

APPENDIX F

Visual Resources

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**United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management
Scenic Quality Field Inventory**

Date 8/23/05		
District California Desert		
Field Office Palm Springs		
Scenic Quality Rating Unit 12		
Viewpoint 18 : Chuckwalla Valley Rd.		
Evaluator(s) Michael Clayton		

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER			
	LANDFORM / WATER	VEGETATION	STRUCTURES
Form	Flat valley floor.	Irregular distribution of low growing grasses and shrubs. Coverage appearing more consistent at distance.	Linear and complex for transmission line towers and h-frame structures. Linear for I-10 (in distance).
Line	Horizontal for the valley floor.	Irregular for individual shrubs. Horizontal as defined by the valley floor. Diagonal as demarcated by access road.	Vertical, horizontal, and diagonal for lattice and h-frame structures, horizontal for I-10.
Color	Light-tan soils.	Tan to pale-yellow grasses with tanish-gray to green shrubs.	Gray to brown.
Texture	Soils in the immediate foreground appear granular.	Medium grain to matte.	Smooth

Narrative: SQRU 12 encompasses the central-eastern portion of Chuckwalla Valley in the vicinity of the exiting transmission lines on both the north and south side of I-10. The landform of the valley floor is flat and non-descript with grass and low-growing shrubs of subdued color. Though distant mountain ranges (McCoy Mountains to the north and Chuckwalla Mountains to the south) provide limited backdrops of visual interest (not part of this unit), SQRU 12 is primarily influenced by the dominant presence of existing utility infrastructure and Interstate 10.

Score					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION
	High	Medium	Low	Explanation or Rationale	
a. Landform			1	Chuckwalla Valley Floor	
b. Vegetation			1		
c. Water			0		
d. Color		2			
e. Adjacent Scenery		2		Distant McCoy and Chuckwalla Mountains	
f. Scarcity			1		
g. Cultural Modifications			-4	Transmission Lines and I-10	
TOTALS	0	4	-1	3	<input type="checkbox"/> A 19 or more <input type="checkbox"/> B 12 - 18 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C 11 or less

**United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management
Scenic Quality Field Inventory**

Date 8/23/05		
District California Desert		
Field Office Palm Springs		
Scenic Quality Rating Unit 12		
Viewpoint 19 : Mule Mtns. Access Rd.		
Evaluator(s) Michael Clayton		

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER			
	LANDFORM / WATER	VEGETATION	STRUCTURES
Form	Flat mesa and valley floor.	Irregular distribution of low growing grasses and shrubs. Coverage appearing more consistent at distance.	Linear and complex for transmission line towers.
Line	Horizontal for the mesa/valley floor.	Irregular for individual shrubs. Horizontal as defined by the mesa/valley floor.	Vertical, horizontal, and diagonal for lattice structures.
Color	Light-tan soils.	Tan to pale-yellow grasses with tanish-gray to green shrubs.	Gray.
Texture	Soils in the immediate foreground appear granular.	Medium grain to matte.	Smooth

Narrative: Viewpoint 19 is located on Palo Verde Mesa at the eastern end of SQRU 12. Viewing to the west toward Chuckwalla Valley, the landform is flat with relatively non-descript vegetation of subtle hues of yellow and green. Though distant mountain ranges (McCoy Mountains to the north, Chuckwalla Mountains to the southwest, Mule Mountains to the south) provide backdrops of visual interest (not part of this unit), SQRU 12 is primarily influenced by the dominant presence of existing utility infrastructure.

Score					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION
	High	Medium	Low	Explanation or Rationale	
a. Landform			1	Palo Verde Mesa / Chuckwalla Valley Floor	
b. Vegetation			1		
c. Water			0		
d. Color		2			
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		McCoy, Chuckwalla, and Mule Mountains	
f. Scarcity			1		
g. Cultural Modifications			-3	Transmission Line	
TOTALS	0	5	0	5	<input type="checkbox"/> A 19 or more <input type="checkbox"/> B 12 - 18 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C 11 or less

**United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management
Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classification**

Date October 13, 2005		Evaluator(s) Michael Clayton	
District California Desert		Field Office Palm Springs	
Scenic Quality Rating Unit (SQRU) 12	Viewpoint 19 : Mule Mtns. Access Road	VRM Class III	

