

Los Mogotes East Solar Energy Zone (SEZ)
SEZ-Specific Design Features

(from Solar PEIS ROD, Section A.4.2)

- *Specially Designated Areas*: Early consultation should be initiated with the entity responsible for developing the management plan for the Sangre de Cristo NHA to understand how development of the SEZ could be consistent with NHA plans and goals.
- *Recreation*: As projects are proposed for the SEZ, the potential impacts on tourism should be considered and reviewed with local community leaders.
- *Water Resources*: Groundwater analyses suggest full build-out of wet-cooled technologies is not feasible; for mixed-technology development scenarios, any proposed wet-cooled projects would have to reduce water requirements to less than approximately 1,000 ac-ft/yr (1.2 million m³/yr) in order to secure water rights and comply with water management in the San Luis Valley.
- *Wildlife (Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds)*: The access road should be sited and constructed to minimize impacts on wetlands and riparian areas (if present within the finalized access road location).
- *Wildlife (Birds and Mammals)*: Prairie dog colonies should be avoided to the extent practicable to reduce impacts on species such as raptors, desert cottontail and thirteen-lined ground squirrel.
- *Wildlife (Mammals)*: Construction should be curtailed during winter when big game species are present.
- *Wildlife (Mammals)*: Where big game winter ranges intersect or are close to the SEZ, motorized vehicles and other human disturbances should be controlled (e.g., through temporary road closures when big game are present).
- *Visual Resources*: The development of power tower facilities should be prohibited within the SEZ.
- *Paleontological Resources*: Avoidance of PFYC Class 4/5 areas is recommended for development within the proposed Los Mogotes East SEZ and for access road placement. Where avoidance of Class 4/5 deposits is not possible, a paleontological survey would be required.
- *Cultural Resources*: Development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) may be needed among the BLM, Colorado SHPO, and other parties, such as the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) to address the adverse effects of solar energy development on historic properties. The agreement may specify avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures. Should a MOA be developed to resolve adverse effects on the Old Spanish Trail or the West Fork of the North Branch of the Old Spanish Trail, the Trail Administration for the Old Spanish Trail (BLM-NMSO and National Park Service [NPS] Intermountain Trails Office, Santa Fe) should be included in the development of that MOA.
- *Cultural Resources*: Additional coordination with the CTSR Commission is recommended to address possible mitigation measures for reducing visual impacts on the CTSR.