis as these interagency meetings are identified and scheduled.

**6. Demonstration Area Concept:** There is a suggestion from Scott Abella that money be made available to have a graduate student, professor, or other research scientist to apply habitat restoration best management practices to a demonstration area. The advantage of this proposal is to implement the recently-completed habitat restoration best management practices to (hopefully) demonstrate their efficacy. Michael Tuma emphasized it is important to produce a detailed request for proposal, that it be published, and that we select the best approach.

**H. Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Board will be the Annual Business Meeting at the 41<sup>st</sup> Symposium at Sam's Town, Las Vegas, Nevada at about 08:00 a.m. immediately prior to the first day of the Symposium on 19 February 2016. Next meeting after that would be 4 June 2016 in Ontario at Double Tree, starting at approximately 10:00 a.m.

**I. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson, Ken MacDonald, at 16:03.

Draft minutes were recorded, later distributed and modified with board member review and input, then respectfully submitted as this final version by Ed LaRue, Recording Secretary.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ed LaRue", is centered on a light blue rectangular background.

Edward L. LaRue, Jr.  
Desert Tortoise Council, Recording Secretary

## **Ecosystems Advisory Committee Report DTC Board Meeting of 9 January 2016**

- 1. Resource Management Plans for Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs National Conservation Area**  
**9/12/2015** – Having no one volunteer to take the lead on this important project during our Board meeting, Ed LaRue will take the lead on drafting comments. With some input from several people, Ed distributes the draft comment letter to the Board on **10/1/2015**. Formal comments submitted on **10/14/2015**. On 10/15/2015, Ed LaRue receives notice that the comment period has been extended for 30 days, until mid-November, but no intent to comment further unless requested to do so.
- 2. Draft EIS for ADOT’s Passenger Rail Corridor Study**  
**9/3/2015** – Ed LaRue receives notice and link to this Draft EIS from an unidentified source, and distributes it to the Board (directed to Maggie Fusari and Bruce Palmer) on **9/12/2015**.
- 3. DRECP letter to Neil Kornze and Jim Kenna**  
**9/14/2015** – Jeff Aardahl of Defenders of Wildlife sends a draft letter to Ed LaRue asking him and three scientists to cosign a letter to the BLM director and state director, respectively, to strengthen conservation in the West Mojave through the DRECP Land Use Plan Amendment. Since he would like Ed to be affiliated with the Council, the letter with an email requesting endorsement was distributed to the Board on **9/15/2015**. Having received only three endorsements and one recusal, Ed lets Jeff Aardahl know on 9/16/2015 that the Council officially endorses the letter; that Ed’s may be affiliated with the Council. (Ed also sends an op-ed article to L.A. Times, independent of the Council, so no approval needed). Final letter sent to BLM managers on **9/20/2015**.
- 4. BLM programmatic EA on small mining in the Ridgecrest Resource Area**  
**8/26/2015** – Ed LaRue receives a notice from BLM soliciting scoping comments on an EA to be published from the Ridgecrest Resource Area in California, which he immediately distributes to the Board. On **9/14/2015**, Ed distributes partial comments to the Board to see if anyone has immediate input. Ed sends out version 2 on **9/15/2015**. After four endorsements, the final letter is sent **9/20/2015**.
- 5. Cosign a letter on the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative**  
**9/22/2015** – Lorrie Steely of Mojave Communities Conservation Collaborative sends a letter asking the Council to cosign and initiative regarding transmission under the DRECP. The letter was distributed to the Board for their consideration on **9/22/2015**. Having received five signatories, Ed lets Lorrie know on **9/23/2015** that the Council endorses the letter.
- 6. WEMO Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act**  
**9/15/2015** – Ed LaRue receives a packet from the BLM Ridgecrest Resource Area including the Final Programmatic Agreement for the above-referenced project (Ed had attended a planning meeting in January 2015 to discuss this plan). After reviewing it, Ed sends an email to Ashley Blythe on **9/28/2015** informing her that he would become signatory and that his affiliation is with the Council.
- 7. WEMO route designation – new alternatives?**  
**9/24/2015** – Ed LaRue receives an email from Jeff Aardahl (Defenders of Wildlife) indicating that new alternatives are being identified for the Draft EIR/EIS on the WEMO route designation. It is not clear if these have been published or when the new 120-day comment period begins and ends. These concerns are distributed to the Board and Jeff on **9/29/2015**. On **1/4/2016**, Ed provides Jeff Aardahl with a few recommendations for how the WEMO route designation process could strengthen tortoise conservation.



