

Journal #2585 from sdc 5.7.12

*Voices*

*Protect Our Right to Record!.*

*Pyramid Lake - Love it or Destroy it?*

*Living History Faire*

*Library Cuts in Canada*

*Future Kind Summer*

*U.S. readies proposal to clamp down on fracking/New Proposal on Fracking Gives Ground to Industry*

*ENGINEERS PLAN WEIR TO SLOW WATER ERODING LAS VEGAS WASH*

*MOAPA PAIUTES TELL EPA: SHUT DOWN COAL PLANT NEXT DOOR*

*LAND TRANSFERS*

*A Repository for Eagles Finds Itself In Demand*

*Ancient human remains in Kumeyaay area*

*Discovery of Indian artifacts complicates Genesis solar project*

*World's first solar-geothermal hybrid power plant*

*Jobs*

*Fighting Sioux Cannot Sue: Federal Court Throws Out Tribe's Challenge Of NCAA Rule*

*U.S. must heal native peoples' wounds, return lands: U.N.*

*Lois Kane reminisces*

*Pyramid Lake War Memorial*

**Voices**

[Elveda Martinez](#)

Just went touring. Went to the Cherokee Imersion School where the teach lil kids to speak their language. Babies through 2nd graders go there. Then to their trout hatchery. They stock a lot of rivers. Then to Mingo waterfalls. Had a young man take pics for me. Wasn't gonna do the 1/2 mile hike up some steep steps. Now it's almost banquet time. Gotta squeeze into my lil black strapless dress. Lol.

[Sandy Dunn](#) I love immersion schools. I love it when the charter of the school is to teach the kids how to grow and sustain their own food according to the traditional ways of their culture and their local environment. Seems so logical. In hawaii they are teaching the kids to grow taro and fish. Some are even rebuilding fishponds. Plus, you get your language back.

[Carolyn Harry](#)

"Whose child is this?" I asked again, as the little one entered the door, "Ours" said the parent and the teacher as they smiled and each took the hand of the child. "Ours to love and train together,ours, this blessed task forever." Love my job!

\*\*\*\*\*

**[Protect Our Right to Record!](#)** act2.freepress.net

The First Amendment has come under assault on the streets of America. Take action and stand up for our right to record.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pyramid Lake - Love it or Destroy it?**

[Carol Smith](#)

Just sat through a very upsetting meeting. I never thought I was that connected to our land and lake but apparently I am. I was never upset as I was tonight. Must resign myself to the fact that we are losing control of our reservation and our land. Come one come all. :( It's not like we're on a reservation that was specifically set aside for our people. We are not taking very good care of it at all. We voted for no development at the lake and yet here we are, watching the development of festival grounds at our lake. It's almost painful to watch because the people that have the power to stop it, will not stop it. :(

"Alas, it appears that we do just see dollar signs when it comes to our precious Lake. IDK why I say 'we' I believe our Lake is priceless and would never sell out like that."

[Jolene Aleck](#) I care about the lake, its on my mind almost 20% of every day. For someone so far away out of site doesn't mean out of mind..."

Plus, I believe the lake takes care of us, and likewise. What realistically can be done? I always say anything can be challenged / and changed especially around our own policies, resolutions or decisions when they were supposed to be designed to help our own people...if the aren't--then they should be given a second look.

\*\*\*\*\*

Explore and Celebrate your Heritage at the **Living History Faire** on Saturday, May 19 at the Miguel Ribera Park on Neil Road in Reno. This free event features presentations, demonstrations and performances. Join KNPB for this day-long celebration of the many threads that make up our wonderful American heritage and our many diverse cultures. [Find more details online at knpb.org.](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Library Cuts in Canada**

**[Serious situation developing at LAC, alert your colleagues and faculty, news from CAUT utlibrarians.wordpress.com](#)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Future Kind Summer** is a five-day summer program designed by local non-profit Future Kind in partnership with The River School Farm, to encourage high school students to learn about and practice disciplines that encourage creativity and promote health and environmental consciousness. This summer we are running two sessions of the program with 13 slots available for each session. Participation in either session is free for chosen applicants.

