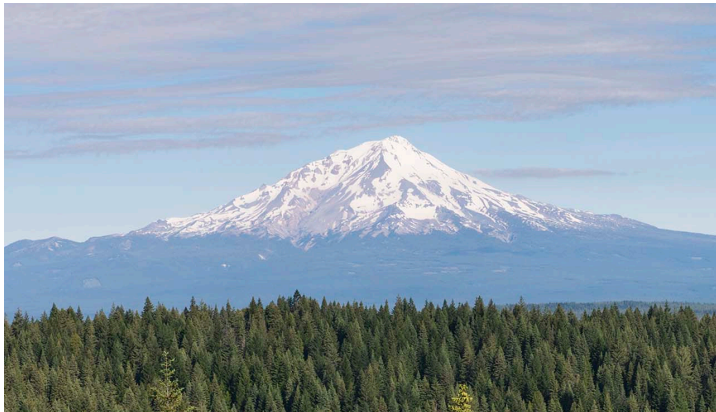


DOCKETED

Docket Number:	23-OPT-01
Project Title:	Fountain Wind Project
TN #:	248330-1
Document Title:	Presentation - Planning Commission Applicant
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Caitlin Barns
Organization:	Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.
Submitter Role:	Applicant Consultant
Submission Date:	1/5/2023 10:09:40 AM
Docketed Date:	1/5/2023



Fountain Wind Project Planning Commission Presentation



Connecting Power, Projects, and People

Overview

I. ABOUT CONNECTGEN

II. WHY WIND IN SHASTA COUNTY

III. COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

IV. PROJECT BENEFITS



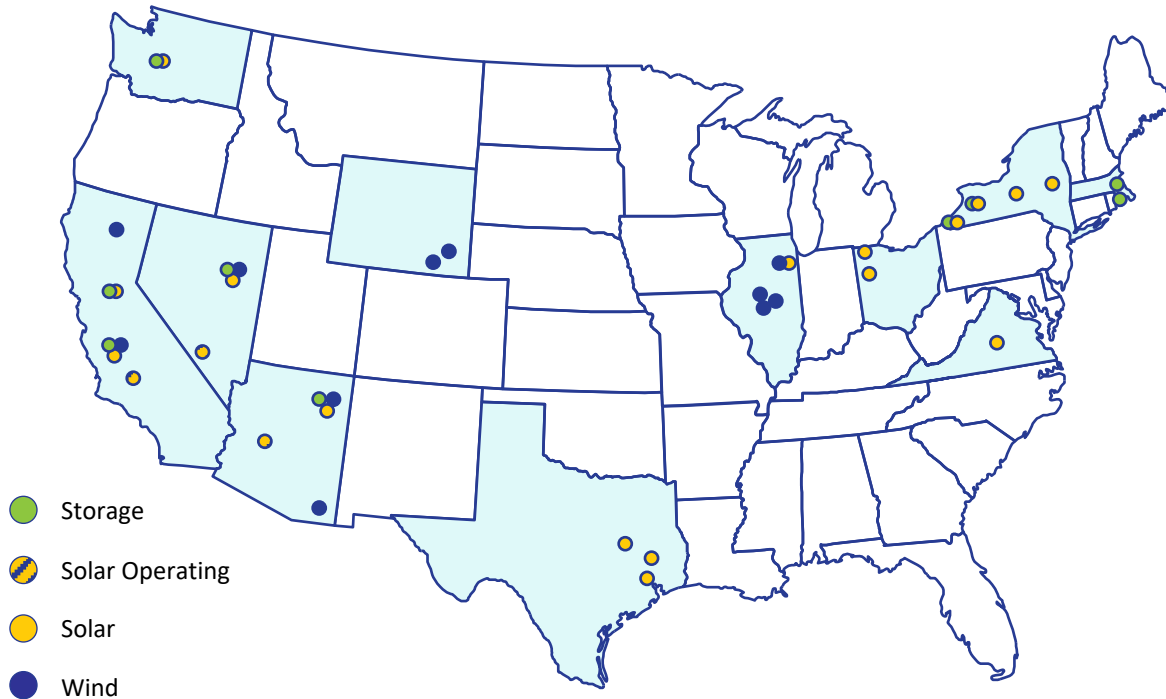
Who is ConnectGen?



ConnectGen is an independent renewable energy company developing large-scale wind, solar, and energy storage projects across North America.