**8. DRECP land exchange meeting**

**9/22/2015** – Ed LaRue receives a notice that there will be a web-x or other call-in opportunity to hear the latest on a BLM land exchange with the State Lands Commission. Since Ed may be in the field on October 1<sup>st</sup> when this conference is to occur, he distributes the notice and link on **9/29/2015** to see if anyone else may be able to listen in. Following input from Jeff Aardahl on **9/29/2015**, Ed was no longer concerned with this issue, nor did any other Board member sit in on the conference.

**9. Snow White Mine EA on Coolgardie Mesa, San Bernardino County, CA**

**10/2/2015** – Jeff Aardahl sends Ed LaRue a copy of the EA Ed wrote for MATCON in 2009 for reactivating a mine site on Coolgardie Mesa, San Bernardino County, CA. Having written the original EA and been asked by the proponent to assist the new owner in opening and operating the mine, Ed dismisses himself from reviewing the document and recuses himself from voting, meanwhile distributing Jeff's information to the Board. No one follows up and no comments are submitted.

**10. Paradise Valley Notice of Preparation for an EIR**

**10/23/2015** – Ed LaRue receives environmental documents from Al Muth on **10/23/2015**, soliciting scoping comments for this proposed project by 11/7/2015. Ed distributes draft comments to the Board and Al Muth on **10/29/2015**. With seven endorsements and one recusal, the final letter is emailed on **11/4/2015**.

**11. Rand Mine Arsenic Cleanup**

**10/28/2015** – Ed LaRue receives a notice from Robert Wood of the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee (DTPC) on 10/28/2015, followed by the write-up on the proposed plan on 10/31/2015, which Ed distributes to the Board. Ed distributes draft comments to Board, Ron Berger and Bob Wood of DTPC, and Jeff Aardahl of Defenders on **11/1/2015**. Kristin Berry, Bob Wood, and Ed LaRue visit the site on **11/2/2015**. Given that Glenn Stewart was the only person endorsing this letter (on 11/1/2015), it could not be sent by the 11/23/2015 for lack of Board support. Bringing this to the attention of the Board on **12/10/2015**, two additional members lend their support, and Ed sends the letter to the BLM on **12/11/2015**, albeit it several weeks late.

**12. DRECP Final EIS Released**

**11/10/2015** – Ed LaRue receives notice from several sources that the Final EIS for the DRECP was released on 11/10/2015, with a 30-day protest period that ends on 12/13/2015. Ed distributes notice to Board indicating he does not plan on an in depth review leading to a formal protect on **11/10/2015**.

**13. DRECP Protest Letter Submitted by Alliance for Desert Preservation**

**12/9/2015** – Ed LaRue receives a draft protest letter from Lorrie Seeley of Mojave Communities Conservation Collaborative on **12/9/2015** asking the Council to cosign a formal protest letter on the FEIS of the DRECP written by Alliance for Desert Preservation. Following distribution of the letter to the Board, Ed receives confirmation from four Board members that we should endorse the letter. With six endorsements, Ed sends our formal endorsement of the letter and supporting protest issues to Lorrie Seeley and Steve Mills of Alliance for Desert Preservation on the due date of **12/10/2015**. Receive an email from Steve Mills on **12/14/2015** that insufficient information was presented, so the Council was not included in their protest letter.

**14. Eagle Crest Pumped Storage Project Transmission Line**

**12/16/2015** – Ed LaRue receives an email request from Seth Shteir (National Parks Conservation Association) asking the Council to cosign a scoping comment letter on the above-referenced project. Ed asks Seth for additional information and distributes the request to the Board. Ed distributes draft comments to the Board on the evening of **12/21/2015**.

**15. California Public Utilities Net Metering Rule Revision**

**12/16/2015** – Ed LaRue receives an email request from Seth Shteir (National Parks Conservation Association) asking the Council to cosign a comment letter on the above-referenced project. Ed distributes the request to the Board. Ed redistributes Seth’s letter with several comments to the Board on the evening of **12/21/2015**. With six endorsements, I let Seth know on **12/22/2015** that he may add the Council to his letter.