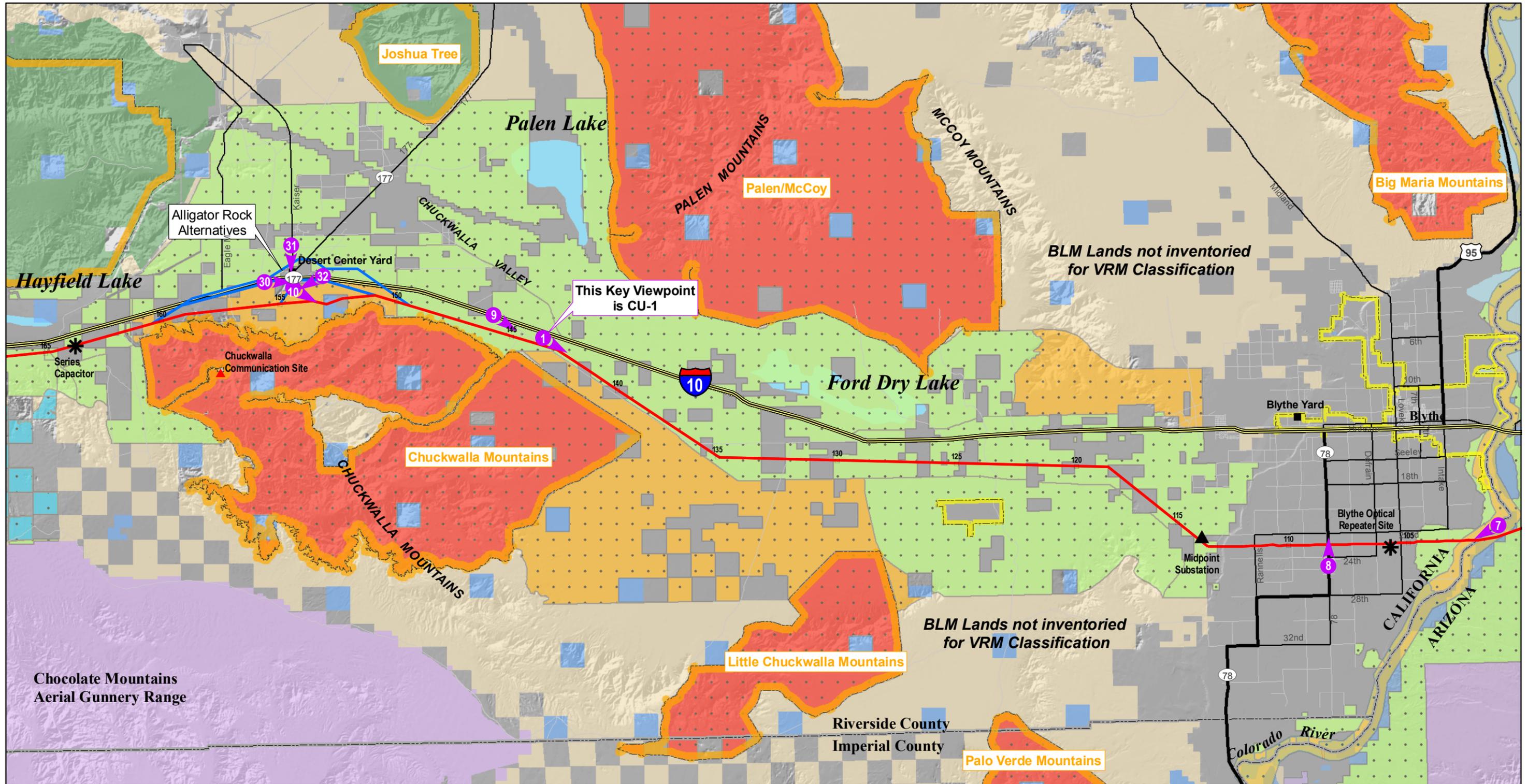
		Visual Sensitivity Levels						
		High			Medium			Low
Special Areas		I	I	I	I	I	I	I
Scenic Quality	A	II	II	II	II	II	II	II
	B	II	III*	III	III	IV	IV	IV
			IV*					
C	III	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV	
		f/m	b	s/s	f/m	b	s/s	s/s
		Distance Zones						

* Note: If adjacent area is Class III or lower, assign Class III, if higher assign Class IV

Basis for Determining Visual Resource Inventory Classes

Class I. Class I is assigned to all special areas where the current management situations require maintaining a natural environment essentially unaltered by man.

Classes II, III, and IV. These classes are assigned based on combinations of scenic quality, sensitivity levels, and distance zones as shown in the matrix above.



PREPARED BY
Aspen
Environmental Group

- Proposed Project
- Mileposts
- Alternative Routes



OWNERSHIP/JURISDICTIONS (unincorporated areas)

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| BLM | Wilderness Areas | Substations |
| Indian Lands | Incorporated Areas | Series Capacitor |
| Military | | Construction Yard |
| National Park Service | | Communications Site |
| State | | |
| Private | | |

VRM Classes

- Class I
- Class II
- Class III
- Class IV
- Key Viewpoint Location and View Direction

**Devers-Palo Verde No. 2
Transmission Line Project**

Figure D.3-1C
Visual Resources
Colorado River to Desert Center

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

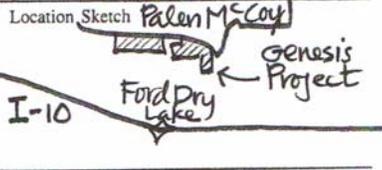
Date 8-6-09

District Palm Springs - South Coast

Resource Area Chuckwalla - Palen

Activity (program) Solar Energy

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Genesis Solar Energy Project	4. Location Township 6 South Range 18E + 19E Section 4, 11, 13-15 24, 1, 2, 3, 4	5. Location Sketch 
2. Key Observation Point #1 Ford Dry Lake Bridge Over I-10		
3. VRM Class III		

