

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	23-OPT-01
Project Title:	Fountain Wind Project
TN #:	259802
Document Title:	Letter from CAL FIRE Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Marichka Haws
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	10/30/2024 4:31:13 PM
Docketed Date:	10/30/2024

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 653-7772
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



October 24, 2024

Drew Bohan
Executive Director
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Director Bohan:

CAL FIRE is aware that the California Energy Commission engaged in and captured three records of conversations (ROC) with CAL FIRE officials regarding the Fountain Wind Project. These ROCs are identified on the Fountain Wind Project public docket as: (1) November 1, 2023, conversation with CAL FIRE Unit Chief/Shasta County Fire Chief Sean O'Hara and CAL FIRE Chief Jake Sjolund – Tactical Air Operations; (2) January 25, 2024, conversation with Shasta County Fire Chief Sean O'Hara; and (3) February 20, 2024, conversation with CAL FIRE Unit Chief/Shasta County Fire Chief Sean O'Hara.

CAL FIRE writes to provide a clarification regarding the positions and comments articulated during some of these conversations. As background, CAL FIRE provides cooperative fire protection services to multiple local governments across California. In Shasta County, CAL FIRE provides personnel services to staff the career elements of the Shasta County Fire Department, provides dispatch services and emergency medical response services, and functions as the County Fire Marshal. The Unit Chief in Shasta County serves a dual role as the CAL FIRE Unit Chief and as the Shasta County Fire Chief as specified in the cooperative fire protection agreement. These roles are complementary in terms of managing a fire protection system, but are separate and distinct in terms of jurisdictional authority. In his conversations with CEC staff, Chief O'Hara was serving his dual role, as identified by the dual title reference in the records or conversation.

For clarification, the following statements made by Chief O'Hara represent CAL FIRE's formal position or a statement of fact:

- ROC 11/1/23: Responses to questions 1, 2, 5
- ROC 1/25/24: Responses to questions 1a, 1b, 4, 5
- ROC 2/20/24: Responses to questions 3a, 3b

The remaining statements attributed to Chief O'Hara in the three records of conversation were not statements of CAL FIRE's position. We are happy to provide additional information or clarification should it be desired.

Sincerely,

George W. Morris III
Region Chief – CAL FIRE Northern Region