

Programmatic Design Features for Environmental Justice Impacts

The following design features have been identified to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate potential environmental justice impacts from solar energy development identified and discussed in Sections 5.18.1 and 5.18.2 of the Draft and Final Solar PEIS.

General

- EJ1-1** Project developers shall coordinate with the BLM and other Federal, state, and local agencies to identify and minimize the potential for environmental justice impacts.
- (a) Identifying environmental justice impacts shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
- Assessing the potential for environmental justice impacts associated with the proposed project in coordination with the BLM and other qualified experts. Project developers shall collect and evaluate available information describing the socioeconomic conditions in the vicinity of the proposed project, as needed, to predict potential environmental justice impacts of the project (i.e., environmental, economic, cultural, and health impacts on low-income and minority populations). This will include the identification of all environmental justice communities in proximity to a proposed project.
 - Evaluating environmental justice impacts as part of the environmental impact analysis for the project and consider options to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate such risk in coordination with the BLM.
- (b) Methods to minimize environmental justice impacts may include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Developing and implementing focused public information campaigns to provide technical and environmental health information directly to low-income and minority groups or to local agencies and representative groups. Including key information such as any likely impact on air quality, drinking water supplies, subsistence resources, public services, and the relevant preventative/minimization measures that may be taken.
 - Providing community health screenings for low-income and minority groups.

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- Providing financial support to local libraries in low-income and minority communities for the development of information repositories on solar energy, including materials on the hazards and benefits of commercial development.
- Establishing vocational training programs for the local low-income and minority workforce to promote development of skills for the solar energy industry.
- Developing instructional materials for use in area schools to educate the local communities on the solar energy industry.
- Providing key information to local governments and directly to low-income and minority populations on the scale and timeline of expected solar energy projects and on the experience of other low-income and minority communities that have followed the same energy development path.
- Considering making available information about planning activities that may be initiated to provide local infrastructure, public services, education, and housing.