Session 1: July 30th-Aug 3rd

Session 2: Aug 13th -17th

**Activities**

**Acroyoga**

Acroyoga is a blend of yoga, partner acrobatics and Thai massage. It is a practice that teaches body awareness, communication, trust and playfulness.

**Aerial Silks**

Aerial Silks teaches movement education and strength training on vertically hung fabric.

Students will build strength and confidence while learning how to climb, wrap, hang and balance on the fabric.

### **DJ/Music**

Students will be introduced to DJ mixing and beat matching. Learn how to find new free music and how to organize your music. Students will build a foundation that will allow them to continue learning and expanding their knowledge of DJing.

### **Art**

Earthworks Art teaches students how to use natural and recycled materials to create unique works of art.

### **Percussion**

Learn the basic concepts of rhythm, percussion and its origins. Students will also be introduced to percussive ensemble performance.

### **Permaculture**

Learn to live sustainably! Students will learn basic principles related to this ecologically friendly lifestyle modeled on natural ecosystems. Activities will include nature hikes, composting and harvesting.

### **Connections**

Students will participate in team-building and reflection activities, and will engage in critical thinking about what they have learned each day and how they can apply their new knowledge.

Download application from the following link:

<http://www.futurekind.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/FKS-application.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

### **[U.S. readies proposal to clamp down on fracking - Yahoo! News](http://news.yahoo.com/u-readies-proposal-clamp-down-fracking-023301636.html)**

<http://news.yahoo.com/u-readies-proposal-clamp-down-fracking-023301636.html>

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Obama administration wants to clamp down on shale gas drilling on public lands and set standards that proponents of tougher... [More](#)

~~~~~

### **[New Proposal on Fracking Gives Ground to Industry](#)**

By JOHN M. BRODER *nyt*

Under a revised version of a rule proposed by the government, companies drilling on public lands would have to identify the chemicals used, but not until after drilling was completed.

~~~~~

### **[New Study Predicts Frack Fluids Can Migrate to Aquifers Within Years](#)**

*Abraham Lustgarten, ProPublica*

Excerpt: "The study, using computer modeling, concluded that natural faults and fractures in the Marcellus, exacerbated by the effects of fracking itself, could allow chemicals to reach the surface in as little as 'just a few years.'" [READ MORE](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **[ENGINEERS PLAN WEIR TO SLOW WATER ERODING LAS VEGAS WASH](#)**

The Las Vegas Wash has gone wild in recent years, so the National Park Service wants to calm things down a bit.

<http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz13305323>

\*\*\*\*\*

### **MOAPA PAIUTES TELL EPA: SHUT DOWN COAL PLANT NEXT DOOR**

MOAPA - After almost 50 years of smelling and even tasting the coal-fired power plant next door, members of the Moapa Band of Paiutes say it's long past time to shut their neighbor down.

<http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz13325176>EPA "Zeroes-In" on Coal Pollution Problem in Nevada

