

# Obama-Era Ivanpah Solar Plant, 'World's Largest Barbecue,' to Close After Billions in Loan Guarantees

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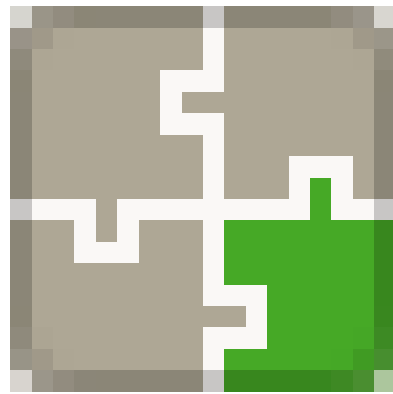
h Berger / Associated Press  
JOEL B. POLLAK

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The controversial Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System in California's Mojave desert is going to close 14 years early despite \$1.6 billion in loan guarantees from the Department of Energy under President Barack Obama.

The Ivanpah facility works by using mirrors that concentrate sunlight on a central boiling tower, which then heats water to move turbines. It has been criticized for incinerating birds and other animals within the reflecting zone.

Ivanpah has become a familiar sight on the road between Los Angeles and Las Vegas, and in the airspace above, with its blinding light visible for miles.



The *New York Post* [noted](#):

In 2011, the US Department of Energy (DOE) under former President Barack Obama issued \$1.6 billion in loan guarantees to finance the Ivanpah Solar Power Facility, a green energy project that consists of three solar concentrating thermal power plants in California.

The facility was touted by then-Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz as an “example of how America is becoming a world leader in solar energy.”

...

In January, [Pacific Gas & Energy] announced plans to cancel its agreement with Ivanpah 14 years early, determining that “ending the agreements at this time will save customers money compared to the cost of keeping them through 2039” – ultimately putting Ivanpah on notice for closure.

Now, it joins [Solyndra](#) in the roster of failed Obama-era “green” energy projects. *Joel B. Pollak is Senior Editor-at-Large at Breitbart News and the host of Breitbart News Sunday on Sirius XM Patriot on Sunday evenings from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. ET (4 p.m. to 7 p.m. PT). He is the author of [The Agenda: What Trump Should Do in His First 100 Days](#), available for pre-order on Amazon. He is also the author of [The Trumpian Virtues: The Lessons and Legacy of Donald Trump’s Presidency](#), now available on Audible. He is a winner of the 2018 Robert Novak Journalism Alumni Fellowship. Follow him on Twitter at [@joelpollak](#).*

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