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Environmental Impacts of OSW

Dear California Energy Commissioners,

Morro Bay is not just a special Central Coast place because I call it home. But it's special to local residents and tourists alike for the spiritual, emotional and physical rejuvenation its unique beauty provides. It has even more value than the human aspect -- as it provides food, rest and safety for the birds, animals and even insects (Monarch Butterflies) who migrate through.

Yes, much planning has already been accomplished with energy proposals to substantially alter this sea and coastal land but are we so enamored with development and money that we must compromise this gift of nature?

At this stage of planning, the opportunity to explore environmental concerns allows for greater flexibility to deal with problems or cumulative impacts. At this time, the science is still in debate regarding global climate change being caused by humankind's use of fossil fuel vs fluctuating climate patterns well predating man's short period of industrial development. What is not up for debate is the effect humankind has had on all life forms on earth intentional or otherwise.

Potential environmental harms have already been caught up in the momentum for offshore wind development. There are current developments allowing us to see harmful effects to sea life and birds. Let's be wise stewards of our planet, of all living things, of the efforts of our labor-\$\$\$\$\$. We can squander money and hope to rebuild, but we are often not so fortunate to have return of damaged animals, birds or beautiful land, sea or air.

Please be wise Guardians of this beautiful place we call home. Thank you, June Swall