Public News Service-NV

<http://www.publicnewsservice.org/index.php?/content/article/26209-1>

Join the discussion: [facebook.com/PublicNewsService](https://www.facebook.com/PublicNewsService) Twitter: [@pns\\_news](https://twitter.com/pns_news) [@pns\\_NV](https://twitter.com/pns_NV) Google +: [plus.to/publicnewsservice](https://plus.google.com/publicnewsservice)

~~~~~

(05/03/12) LAS VEGAS - The Environmental Protection Agency will hold an additional hearing today about the fate of the Reid Gardner coal-fired power plant - and this one will be on tribal land.

Federal law requires the EPA to hold the hearing close to the source of pollution, according to William Anderson, chairman of the Moapa Paiutes. He says the EPA's initial plan was to hold only one hearing 12 miles from the coal plant.

"It has to be us to go ahead and take that initiative to make sure that they understand what we're going through, and not to go ahead and just blow us off, so that way they can do what's best for the power industry. To me, that's what it seems like, that they're in support of them, rather than the people."

An EPA spokesperson confirms that the meeting was added in response to requests from the tribe. The decision follows a 50-mile culture and healing walk by tribal members on Earth Day to call attention to the smog and pollution they say is responsible for local health hazards.

Jane Feldman, conservation chairwoman for the Sierra Club's Southern Nevada Group, says Reid Gardner is responsible for some 4,000 tons of nitrogen oxide pollution each year - and the EPA's proposed cleanup falls short.

"The best available technology is supposed to be used to clean up these coal-fired power plants, and they're suggesting that second rate is good enough for us here. That's just not right."

Feldman says the decision to hold the additional hearing is good news not just for Native Americans but also for their Nevada neighbors.

"There's lots of people that live between Reid Gardner and Overton that are affected by, not only the burning of the coal-fired power plant but by the coal ash landfills, which is where they put this stuff after it's been cleaned from the smokestacks."

The hearing at the Moapa Reservation will begin at 1 p.m., followed by a 6:30 p.m. hearing at the Moapa Valley Empowerment High School in Overton.

[Click here to view this story on the Public News Service RSS site and access an audio version of this and other stories: http://www.publicnewsservice.org/index.php?/content/article/26209-1](http://www.publicnewsservice.org/index.php?/content/article/26209-1)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Study: Fracking Chemicals Can Migrate to Drinking Water Supplies Within Years**  
*Abrahm Lustgarten, ProPublica*

Lustgarten reports: "A new study has raised fresh concerns about the safety of gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale, concluding that fracking chemicals injected into the ground could migrate toward drinking water supplies far more quickly than experts have previously predicted."

READ MORE

\*\*\*\*\*

**LAND TRANSFERS**

"Why should it take more than 10 years for the Bureau of Land Management or the U.S. Forest Service to transfer the lands they don't want to local stakeholders who do?" asks **freshman** Nevada Rep. Mark Amodei.

<http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz13325186>

*I do not often editorialize on articles herein, but the whole discussion about public lands impacts Tribes so dramatically that I cannot maintain neutrality. There are many issues of right-away, water rights, environmental impacts.....it is not so much as complex but tedious. The other issue is public education. Original US territorial administration legislation had "states: divided into the sections we now fondly refer to as the "T's and R's". Two sections in each 640 acre block were reserved to ultimately finance public education thru sale creating endowments. (Nevada's fund experienced a set back with an early 20th Century scandal in which much of this money was embezzled by a state official). In any event, disposal of these lands with this caveat has not been part of the headline making, altho one can make a case that those promoting the sale are also those who pretty much denigrate public education. This is only one example of the seriousness of this proposal. Tribes, as well as the general populace, should watch their backs.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**A Repository for Eagles Finds Itself In Demand**

By DAN FROSCH                      nyt                      5.5.12

American Indians, who use dead eagles for traditional ceremonies, face long waits for the animals when they submit applications to the National Eagle Repository outside Denver.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Ancient human remains in Kumeyaay area** (from [Shelly Davis-King](#))

<http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2012/apr/24/dispute-erupts-over-ancient-human-remains-found/>

