Nearly 100 concerned citizens turn out for an informative public input meeting on the DRECP Proposals for Renewable Energy.

The meeting was attended by local citizens and from as far away as Sacramento, Los Angeles and Victorville. Most were local people with concerns about the proliferation of Renewable Energy Projects in the greater Mojave and Sonora Deserts of California. The meeting started with a 30 minute Power Point presentation on the the history of the DRECP mad the goals as established in the draft plan for the 22 million acres within the DRECP sphere of influence. After the presentation there was a 30 minute Open House where the attendees could mingle and ask questions of the DRECP Stakeholders and Government agencies whom contributed to the creation of the draft DRECP. There were maps of the six alternatives with one of them being the preferred alternative. There were representatives from California Energy Commission, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which all contributed to the DRECP. After the open house there was time for public comment which there was 15 attendees who spoke on the record about the Draft DRECP. The special interest groups who spoke included CalWild, Sierra Club, California Native Plant Society, CORVA, Desert Hikers Society, Condor Society, California Autobahn Society, PRMDIA, Three Points Town Council, and believe it or not 3 Rockhounds spoke on keeping Gem Hill and Lonely Butte open and accessible for Amateur Rock Collecting. All in all a very informative meeting. More information can be found on the DRECP website. http://www.drecp.org

John Martin - Rockhound Activist