ConnectGen has established a portfolio of over 8,500 MW of wind, solar, and energy storage projects.

Our experienced team holds deep familiarity with transmission system analysis and market design/regulatory issues.



ConnectGen is backed by Quantum Energy Partners. Founded in 1998, Quantum Energy Partners is a leading provider of private equity capital to the global energy industry, having managed together with its affiliates more than \$17 billion in equity commitments since inception.



ConnectGen's Experiences



Caton Fenz
Chief Executive Officer
*Formerly Calpine, EDP
Renewables*



Andrew Kushner
Chief Financial Officer
Formerly NextEra Energy



Stephany LeGrand
General Counsel
*Formerly Shell New
Energies, Eversheds
Sutherland*



Maddie Knowland
Vice President, Origination
*Formerly E.ON, BrightSource
Energy*



Mark Lawlor
Vice President,
Development
*Formerly Clean Line Energy
Partners, Horizon Wind*



Derek Rieman
Vice President,
Development
*Formerly Calpine, Bluewave,
EDP Renewables*



Chris Hills
Vice President, EPC
*Formerly BMS Heavy
Cranes, RES Americas*

ConnectGen's senior management team brings a wealth of experience from industry-leading companies including EDP Renewables, E.ON/RWE, NextEra, Clean Line Energy Partners, Shell New Energies, and Calpine.

Collectively over their careers, team members have developed, commercialized, financed, constructed, and operated many gigawatts of renewable energy projects across the U.S. and Canada.