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE SOLAR DESERT

### **Discovery of Indian artifacts complicates Genesis solar project**

**After human remains were unearthed near the \$1-billion Genesis project 200 miles east of L.A., the Colorado River Indian Tribes are demanding that the Obama administration slow down on solar plants in the Mojave Desert**

*Sylvia "Cindy" Homer, vice chairwoman of the Colorado River Indian Tribes, walks along the Colorado River in Parker, Ariz. Indian artifacts have been discovered at or in the vicinity of the \$1-billion Genesis solar project. All had been missed by archaeological surveys conducted in a rush to build. "Mother Nature decided to show them what they missed in those surveys and said, 'Stop,'" Homer said. (Irfan Khan / Los Angeles Times)*

- [Graphic: Genesis Project](#)
- [Photos: Indian tribes stand their sacred ground near solar energy sites](#)
- [Solar power producers hesitate to embrace new DWP program](#)
- [California schools harness sunshine to cut energy costs](#)
- [Environmentalists feeling burned by rush to build solar projects](#)
- [Land speculators see silver lining in solar projects](#)
- [See more stories »](#)

By Louis Sahagun, Los Angeles Times      April 24, 2012

The Feb. 27 letter from the chairman of the Colorado River Indian Tribes was pleading and tough. It asked President Obama to slow the federal government's "frantic pursuit" of massive solar energy projects in the Mojave Desert because of possible damage to Native American cultural resources.

The Obama administration didn't respond. But four days after Chairman Eldred Enas sent the letter, the Indians say they found an answer, delivered by spirits of the desert.

Howling winds uncovered a human tooth and a handful of burned bone fragments the size of quarters on a sand dune in the shadow of new solar power transmission towers. Indians say the discovery is evidence of a Native American cremation site not detected in [Southern California Edison's](#) archaeological survey before the towers were built.

### **PHOTOS: Sacred ground**

The Indians reburied the remains a few hundred feet away. But while digging the grave April 3, they hit more ancestral bones.

It was the last straw, the third discovery of artifacts at or in the vicinity of the \$1-billion [Genesis](#) solar project 200 miles east of Los Angeles. All had been missed by archaeological surveys conducted in a rush to build.

"Mother Nature decided to show them what they missed in those surveys and said, 'Stop,'" said Sylvia "Cindy" Homer, vice chairwoman of the Colorado tribes.

Now the tribes, joined by others in the desert, are not merely asking the Obama administration to go slow because of potential harm. They are demanding it. Backed by the legally powerful Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, the Indians say Genesis and the transmission line corridor are proof of damage to sacred lands. They are readying court challenges that could alter solar and wind energy projects across the desert.

"We're at a flash point over a general unwillingness to listen to and respect the tribal perspective and advice," said David Singleton, a program analyst with the California Native American Heritage Commission. "These are important public policy questions involving gigantic power plants sprouting up in rural areas that had gone undisturbed for thousands of years."

Genesis is one of 27 solar plants in the West that the U.S. Bureau of Land Management has identified as a priority, giving them a faster track to state and federal approval. Interior Secretary [Ken Salazar](#) has said the government is "on steroids" in its support for renewable energy.

But unless the developers and federal and state governments yield to the Native American concerns, they are headed for a showdown of complicated and competing values. It would come down to a single question: Does the cultural importance of long-buried Native American remains outweigh the need to rapidly build solar and wind energy projects to meet the enormous threat of global climate change?

In stark terms, should a project like Genesis be scuttled by what an executive for its owner called "a diffuse scatter of artifacts?"

The colliding interests are not new. They have been present for decades along the California coast, where most Native American village sites were destroyed by urbanization, said Jon Erlandson, director of the University of Oregon Museum of Cultural and Natural History and an archaeologist deeply knowledgeable about development in California Indian country.

"The relatively undeveloped deserts are next in line," Erlandson said. "But out there, fast-track processes that do not involve a lot of thorough research before building something are setting the stage for future conflicts and potential disasters."

Given the strength of the federal law protecting cultural artifacts, developers find that often it is less expensive "to slow down, consult with tribes and place projects in areas where they do the least amount of damage possible," he said.

