

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	23-OPT-01
Project Title:	Fountain Wind Project
TN #:	249635
Document Title:	General Plan Consistency Matrix
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Caitlin Barns
Organization:	Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.
Submitter Role:	Applicant Consultant
Submission Date:	4/12/2023 4:06:00 PM
Docketed Date:	4/12/2023

Topic	Goals and Policies	Consistency Determination	Project Consistency	Section and Page in DEIR Describing Project Consistency
Aesthetics	Objective SH-1: Protection of the natural scenery along the official scenic highways of Shasta County from new development which would diminish the aesthetic value of the scenic corridor.	Consistent	Under the Scenic Highways element of the General Plan, an "official scenic highway" is a scenic highway which has been designated by the State of California, according to procedures which are administered by the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The nearest designated state scenic highway to the Project Site is a 3.3-mile section of SR 151 located approximately 28 miles from the western edge of the Project Site. Eligible State Scenic Highways near the Project Site include SR 89 (approximately 11 miles away), SR 299 east of SR 89 (approximately 11 miles away), and SR 44 (approximately 17 miles away). The Project would not reduce the visual quality of views from designated or eligible scenic highways because it would not create contrast with existing visual conditions. The proposed turbines would blend in with existing Hatchet Ridge Wind Project turbines and would not detract from the available scenic vistas. Visual quality of views would remain high. The turbines would be visible in the distance above the natural elements and would not reduce the natural harmony of existing views.	3.2-14
Aesthetics	Objective SH-2: New development along scenic corridors of the official scenic highway should be designed to relate to the dominant character of the corridor (natural or natural and man-made contrast) or of a particular segment of the corridor. Relationships shall be achieved in part through regulations concerning building form, site location, and density of new development.	Consistent	As provided above, the Project would not reduce the visual quality of views from designated or eligible scenic highways because it would not create contrast with existing visual conditions. The proposed turbines would blend in with existing Hatchet Ridge Wind Project turbines and would not detract from the available scenic vistas. Visual quality of views would remain high. The turbines would be visible in the distance above the natural elements and would not reduce the natural harmony of existing views.	3.2-14
Aesthetics	Policy SH-a: To protect the value of the natural and scenic character of the official scenic highway corridors and the County gateways dominated by the natural environment, the following provisions, along with the County development standards, shall govern new development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setback requirements • regulations of building form, material, and color • landscaping with native vegetation, where possible • minimizing grading and cut and fill activities • requiring use of adequate erosion and sediment control programs • siting of new structures to minimize visual impacts from highway • regulation of the type, size, and location of advertising signs • utility lines shall be underground wherever possible; where undergrounding is not practical, lines should be sited in a manner which minimizes their visual intrusion. 	Consistent	The Project has been designed to reduce the project's impacts on public viewsheds, and the Project would not reduce the visual quality of views from designated or eligible scenic highways because it would not create contrast with existing visual conditions. The Project is proposed entirely within forested lands that are actively managed for timber production. Additional parts of the Project (such as ancillary structures and overhead electrical collector lines and corridors) would be located within privately owned parcels and set back from publicly accessible locations. These components generally would be obscured by the surrounding forest and the topography in views toward the Project Site from outside viewing locations and would not substantially alter existing views. Additionally, the majority of Project collector lines will be undergrounded. The Project would comply with the Construction General Permit, which includes erosion control measures for construction sites as well as post construction requirements.	3.2-14
Aesthetics	Policy SH-b: The type, size, design, and placement of signs within an official corridor shall be compatible with the visual character of the immediate surroundings. The County's sign regulations should be redrafted for the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • timberlands and forest areas • croplands and grazing lands • rural community centers • urban and town centers • recreational uses 	Consistent	The Project does not propose any signs within an official corridor.	3.2-15
Air Quality	Policy AQ-1e: The County shall require new air pollution point sources such as, but not limited to, industrial, manufacturing, and processing facilities to be located an adequate distance from residential areas and other sensitive receptors.	Consistent	Diesel particulate matter (DPM) was identified as a tox air contaminant (TAC) by CARB in 1998. DPM is only TAC that would be generated by the Project. The closest sensitive receptors to the Project Site are residences. The nearest residence to any of the work areas on the Project Site are off Sycamore Road, approximately 1,900 feet to a construction staging area. At that distance, no adverse air quality impacts are expected from project construction. The closest residence to any of the access roads on the Project Site are along Moose Avenue, at a distance of approximately 400 feet. It is anticipated that any construction improvements to the section of the access road along Moose Avenue would take less than 2 months to complete and the associated health risk impact of those improvements would not be adverse because the duration of pollutant exposure would be low. Long-term sources of emissions associated with the Project would be insignificant and would not result in adverse impacts to sensitive receptors.	3.3-9