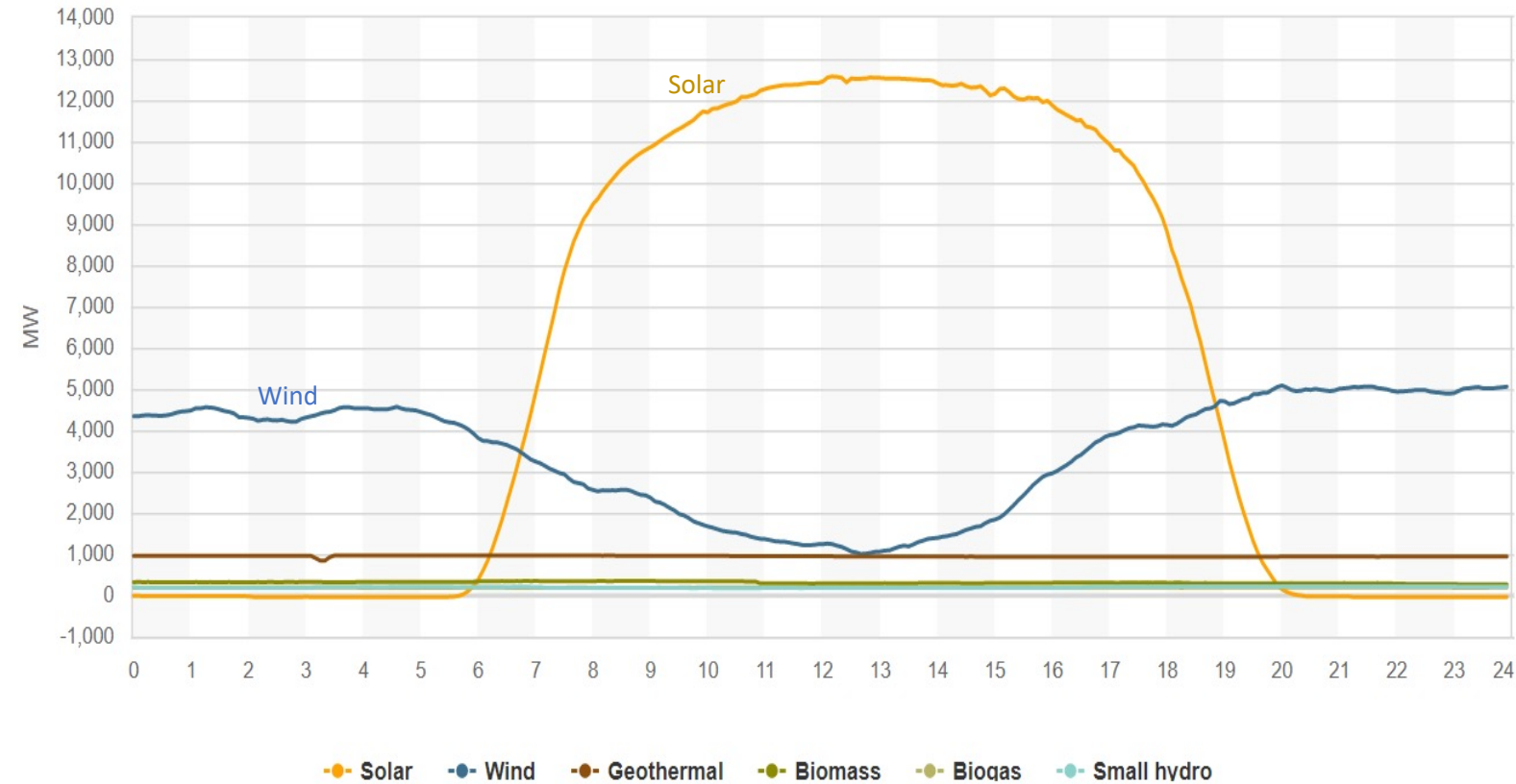


Why is Wind Needed?

- ▶ SB100 mandates all retail electricity to be **50% carbon free by 2026**, and **100% carbon free by 2045**
- ▶ Commercial and industrial consumers demanding more renewable energy before these deadlines
- ▶ Significant Solar operational in California, but much less wind today
 - **12,527 MW** operational solar
 - **5,973 MW** operational wind
- ▶ **More wind is needed in California** to meet demand and balance high solar output