Although a handful of solar projects are under construction in the desert, Genesis has emerged as a case study for Native Americans. As a federally recognized tribal group with sovereignty over a 264,000-acre reservation, the Colorado tribes were offended that the BLM approved Genesis without holding "nation-to-nation" consultations with them.

Before construction began, archaeologists had warned that the site near Ford Dry Lake was rich with Native American history. Florida-based NextEra Energy Resources redesigned the project to avoid land most likely to hold artifacts, then followed a streamlined method, approved by state regulators, for surveying the new site for remains.

The survey found nothing to alter the project. But during construction last November, workers uncovered a pair of grinding stones and what appeared to be a layer of charcoal. The Colorado tribes say they are evidence of a sacred cremation site. Genesis claims they are insignificant artifacts. But work has been halted on more than 125 acres since their discovery.

The human remains found months later were some seven miles from Genesis, near new transmission towers erected to carry power from the project.

The tribes now want large areas surrounding the cremation sites deemed off-limits, even if that means redesigning Genesis and rerouting Southern California Edison's transmission line corridor.

NextEra warns that yielding to the tribes' demands could result in costly delays that jeopardize completion of the 250-megawatt plant, which is being built on BLM land with the help of an \$825-million loan guaranteed by federal taxpayers.

Michael O'Sullivan, NextEra's senior vice president of development, acknowledged in a recent letter to the BLM that the economic damage could be "so severe that, had they been known at the time the investment was approved, Genesis would not have moved forward with the project."

California Public Utilities Commission spokeswoman Terrie Prosper said the human remains found recently were outside the boundary of the transmission line corridor and "no rerouting is necessary."

But Linda Otero, a leader of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, which is working with the Colorado tribes, said that even though the remains were outside of the boundary, they are part of "a living spiritual world." The utility has "disrupted the peace of our ancestors and our relationship with the land. There is no mitigation for such a loss."

Native Americans insist they are not against renewable energy. The problem is that some solar projects were approved for lands that are an essential part of Indian religion, culture and history — without consultation with affected tribes.

The Colorado tribes and others in the desert are now joining to pressure developers and mount legal challenges. In Imperial County, for example, the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians touts the support of the Cocopah, Quechan and Colorado tribes in its effort to derail Pattern Energy's proposed Ocotillo Wind project, which would scatter across 12,500 acres of BLM land up to 112 turbines, each 450 feet tall.

"The problems inherent in this fast-track process are exacerbated by the sheer number of projects proposed," Colorado tribes chairman Enas pointed out in his letter to Obama. "Our current count



places over 40 proposed projects within a 50-mile radius of the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation.

"For projects that have been proposed but not yet approved, we ask that our input be sought out early and often, and that BLM be willing and able to turn down ill-sited projects," Enas wrote.

Native American objections threaten to undermine the BLM's efforts to create a plan to develop renewable energy across six Southwestern states. The agency is trying to unify local, state and federal land use rules into a uniform plan that developers can rely on throughout the region.

The plan has gotten off to a rocky start in Indian country, with many tribes not cooperating. BLM Deputy State Director Thomas Pogacnik acknowledged in an interview that Native Americans had good reason to be angry about his agency's fast-track process, given that it relied almost entirely on information provided by developers to determine where to place the first "high-priority" wind and solar projects on public land.

Pogacnik promised that future projects will include more input from tribes. "We learned a lot from that first go-round of projects that there is a better way of doing things," he said.

[louis.sahagun@latimes.com](mailto:louis.sahagun@latimes.com)

*This is one in a series of occasional articles chronicling the wide-ranging effects on the West of the emerging solar-energy industry. <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-solar-bones-20120424%2C0%2C6193826%2Cfull.story>*

