



OPINION

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Letters



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BY THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE
 MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2011 AT MIDNIGHT

The Environmental Health Coalition echoes the Anza-Borrego Foundation's concerns about the rush to site massive renewable energy projects in the desert ("Why not solar power in the desert? Here's why," Jan. 6). [San Diego](#) can and should be the leader in renewable energy, but these systems need not have the environmentally destructive impacts associated with remote large-scale systems and destructive transmission lines.

Part of our region's green energy solution is in our backyard. Rooftops, parking lots and vacant land are prime locations for photovoltaic systems. In fact, the city of San Diego, UCSD, the University of San Diego, the Navy and others already are leading the effort with local renewable-energy installations. But we can and must do much more with the help and attention of [San Diego Gas & Electric](#).

Installing renewable energy systems in our urban core keeps the revenues here in San Diego and creates clean-energy jobs. Training and connecting these residents to new clean-energy jobs in our region will build a sustainable green economy.

Nicole Capretz

Environmental Health Coalition

