

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	23-OPT-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Fountain Wind Project
<b>TN #:</b>	254727
<b>Document Title:</b>	Patricia A. Clarke Comments - Fountain Wind Project Approval
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	System
<b>Organization:</b>	Patricia A. Clarke
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Public
<b>Submission Date:</b>	2/28/2024 4:18:50 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	2/28/2024

*Comment Received From: Patricia A. Clarke  
Submitted On: 2/28/2024  
Docket Number: 23-OPT-01*

## **Fountain Wind Project Approval**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

California Energy Commission – February 26, 2023

Re: Fountain Wind Project

Dear California Energy Commission Staff and Commission Members:

I have resided in Shasta County for the last 46 years and have been active. Currently, I am the Chairperson of the Anderson Fire Protection District Board and Chairman of the Board for the Frontier Senior Center in Anderson. Over the past years, I have served on the City of Anderson Planning Commission and City Council, and the Shasta County Board of Supervisors. My husband Bob, who has passed away, worked for the U.S. Forest Service as an Air Operations Officer. He was a Lead Plane Pilot who led the air tankers through the fire. My son recently retired from the Cosumnes CSD Fire Department as a Deputy Chief, which operates eight fire stations in the Elk Grove, California area. I am an avid sportsperson who has and continues to benefit from the wonderful recreation opportunities and the natural beauty that our County has to offer.

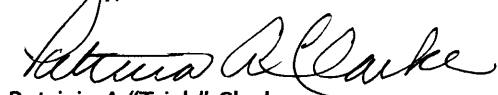
Over the years, I have developed a strong understanding of planning-related issues, both natural and man-made, and the balance needed to minimize potential land-use conflicts while improving our underlying economic base. I am a strong proponent of well-planned development projects that, through design, mitigation measures, and conditions of approval, result in projects that provide both short and long-term economic benefits to our County. I genuinely believe that the Fountain Wind Project is one of those projects.

While I endorse the Fountain Wind Project, I must express my concerns regarding the State's overreach and involvement in local planning matters. Whereas I recognize that the California Energy Commission was not responsible for the approval of AB 205, which granted you the oversight of projects such as Fountain Wind, I do not support the State Legislature's action and the Governor's approval of this type of legislation and express my opposition to the action. The passage of AB 205 isn't the first time the state has stepped in to overrule local jurisdictions, and it certainly won't be the last. I do not like the growing trend that I'm seeing. We here in Shasta County have a long history of being a proud and independent people, and state overreach goes against the grain of the makeup of who we are. I wanted you to understand my position regarding what I consider State overreach, that being said, I wish to separate that action from the merits the Fountain Wind Project brings to our County.

Over the years, I have demonstrated a clear understanding of the timber industry and worked well with them during my years as an elected official. I would never support a project that posed a fire danger to the well-being of timberlands, or any other lands for that matter. In addition to the knowledge I gained as a County Supervisor, serving on the Anderson Fire Protection District, and having a husband in the Forest Service, I believe I have added insight into the complexities of fire prevention and protection. The encroachment of residences into our forested and timberland areas creates more potential fire hazards than the proposed project ever will. It should be recognized that the measures previously proposed by Shasta County Fire, coupled with the project's commitment to implementing shaded fuel breaks, will greatly enhance fire protection in the project area, which will certainly benefit residents of the Burney, Montgomery Creek, and Round Mountain areas.

I respectfully request that you approve the Fountain Wind Project.

Sincerely,



Patricia A "Trish" Clarke  
clarketrish44@gmail.com