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City of Chino Hills Comments on the Draft Staff Report, Land-Use Screens for Electric System Planning

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



City of Chino Hills

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November 1, 2022

Raquel Kravitz California Energy Commission Docket Unit, MS-4 Docket No. 22-IEPR-02 715 P Street Sacramento, California 95814-5512

Submitted via the Comment Letter Portal: https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=22-IEPR-02

Re: Docket Unit, MS-4 Docket No. 22-IEPR-02

Comments on the Draft Staff Report, Land-Use Screens for Electric System Planning: Using Geographic Information Systems to Model Opportunities and Constraints for Renewable Resource Technical Potential in California

Dear Ms. Kravitz:

We have had the opportunity to review the California Energy Commission's (CEC) draft report and land use screens for electric system planning. The CEC draft report identifies potential locations for solar and wind energy, with the stated intent to exclude natural lands that support biodiversity (draft report, page 17). The City of Chino Hills supports state efforts toward renewable energy goals, and meeting Senate Bill 100 mandates to increase the state's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) procurement target of 60 percent of retail sales by December 31, 2030. The City also strongly supports biodiversity conservation.

The Land-Use Screens for Electric System Planning identify five areas within Chino Hills as a resource potential for solar and/or wind energy. These areas include:

- 1. West side of Chino Hills State Park (CHSP) Entrance: identified as potential solar resource
- 2. East side of CHSP Entrance: identified as potential solar resource
- 3. East of CHSP, west of the 71 Freeway: identified as potential solar resource
- 4. Tres Hermanos Ranch, northwestern boundary of Chino Hills adjacent to City of Diamond Bar: identified as potential solar resource
- 5. First National Investment Properties, northeastern boundary of CHSP: identified as potential solar and wind resource

Each of these five locations are protected natural open space that supports biodiversity, protects important native vegetation and wildlife, and serves as wildlife corridors. Sites 1, 2, and 3, listed above, are part of Chino Hills State Park created to protect the region's natural resources. Site 4 is a protected natural open space through a joint powers authority comprised of the cities of Chino

City Council:

Hills, Diamond Bar, and Industry. Site 5 is being conserved by the State Department of Parks and Recreation, The Conservation Fund, and Hills for Everyone (a regional non-profit organization that founded CHSP) with the intent of incorporating the land into CHSP.

Each of these sites meet CEC's stated intent to exclude natural lands that support biodiversity. Consequently, we request that each of these five sites be removed as potential solar and/or wind sites from CEC's electric system base maps.

We also request that you add the following City of Chino Hills staff members to your contact list so that we can be informed of future state efforts to locate renewable energy resources:

Benjamin Montgomery, City Manager: <u>bmontgomery@chinohills.org</u> (909) 364-2715 Michael Hofflinger, Planning Manager: <u>mhofflinger@chinohills.org</u> (909) 364-2777

Thank you. Dal Joann Lombardo

Community Development Director

cc: Benjamin Montgomery, City Manager Michael Hofflinger, Planning Manager Emily Ortiz, Administrative Assistant II