

<b>DOCKETED</b>	
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*Comment Received From: Margaret Osa  
Submitted On: 5/26/2025  
Docket Number: 23-OPT-01*

**Support the CEC Staff Assessment to Deny the Fountain Wind Project**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

To: California Energy Commissioners  
From: Margaret Osa, Montgomery Creek Resident

May 26, 2025

Subj: Support the California Energy Commission Fountain Wind Staff Assessment

I appreciate the public meeting in Redding providing an overview and discussing the staff assessment findings on May 20, 2025.

I request that all five of the Commissioners stand strong in their support of the CEC staff assessment and DEIR regarding the Fountain Wind Project with a unanimous vote 5-0 to deny certifying the project. The CEC staff are made up of environmental experts who are responsible for making the best recommendation, based on the facts as they are presented, for you, the decision makers. The heads of each of the CEC CEQA focus areas have endorsed the findings in the DEIR to ensure the data is accurate and correct.

As stated in the Executive Summary of the Staff Assessment, page 1-4, **“(1) the project is not necessary for public convenience and necessity and that a battery energy storage system would be more prudent and feasible alternative and (2) the project benefits do not outweigh its unavoidable environmental impacts. These recommendations are based on the unavoidable environmental impacts taken as a whole, the public safety and general welfare purposes of the local land use ordinance, and the net contribution to the environment and protection from climate change provided by the local laws and ordinances not being outweighed by the project’s relatively small contributions to the energy needs of the state and the modest potential economic interest to the local community.”**

The applicant’s disrespect to the CEC staff was apparent regarding the overall findings of the staff assessment and the recommendations in the DEIR as they indicated just how wrong the CEC staff assessments were and their use of the term “speculative conclusions.” The staff assessment verified there are no speculative conclusions and that the small contribution this project may make is not enough to compensate for the unavoidable environmental impacts.

**“the project is not necessary for public convenience and necessity and that a battery energy storage system would be a more prudent and feasible alternative and the project benefits do not outweigh its unavoidable environmental impacts.”**

The applicant may request that additional analysis be completed to change the recommendation of the staff assessment. The Fountain Wind project has been in process for over nine years, with two denials within Shasta County, and now the third denial recommended by the CEC staff assessment. I ask that no additional analysis be considered by the CEC staff for the EIR and final decision.

The applicant's lawyer stated that all of California once was tribal land, and implied that clean energy goals are simply enough to continue to eradicate the Pit River Tribes heritage, sacred ceremonial sites, and homelands. As one speaker stated at the meeting that the continued eradication of the Pit River tribal ways, ceremonial sites, and heritage is the continued genocide of the Pit River Tribe. The Pit River Tribe made it clear that they are not for sale. They also stated these types of actions go against promises made by the Governor to support all Tribal nations.

The spokesperson from the Wind Industry indicated that Fountain Wind was the only project in the pipeline, one out the 60 needed, and if it was not approved then California would not meet their clean energy goals and that denying the Fountain Wind project would be a threat to all wind developers. The CEC Commissioners and staff already know that the wind industry experts, even before 2019, indicated that the best wind resource areas have already been taken, and that is the real reason no other projects are in the pipeline. Believing that sixty additional land-based projects will come online to meet 2045 clean energy goals by wind energy alone is not possible.

**“Staff acknowledges the key role wind generation plays in SB 100 goals, but concludes the evidence is clear that this location is not compatible with this proposed facility.”**

California is relying on repowering efforts already taking place in the best wind resources areas across the state, not trying to get approvals in marginal wind resource areas within carbon sequestering forested lands that are in the highest wildfire threat areas in the state. These repowering efforts will meet the same nameplate capacity proposed by Fountain Wind, and more, with no additional environmental, cultural, biological, aesthetic, and proposed wildfire damage. In addition, the CEC staff have provided an alternative that meets the same goals, without the devastating effects proposed by the Fountain Wind project.

Please deny this Project, vote unanimously 5-0, and do not certify the Fountain Wind application as recommended by the CEC's environment experts and as supported in the Fountain Wind staff assessment.

Best Regards,  
Margaret Osa