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17 December 2013

EPD Solutions 450 Newport Center Dr., Suite 300 Newport Beach, CA 92660

Attn: Rafik Albert

re: Paleontological resources for the proposed Redwood Solar Apple Valley East Power Plant Project, south of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, project area

## Dear Rafik:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed Redwood Solar Apple Valley East Power Plant Project, south of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, project area as outlined on the portion of the Apple Valley South USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on 14 December 2013. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project boundaries, nor do we have any localities nearby that occur in sedimentary deposits similar to those exposed in the proposed project area, but we do have fossil vertebrate localities nearby from sedimentary deposits similar to those that may occur subsurface in the proposed project area.

Surface deposits in the proposed project area consist predominately of younger Quaternary Alluvium, derived as alluvial fan deposits from the Ord Mountains just to the south. Immediately south of the proposed project area there are surface deposits of older Quaternary Alluvium, but these are coarse alluvial fan deposits from the plutonic igneous rocks in the Ord Mountains. Neither of these deposits are likely to contain significant vertebrate fossils. There is a small drainage that flows through the proposed project area, however, that may contain significant vertebrate fossil remains at depth in finer-grained fluvial deposits. Our closest fossil vertebrate locality from similar deposits is an otherwise unrecorded specimen of mammoth that

was collected in 1961 from older Quaternary Alluvium west-northwest of the proposed project area on the western side of the Mojave River below the bluffs. Our next closest vertebrate fossil locality from these deposits is LACM 1224, further northwest of the proposed project area west of Spring Valley Lake, that produced a specimen of fossil camel, *Camelops*.

Shallow excavations in the uppermost few feet of the younger Quaternary Alluvium exposed in the proposed project area are unlikely to uncover significant vertebrate fossil remains. Deeper excavations that extend into finer-grained older Quaternary deposits, however, may well encounter significant fossil vertebrates. Any substantial and deep excavations in the proposed project area, therefore, should be monitored closely to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered while not impeding development. Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

This records search covers only the vertebrate paleontology records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It is not intended to be a thorough paleontological survey of the proposed project area covering other institutional records, a literature survey, or any potential on-site survey.

Sincerely,

Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D. Vertebrate Paleontology

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enclosure: invoice