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Flat desert plain no water	Widely scattered individual creosote bush scrub	None
LINE	horizontal desert plain diagonal lines of mountains	rounded individual shrubs	None
COLOR	dark gray mountains light tan desert plain	olive green shrubs	None
TEXTURE	folded mountainous smooth desert plain	mottled	None

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	flat horizontal	no change as seen from KOP 1	horizontal solar troughs flat roofs
LINE	horizontal	no change as seen from KOP 1	horizontal
COLOR	no change as seen from KOP 1	no change as seen from KOP 1	light tan
TEXTURE	no change as seen from KOP 1	no change as seen from KOP 1	smooth

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1.	DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
		Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	
ELEMENTS	Form			✓					✓				✓	
	Line			✓					✓				✓	
	Color				✓				✓				✓	
	Texture				✓				✓				✓	
Evaluator's Names													Date	
Lee Anderson													8-6-09	

Figure 5.10-20. KOP-1 Contrast Rating Worksheet

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date 8-6-09
District Palm Springs - South Coast
Resource Area Chuckwalla - Palen
Activity (program) Solar Energy

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Genesis Solar Energy Project
2. Key Observation Point #2 Wiley's Well Bridge Over I-10
3. VRM Class III
4. Location
Township 6 South
Range 18E + 19E
Section 4-11, 13-15
24, 1, 2, 3, 4
5. Location Sketch Palen McCoy
I-10
Ford Dry Lake
Genesis Project

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	<u>flat desert plain no water</u>	<u>widely scattered individual cross-site bush scrub</u>	<u>None</u>
LINE	<u>horizontal desert plain diagonal lines of mountains</u>	<u>rounded individual shrubs</u>	<u>None</u>
COLOR	<u>dark gray mountains light tan desert plain</u>	<u>olive green shrubs</u>	<u>None</u>
TEXTURE	<u>folded mountainous smooth desert plain</u>	<u>mottled</u>	<u>None</u>

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	<u>flat horizontal</u>	<u>no change as seen from KOP 2</u>	<u>horizontal solar troughs flat roofs</u>
LINE	<u>horizontal</u>	<u>no change as seen from KOP 2</u>	<u>horizontal</u>
COLOR	<u>no change as seen from KOP 2</u>	<u>no change as seen from KOP 2</u>	<u>light tan</u>
TEXTURE	<u>no change as seen from KOP 2</u>	<u>no change as seen from KOP 2</u>	<u>smooth</u>

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)	3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)					
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None		
ELEMENTS													Evaluator's Names	Date
Form													<u>Lee Anderson</u>	<u>8-6-09</u>
Line														
Color														
Texture														

Figure 5.10-21. KOP-2 Contrast Rating Worksheet

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date 8-6-09

District Palm Springs - South Coast
Resource Area Chuckwalla - Palen
Activity (program) Solar Energy

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name <u>Genesis Solar Energy Project</u>	4. Location Township <u>6 South</u> Range <u>18E + 19E</u> Sections <u>4-11, 13-15</u> <u>24, 1, 2, 3, 4</u>	5. Location Sketch 
2. Key Observation Point #3 <u>Corn Springs BLM Road</u>		
3. VRM Class <u>III</u>		

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	<u>flat desert plain no water</u>	<u>widely scattered individual cross-site bush scrub</u>	<u>None</u>
LINE	<u>horizontal desert plain diagonal lines of mountains</u>	<u>rounded individual shrubs</u>	<u>None</u>
COLOR	<u>dark gray mountains light tan desert plain</u>	<u>olive green shrubs</u>	<u>None</u>
TEXTURE	<u>folded mountainous smooth desert plain</u>	<u>mottled</u>	<u>None</u>

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	<u>flat horizontal</u>	<u>no change as seen from KOP 3</u>	<u>horizontal solar troughs flat roofs</u>
LINE	<u>horizontal</u>	<u>no change as seen from KOP 3</u>	<u>horizontal</u>
COLOR	<u>no change as seen from KOP 3</u>	<u>no change as seen from KOP 3</u>	<u>light tan</u>
TEXTURE	<u>no change as seen from KOP 3</u>	<u>no change as seen from KOP 3</u>	<u>smooth</u>

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)	
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)					3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None		
ELEMENTS	Form			✓				✓					✓	Evaluator's Names <u>Lee Anderson</u> Date <u>8-6-09</u>
	Line			✓				✓					✓	
	Color			✓				✓					✓	
	Texture			✓				✓					✓	

Figure 5.10-22. KOP-3 Contrast Rating Worksheet