

We know that objections may arise on how the Solar PA is being implemented.

Nancy, can you tell us how to resolve these disputes?

If one of the signatories to the Solar PA has a serious concern about how it is being implemented, they start by taking it to the BLM. BLM notifies all the consulting parties and tries to resolve the dispute in 30 days with input from the consulting parties.

If the parties come to agreement, BLM lets everyone know in writing how the objection was resolved.

If one of the signatories to the Solar PA has a serious concern about how it is being implemented, they start by taking it to the BLM. BLM notifies all the consulting parties and tries to resolve the dispute in 30 days with input from the consulting parties.

If the parties come to agreement, BLM lets everyone know in writing how the objection was resolved.

If the group cannot resolve the problem in 30 days, BLM sends all the information related to the dispute to the Advisory Council for formal comment. That means comment from the group of Presidential appointees who make up the Advisory Council, not from staff like me.

The Council gets 30 days to provide formal comment about the problem. The BLM then takes that comment into account when making the final decision.

In reality, relatively few of these disputes come to the Advisory Council for formal comment. Most times the consulting parties are able to work out problems and collaboratively address issues that arise. But this provision allows for the really thorny problems to be heard and commented on by the Council before a decision is made.

The process is a little different when concerns about the implementation of the Solar PA come from Indian Tribes or members of the public. Then BLM notifies the consulting parties of the dispute, consults with the objecting party for not more than 14 days, and takes any comments from the consulting parties into account before making a decision. In this situation Advisory Council staff might provide comments.

No matter who the objection originally comes from, the BLM makes the final decision and then notifies all the involved parties of the outcome.