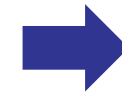


Why Wind: Off-Peak Renewable Production



Typical 24-hour Renewable Supply Mix in CAISO

www.caiso.com



Wind can supply carbon-free energy in the hours solar is not producing

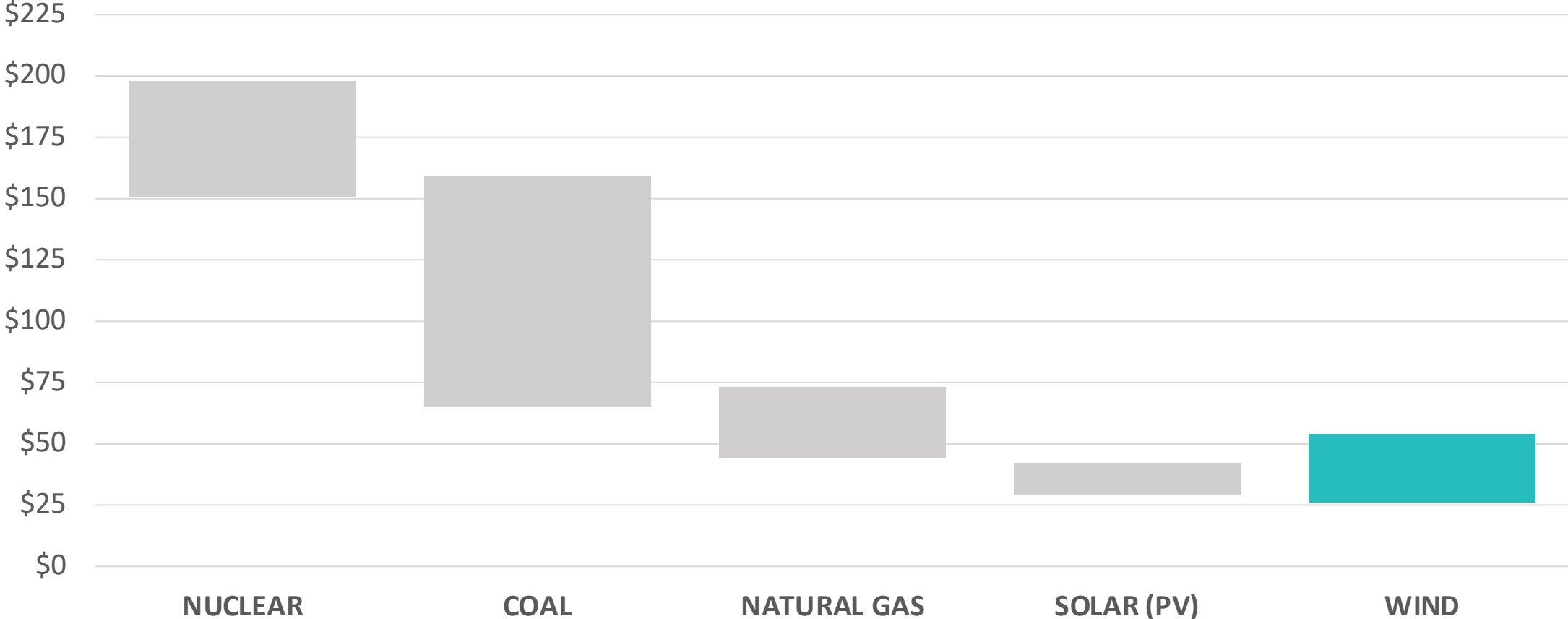


Fountain Wind will supply much-needed capacity when solar is off-line



Why Wind: Low-Cost Energy

\$ per MW Hour (New Generation)



Why Shasta County?



ROBUST WIND RESOURCE



**EXISTING ELECTRICAL
INFRASTRUCTURE**



COMPATIBLE LAND USE



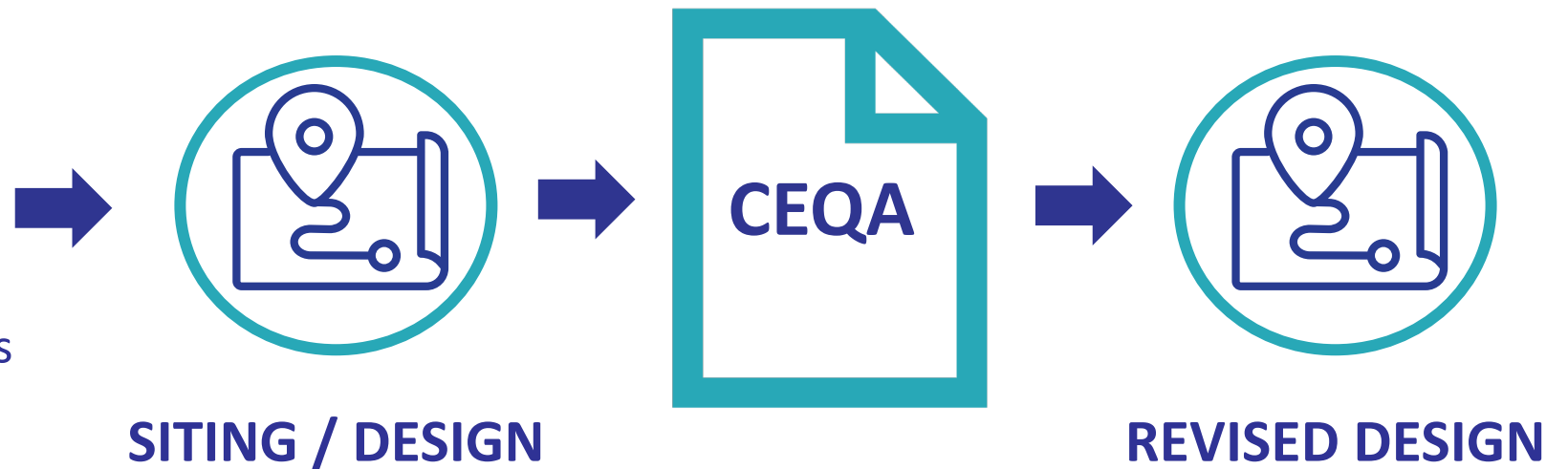
Why Fountain Wind?

- ▶ Fountain Wind is a \$300+ Million clean energy project that will boost Shasta County's tax base, create jobs, enhance fire safety, benefit schools and public safety and so much more
- ▶ These benefits outweigh the impacts not fully mitigated
- ▶ The County has successfully completed the CEQA evaluation for Fountain Wind and recommended certification of FEIR and approval of the Use Permit



Comprehensive Environmental Review

- Site Characterization
- Avian and Bats
- Rare Plants & Natural Vegetation Communities
- Sensitive Species
- Hydrology and Aquatic Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Aesthetics and Visual Impacts
- Shadow Flicker
- Communications
- Sound
- Transportation




Siting and Design Considerations

The Project has sought to Avoid and Minimize Impacts during all Phases of Development:

- Approximately 1,400 acres of temporary disturbance, and 700 acres of permanent disturbance
- Compatible land use associated with an active timber operation
- Colocation of existing roads and waterbody crossings
- Additional micrositing to avoid sensitive resources




