Whitewater Energy has developed over 23% of all the Capacity of Wind Generation in the San Gorgonio Pass. WEC currently is developing an additional 150 MW's of wind energy that will be significantly damaged by the adoption of these guidelines.
Whitewater Energy Corporation wishes to provide these brief comments on the July 2007 Committee Draft report, “California Guidelines for Reducing Impacts to Birds and Bats from Wind Energy Development” (“Committee Draft”). Whitewater Energy Corporation is actively involved in the development of wind energy projects in California and would be directly affected by these Guidelines. For the reasons stated in the August 22, 2007, comments submitted by the California Wind Energy Association, of which Whitewater Energy Corporation is an active member, we oppose the Committee Draft and urge the Commission to take the time necessary to revise Committee Draft to ensure that it does not unjustifiably harm wind energy development in California.

California is getting to a point with excessive regulation and singling out an industry that provides so many benefits to the economy and environment, that our company has taken serious consideration into focusing on other development in other states where costs are much less, and wind energy is much easier to develop.

The Committee Draft recommends practices that go well beyond current industry practices and what is required under CEQA to identify and mitigate all significant environmental impacts caused by a project development. Whitewater Energy Corporation is committed to sound environmental stewardship, but imposing excessive burdens on all wind energy projects, which are needed to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and the associated global warming threat, is counter-productive.

Riverside County should be exempt from these guidelines due to the lack of avian and bat mortality issues proven by multiple studies performed over two (2) decades. Whitewater Energy has developed over 23% of all the Capacity of Wind Generation in the San Gorgonio Pass. WEC currently is developing an additional 150 MW's of wind energy that will be significantly damaged by the adoption of these guidelines.

Respectfully submitted,

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August 22, 2007