**16. Stump Springs Translocation Plan**

**12/21/2015** – Ed LaRue receives a notice from Mark Slaughter of the Las Vegas Field Office of the BLM that the updated Stump Springs Translocation Plan is available for review, with comments due by 22 January 2016. Ed distributes the notice to the Board on **12/21/2015**. He asks the Board for additional input at the meeting in Las Vegas on **1/9/2016**.

**Ecosystems Advisory Committee  
Summary Table from 9/12/2015 to 1/8/2016**

**Current date for this latest table revision is: 1/9/2016**

No.	Reference	Dates (2015) unless otherwise noted				Board Member Responses Codes: <b>Y</b> = Vote of Yes; <b>N</b> = Vote of No; <b>PI</b> = Provided input; <b>Blank</b> = No Response; <b>R</b> = Recused; <b>A</b> = Authors/Lead Board member; <b>NA</b> – Replied they were not able to respond by indicated date															
		Rec'd	Dist.	Due	Sent	BJ	BP	CJ	CN	EL	GS	JJ	JP	KB	KM	MF	MQ	MT	PW	SA	
1	Beaver Dam and Red Cliffs RMPs in Utah	7/21	8/2	10/15	10/14	Y 10/10	R 10/12	R 10/28	PI/Y 10/13	A/PI 10/1	Y 10/2		Y 10/5	R 10/12	PI/Y 10/5	PI/Y 10/8			Y 10/12	R 10/12	
2	ADOT Passenger Rail Corridor Study	9/3	9/12	10/30	?	Never heard anything more on this after giving it to our Arizona Board members															
3	DRECP letter to Kornze and Kenna	9/14	9/15	9/17	9/20	R 9/15	Y 9/15			A/PI 9/15			Y 9/15			Y 9/15					
4	Small mine PEA for Ridgcrest Resource Area	8/26	8/26	9/20	9/20					A/PI 9/15			Y 9/16	Y 9/20		Y 9/18				Y 9/20	
5	Transmission Initiative cosignatories	9/22	9/22	N/A	9/23	R 9/15			Y 9/23	PI/Y 9/22	Y 9/23					Y 9/23				Y 9/23	
6	WEMO Section 106 NHPA	9/15	9/28	9/30	9/28					PI 9/22											
7	WEMO New Route Alternatives	9/24	9/29	?	?					PI 9/29											
8	DRECP Land Exchange	9/22	9/29	10/1	N/A					PI 9/29											
9	Snow White Mine EA	10/2	10/2	10/13	No Action					R 10/2											
10	Paradise Valley EIR	10/23	10/29	11/7	11/4	R 10/29				PI/Y 10/29	PI/Y 10/29		Y 10/29		Y 10/29	Y 10/29	Y 10/30			Y 10/30	
11	Rand Mine Arsenic Cleanup	10/28	10/31	11/23	12/11	R 11/4			NA 11/2	PI/Y 11/1	PI/Y 11/1				Y 12/10					Y 12/10	
12	DRECP Final EIS	11/10	11/10	12/13	N/A					PI 11/10											
13	DRECP Protest Letter	12/9	12/9	12/10	12/10					PI/Y 12/10	Y 12/9		Y 12/10			Y 12/9				Y 12/10	Y 12/10
14	Eagle Crest Pump Storage Transmission	12/16	12/16	12/28	12/28	R 12/22	PI/Y 12/28			PI/Y 12/21	Y 12/27		Y 12/22			Y 12/27				Y 12/28	Y 12/27
15	Cosign NPCA's letter on Net Metering Rule	12/16	12/16	12/24	12/22	Y 12/22				PI/Y 12/21	Y 12/22		Y 12/22		Y 12/22	Y 12/23	Y 12/22				Y 12/24
16	Updated Stump Springs Translocation Plan	12/21	12/21	1/22/16																	

**BJ** = Becky Jones, **BP** = Bruce Palmer, **CJ** = Cristina Jones, **CN** = Chris Noddings, **EL** = Ed LaRue, **GS** = Glenn Stewart, **JJ** = Jason Jones, **JP** = Joe Probst, **KB** = Kristin Berry, **KM** = Ken MacDonald, **MF** = Maggie Fusari, **MQ** = Mari Quillman, **MT** = Michael Tuma, **PW** = Pete Woodman, **SA** = Scott Abella.