Mitigating Environmental Impacts

 Shasta County Department of Resource Management
Planning Division

FOUNTAIN WIND PROJECT


MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM
April 2021



Use Permit No. UP 16-007
State Clearinghouse No2019012029

Prepared for:
Department of Resource Management
Planning Division

Prepared by:
Environmental Science Associates



Required Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting:

- Over 100 Mitigation Measures incorporated through the CEQA process
- Applicant Proposed Conservation Measures and design changes
- Additional “Conditions of Approval”
- Commitment to significant temporal and spatial restrictions during construction
- Preparation of various construction and operation plans based on final design
- Extensive construction and operational environmental monitoring and reporting requirements
- Adaptive management in coordination with the County and State and Federal Agencies



Tribal Concerns and Cultural Resources

Archeological Resource Investigations and Coordination

- Native American Heritage Commission and Sacred Land search
- Pedestrian field survey covering ~4,400 acres
- Tribal outreach
- Pit River Tribe coordination and site visit

Applicant Proposed Commitments and CEQA Mitigation Measures

- Continued coordination with the Pit River Tribe during Project development and construction
- Micrositing to avoid identified historic and prehistoric archeological sites
- Ethnographic recordation in coordination with the Pit River Tribe
- Inadvertent discovery plans and protocols
- Cultural resources monitoring program during construction



Biological Resources

Extensive Study and Review of Aquatic, Terrestrial, and Avian Species and Habitats

- Avian and Bat studies followed USFWS Wind Energy Guidelines and Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance
- Habitat Assessments and Presence/Absence Studies
- Existing operational mortality data for birds and bats

Applicant Proposed Commitments and CEQA Mitigation Measures

- Elimination of turbine identified as higher risk to raptors by CDFW (M03)
- APLIC guidelines to address collision and electrocution risk
- Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy and Nesting Bird Management Plan
- Post Construction Mortality Monitoring and Reporting
- Extensive coordination with agencies prior to construction, during construction, and during operation



Project Benefits

I. ENHANCED WILDFIRE PROTECTION

II. GRID RELIABILITY

III. ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN SHASTA COUNTY

IV. COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM



Enhanced Wildfire Protection

ENHANCED FIRE SAFETY



Added Fire Breaks



Advanced Fire Suppression



Comprehensive Fire Protection Plan



Full Time Site Presence

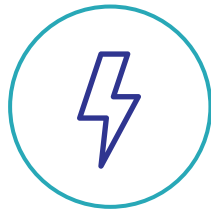


Grid Reliability



ENHANCED GRID RESILIENCY

- Ability to help stabilize the grid through reactive power capabilities
- Upgrades to local PG&E infrastructure



ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

- Up to **216 megawatts** of locally sourced energy generation



Direct Economic Benefits



ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

- **\$50 million+** in property tax revenue to Shasta County over 30 years
- **\$3.5 million+** in local sales taxes during project construction



LOCAL JOB CREATION

- Approximately **200 construction jobs** during peak
- Up to **12 full-time jobs** during project operations



Community Benefit Program



\$1 million investment
to repurpose the Cedar Creek
Elementary School to benefit the
Round Mountain and Montgomery
Creek communities



\$200,000 commitment
to ShastaBeam to enhance
internet service in the
Intermountain region



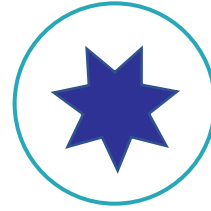
\$250,000 commitment
to the Fall River RCD to implement
a Fuel Break Project along
Highway 299 and Big Bend Road



Community Benefit Program



\$250,000 for Tribal workforce development programming to be administered by the Tribe's Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO)



\$150,000 for the Shasta County Sheriff's Office to support County wide public safety purposes



Community access to Shasta Cascade Timberlands Property



Looking Ahead



Summer 2021: County Approval



Fall 2021: Finalize Engineering Design and additional permits



Winter 2021: Sign contract with General Contractor



Spring 2022: Start of Construction



Fall 2023: Project Completion

Conclusion



LONG TERM TAX REVENUES FOR SHASTA COUNTY



ENHANCED FIRE PROTECTION IN THE INTERMOUNTAIN REGION



NEAR TERM DIRECT COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The benefits of this project are tremendous for Shasta County. Yes, there are impacts related to the project, but those have been minimized and mitigated as much as possible, and we strongly believe the benefits of this project far outweigh the impacts.

