

Afton Solar Energy Zone (SEZ)  
SEZ-Specific Design Features

(from Solar PEIS ROD, Section A.4.2)

- *Specially Designated Areas and Lands with Wilderness Characteristics*: The SEZ-specific design features for visual resources should be adopted, as they would provide some protection for visual-related impacts on the Aden Lava Flow WSA.
- *Water Resources*: Groundwater analyses suggest that full build-out of dry-cooled and wet-cooled technologies is not feasible; for mixed-technology development scenarios, any proposed dry- or wet-cooled projects should utilize water conservation practices.
- *Wildlife (Amphibians and Reptiles, Birds, and Mammals)*: Impacts on wash, riparian, playa, rock outcrop, and wetland habitats, which may provide more unique habitats for some species, should be avoided, minimized, or mitigated.
- *Visual Resources*: Special visual impact mitigation should be considered for solar development on lands in the SEZ visible from and within 5 mi (8 km) of the Aden Lava Flow WSA.
- *Paleontological Resources*: Avoidance of the eastern edge of the SEZ may be warranted if a paleontological survey results in findings similar to those known south of the SEZ.
- *Cultural Resources*: Design features for reducing visual impacts on the El Camino Real National Historic Trail, the Butterfield Trail, and Mesilla Plaza National Historic Landmark would also reduce impacts on these cultural resources. Coordination with trails associations and historical societies regarding impacts on El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, the Butterfield Trail, and Mesilla Plaza, as well as other NRHP-listed properties should be conducted.