Air Quality	Policy AQ-2a: The County will cooperate with the AQMD, CARB, and the Regional Transportation Planning Agency in implementing programs designed to comply with provisions of Federal and State Clean Air Acts and the County's Air Quality Attainment Plan.	Consistent	Shasta County is classified as a non-attainment area for the State ozone standards; and although the County is in attainment of State PM10 standards, the rest of the Air Basin is in non-attainment of State PM10 standards. Shasta County AQMD has adopted CEQA thresholds of significance for ROG, NOx, and PM10 for both short-term construction and long-term project operations. Project emissions during construction are not expected to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of ozone or NOx emissions, but may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10 emissions. The Project would mitigate emissions to the extent feasible using fugitive dust control measures and other BMPs, in accordance with federal and state law. Project emissions during operation are not expected to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of criteria pollutants.	3.3-9

Topic	Goals and Policies	Consistency Determination	Project Consistency	Section and Page in DEIR Describing Project Consistency
Air Quality	Policy AQ-2b: The County will work to accurately determine and fairly mitigate the local and regional air quality impacts of projects proposed in the unincorporated portions of Shasta County.	Consistent	The Project submitted detailed air quality emissions calculations for both Project construction and operation. Project emissions during construction are not expected to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of ozone or NOx emissions, but may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10 emissions. The Project would mitigate emissions to the extent feasible using fugitive dust control measures and other BMPs, in accordance with federal and state law. Project emissions during operation are not expected to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of criteria pollutants.	3.3-9
Air Quality	Policy AQ-2c: Land use decisions, where feasible, should contribute to the improvement of air quality. New projects shall be required to reduce their respective air quality impacts to below levels of significance, or proceed as indicated in Policy AQ-2e.	Consistent	The Project is not expected to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of ozone or NOx emissions, but may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10 emissions. The Project would mitigate emissions to the extent feasible using fugitive dust control measures and other BMPs, in accordance with federal and state law. Further, as a renewable wind energy project, the Project would help the County and State achieve GHG reduction goals. The Project is expected to provide a potential net offset of 227,917 MT CO2e per year if the electricity generated by the Project were to be used in place of electricity generated by fossil-fuel sources.	3.3-9
Air Quality	Policy AQ-2d: Shasta County shall ensure that air quality impacts identified during CEQA review are: (1) consistently and fairly mitigated, and (2) mitigation measures are feasible.	Consistent	Although the Project may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10 emissions, the Project would mitigate emissions to the extent feasible using fugitive dust control measures and other BMPs, in accordance with federal and state law.	3.3-10
Air Quality	Policy AQ-2e: Shasta County will cooperate with the AQMD in assuring that new projects with stationary sources of emissions of non-attainment pollutants or their precursors that exceed 25 tons per year shall provide appropriate emission offsets. A comparable program which offsets indirect emissions of these pollutants exceeding 25 tons per year from development projects shall also be utilized to mitigate air pollution impacts. An Environmental Impact Report will be required for all projects that have unmitigated emissions of non-attainment pollutants exceeding 25 tons per year.	Consistent	The Project will cooperate with Shasta County AQMD regarding the proposed backup generators on the Project site. The CEC will prepare an environmental impact report analyzing anticipated air quality impacts associated with Project construction and operation. The Project is not expected to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of ozone or NOx emissions, but may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10 emissions. The Project would mitigate emissions to the extent feasible using fugitive dust control measures and other BMPs, in accordance with federal and state law. As is required by the Opt-in Application procedures, the Project Applicant will coordinate with the AQMD regarding the potential need for a Permit to Operate for the emergency backup generator.	3.3-10
Air Quality	Policy AQ-2f: Shasta County shall require appropriate Standard Mitigation Measures and Best Available Mitigation Measures on all discretionary land use applications as recommended by the AQMD in order to mitigate both direct and indirect emissions of non-attainment pollutants.	Consistent	The Project may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10 emissions. The Project would mitigate emissions to the extent feasible using fugitive dust control measures and other BMPs, in accordance with federal and state law	3.3-10
Air Quality	Policy AQ-2g: Significance thresholds as proposed by the AQMD for emissions shall be utilized when appropriate for: (1) ROG and NOx, both of which are precursors of ozone, and (2) PM10 in determining mitigation of air quality impacts.	Consistent	The Project is not expected to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of ozone or NOx emissions, but may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10 emissions. The Project would mitigate emissions to the extent feasible using fugitive dust control measures and other BMPs, in accordance with federal and state law.	3.3-10
Air Quality	Policy AQ-2h: Shasta County shall evaluate AQMD data annually to determine if the air quality impacts of development projects that may be insignificant by themselves are cumulatively significant.	Consistent	The CEC will analyze cumulative air quality impacts associated with Project construction and operation. The Project is not expected to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of ozone or NOx emissions, but may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10 emissions. The Project would mitigate emissions to the extent feasible using fugitive dust control measures and other BMPs, in accordance with federal and state law.	3.3-10
