



**BIG BEAR AREA
REGIONAL WASTEWATER AGENCY**

P.O. Box 517, 121 Palomino Drive, Big Bear City, CA 92314-0517
(909) 584-4018 • FAX (909) 585-4340

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San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency (BBARWA) is pleased to express its strong support for the Bear Valley Solar Project. As the regional wastewater treatment provider for the Big Bear Valley, BBARWA is committed to advancing sustainable infrastructure, protecting our mountain environment, and ensuring long-term operational resilience for the communities we serve. The Bear Valley Solar Project aligns directly with these priorities.

BBARWA operates a 2.0 million gallon per day regional wastewater treatment facility and manages critical infrastructure that serves the City of Big Bear Lake, Big Bear City Community Services District, and County Service Area 53B. Our operations are energy intensive, and electricity represents one of our largest ongoing costs. For more than a decade, BBARWA has actively pursued renewable energy strategies, including on-site solar generation, energy efficient process upgrades, and participation in regional sustainability planning, to reduce ratepayer burden and support California's clean energy goals.

The Bear Valley Solar Project provides several important benefits to BBARWA and the broader Big Bear Valley:

- Improved grid reliability in a mountain region that experiences outages, extreme weather, and seasonal demand fluctuations. Stable power is essential for uninterrupted wastewater treatment operations.
- Local renewable energy generation that supports BBARWA's long-term sustainability objectives and complements our existing energy efficiency initiatives.
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions, consistent with BBARWA's commitment to environmental stewardship and protection of the Big Bear watershed.
- Economic benefits for the region, including potential cost stabilization for public agencies and residents.

As a public agency responsible for protecting water quality and the environment, BBARWA recognizes the importance of diversifying local energy resources. The Bear Valley Solar Project represents a responsible, forward-looking investment that strengthens the resilience of essential public services, including wastewater treatment, while contributing to the long-term sustainability of the Big Bear Valley.

BBARWA appreciates the opportunity to support this project and looks forward to continued collaboration as the project advances.

David Lawrence
General Manager, BBARWA

CC: Delanie Garlick
Senior Planner
Harris & Associates, contractor to San Bernardino County