

THE PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION & BACKCOUNTRY AGAINST DUMPS

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**WIND TURBINE BLADE THROW INCIDENT AT PATTERN ENERGY'S \$600 MILLION OCOTILLO
WIND PROJECT IN TINY DESERT TOWN OF OCOTILLO—173 FT LONG BLADE CRASHED TO
GROUND BLOCKING A JEEP TRAIL ON PUBLIC BLM LAND—
PRESS CONFERENCE 12:00-1:00 PM TODAY, OCOTILLO COMMUNITY CENTER, JUST NORTH OF
I-8 NEXT TO FIRE STATION AT 1157 N. IMPERIAL HWY, OCOTILLO, 92259**



This wholly avoidable public health and safety hazard occurred just one day after San Diego County Board of Supervisors approved the revised Wind Energy Ordinance & Boulevard Community Plan to remove community protections to allow 500 foot tall industrial wind turbines on private land in previously protected areas near homes, recreation areas, and sensitive wildlife—just like the BLM did for Pattern Energy's Ocotillo Wind—despite pleas from adversely impacted community members over valid and justified safety concerns.

The blade throw incident also comes one day after Federal Judge Curiel finally granted plaintiffs' motion to remand our Ocotillo Express Wind CEQA complaint back to state court where it belongs—after Pattern Energy had moved it to federal court with our federal complaints, based on false claims that Imperial County was acting on orders from the federal government. The Curiel Order and our complaint are both attached. Plaintiffs include The Protect Our Communities Foundation, Backcountry Against Dumps and Donna Tisdale. Since Ocotillo Express operation started in late 2012, residents complain of adverse impacts from noise, vibrations, electrical interference, shadow flicker and light pollution. People, pets and wildlife are suffering while the project's wind production is far less than advertised.

Park Ewing's [Ocotillo Wind Turbine Destruction](#) page has project photos and information:

<https://www.facebook.com/OcotilloWindTurbineDestruction>

Jim Pelley's *Save Ocotillo* youtube site has project videos and photos: <http://www.youtube.com/user/SaveOcotillo>

Map to community center: <http://itouchmap.com/?d=1868232&s=CA&f=building>

Map of Ocotillo Express Wind project footprint surrounding Ocotillo:

http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/cdd/energy/0.Par.53015.File.dat/CACA051552_for_Web.pdf

Siemens wind turbine specs: http://www.energy.siemens.com/us/pool/hq/power-generation/renewables/wind-power/wind%20turbines/Siemens%20Wind%20Turbine%20SWT-2.3-108_EN.pdf

BLM project website: http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/nepa/ocotillo_express_wind.html

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