## Comments (70)

**peter018** at 8:58 AM April 28, 2012

It seems there is no dearth of negative articles about insensitive solar developers and here is yet another one in in the LA times. This article says that, because of the impacts of very large solar projects on the desert environment and on Native American burial sites, solar developers, federal and state governments and Native American tribes are headed for a showdown of complicated and competing values.

These developers are giving all developers a bad name. We don't need fast track permitting from the government to push gigantic solar developments in environmental and historic areas. And we actually don't need Federal loan guarantees. What we do need is an understanding that we are tied together with the same goal of respecting the world we live in. And, we need to come up with policies that will support the generation of renewable energy where we need it: close to load centers, in or near urban areas, on roof tops, parking lots, landfills and brown fields. We need generation close to where the power is to be used, in areas that are already developed, which aren't ecologically, culturally or historically sensitive.

Government, tribes and developers can and should work together to come up with the best solution ...distributed renewable energy generation done with the least possible negative impacts.

Peter Weich, CEO of Absolutely Solar

\*\*\*\*\*

**World's first solar-geothermal hybrid power plant**

Enel inaugurates Stillwater solar-geothermal hybrid project (update) | LahontanValleyNews.com  
www.lahontanvalleynews.com The picturesque Nevada blue sky served as the perfect backdrop on  
Wednesday to Enel Green Power's official dedication of the world's first and only (read more)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Jobs:**

Librarian: Churchill County Library (Fallon) is hiring a Technical Services Librarian.  
Responsible for cataloging materials and preparing them for presentation. Masters in Library  
Science (MLS) desirable. 3 yrs. exp. in library svcs., w/a

**Summer Recreation Positions (Lifeguards, Gate Monitors, Pier Attendants)**

Now Hiring for Summer Recreation Positions at Dollar Point Must be at least 16 years old  
Lifeguards, Gate Monitors, Pier Attendants Call 583-4487 or email info@dollarpoint.org

\*\*\*\*\*

**Fighting Sioux Cannot Sue: Federal Court Throws Out Tribe's Challenge Of  
NCAA Rule** by jonathanturley

We previously discussed the controversy over the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux  
nickname. The NCAA has banned the use of such tribal names and members of the Spirit Lake  
Sioux tribe and Standing Rock Sioux sued to try to restore the use of the name -- something  
they find not insulting but complimentary to their tribe. I have been [critical of the NCAA rule](#). A  
federal court has now thrown out the lawsuit over the use of the team's name over standing.

Read more of this post: <http://jonathanturley.org/2012/05/03/fighting-sioux-cannot-sue-federal-court-throws-out-tribes-challenge-of-ncaa-rule/>

\*\*\*\*\*

**U.S. must heal native peoples' wounds, return lands: U.N.** [www.chicagotribune.com](http://www.chicagotribune.com)

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) - The United States must do more to heal the wounds of indigenous  
peoples caused by more than a century of oppression, including restoring control over lands Native  
Americans consider to be sacred, a U.N. human rights investigator said on Friday.

\*\*\*\*\*

**<http://truth-out.org/news/item/8737-texas-amnesia>**

\*\*\*\*\*

Sitting here thinking about the day/week I've had. I passed the Language Coordinator torch to the  
new RSIC Language Coordinator Kellie Harry. I am confident that she is going to do a great job  
for RSIC. She has a heart for our native language and wants to see it flourish. Her grandmother,  
Charlotte Harry, has inspired her life's goals to work in the field of language revitalization.  
Charlotte planted a seed and now, Charlotte can watch as her granddaughter blossoms. I'm really  
excited for the RSIC Language Program! I believe she is the young person that will take that  
program to the next level! I am so confident with Kellie at the helm that, I can just relax for a  
minute and enjoy some free time. What's first? A good house cleaning...HAHA...I put so much  
time into my work, I've let my house go. Got to get that in order next. Well, I hope you all had as  
good a day as I had. I hope you all do something excited this weekend. Stay out of trouble tho!

Sa'a.... **Lois Kane**



**PYRAMID LAKE WAR MEMORIAL POW-WOW**  
**NIXON, NEVADA**

**May 18, 19 & 20, 2012**

***Nixon Gymnasium***

**Host Drum: TBA**

**M.C.: Mark McNair, Chiloquin, OR**

**A.D.: Carlos Calica, Warm Springs, OR**

Competitive Dancing, Raffles, Arts & Crafts, Open Handgames

*Inviting all Great Basin hand drum singers;*

*To sing Sunday during total eclipse of the sun*

**Public Welcome**

**All Drums Welcome (Drummers please bring your own chairs)**

Pow-wow Committee not responsible for theft, accidents, short funded travelers, or divorces

**Vendor and General Information: Dean Barlese (775) 574-0110**