Air Quality	Policy AQ-4b: The County's development standards shall require the paving of roads as a part of new development permits to the extent necessary to meet access and air quality objectives. These requirements shall be designed to help mitigate potentially significant adverse air quality impacts created by particulate emissions on both an individual and cumulative basis.	Consistent	The Project Site would be accessed via existing, gated logging roads located off of SR 299. New road surfaces would be graded and graveled. Project construction, including use of the access roads, may result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of PM10 emissions. The Project would mitigate emissions to the extent feasible using fugitive dust control measures and other BMPs, in accordance with federal and state law. Project operations are not expected to result in a cumulatively considerable increase in PM10 emissions.	3.3-10
Biological Resources	Policy FW-c: Projects that contain or may impact endangered and/or threatened plant or animal species, as officially designated by the California Fish and Game Commission and/or the USFWS, shall be designed or conditioned to avoid any net adverse project impacts on those species.	Consistent	Based on extensive studies, the Project is not expected to result in take of state or federally listed species, which either do not occur on the Project site or can be avoided via avoidance and minimization measures.	3.4-35
Biological Resources	Policy FW-d: The significant river and creekside corridors of Shasta County shall be designated on the General Plan maps. The primary purpose of this designation is to protect the riparian habitats from development and from adverse impacts from conflicting resources uses. Riparian habitat protection along the significant river and creekside corridors, as designated on the plan maps shall be achieved, where appropriate, by the following measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regulation of vegetation removal. • design of grading and road construction to restrict sediment input to all streams. 	Consistent	The Project is not located near or within any significant river or creekside corridors. Regardless, although the Project may result in both temporary and permanent direct impacts to wetlands and other waters located on the Project site, the Project will coordinate with the USACE RWQCB to address impacts to water features, as needed. Further, the Project would install temporary and permanent measures to protect stormwater conveyance infrastructure. Measures could include engineered erosion control devices such as silt fences and straw wattles (along contours) and interceptors at culverts and stormwater inlets to limit delivery of silt, sediment, and stormwater contaminants into receiving waters.	3.4-35

Topic	Goals and Policies	Consistency Determination	Project Consistency	Section and Page in DEIR Describing Project Consistency
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishment of a development set-back. • the siting of structures, including clustering. 			
Cultural	6.10.3 Objective HER-1: Protection of significant prehistoric and historic cultural resources. 6.10.4 Policy HER-a: Development projects in areas of known heritage value shall be designed to minimize degradation of these resources. Where conflicts are unavoidable, mitigation measures which reduce such impacts shall be implemented. Possible mitigation measures may include clustering, buffer or nondisturbance zones, and building siting requirements.	Consistent	Based on the results of the previous analysis, the Project site contains one cultural resource that qualifies for listing in the California Register. The Project would avoid the resource, and otherwise mitigate any impacts to unknown resources discovered during construction in accordance with state law. Additionally, the CEC will comply with AB 52 and consult with responding Native American Tribes as part of its review of the Project. Based on previous consultation, the Applicant understands that local tribes have ties to the area, which they describe as a place of refuge, ceremony, healing, prayer, fasting, hunting, gathering, and other sacred traditional uses. To the extent feasible, the Project will avoid or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources based on coordination and consultation with responding Tribes.	3.16-18
Energy	Objective E-2: Increase utilization of renewable energy resources by encouraging development of solar, hydroelectric, biomass, waste-to-energy, and cogeneration sources.	Consistent	The Project is consistent with the County's General Plan policies calling for increased renewable energy production. The Project is expected to provide a potential net offset of 227,917 MT CO ₂ e per year if the electricity generated by the Project were to be used in place of electricity generated by fossil-fuel sources.	3.7-8
Energy	Objective E-4: Conserve nonrenewable energy resources, specifically raw materials, transportation fuels, and resource land area.	Consistent	Although Project construction activities would require fuel consumption, the level of diesel fuel and gasoline use would be temporary and there are no unusual Project characteristics that would require the use of construction equipment that would be less energy efficient compared with other similar construction sites in other parts of the state. During operations, the Project would result in a significant amount of renewable energy, offsetting the minimal amount of electricity needed to O&M facilities. Thus, the Project would not result in the wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary use of nonrenewable energy resources.	3.7-8
Energy	Policy E-c: The County should develop energy thresholds and standards which assist applicants for development projects in designing conservation features into their proposals. Energy threshold standards could also be used to assist in the evaluation of potential energy consumption impacts which may be environmentally significant.	Consistent	The Project's O&M building would include energy conservation features, including insulation, use of energy-efficient heating, solar-reflective roofing materials, energy-efficient indoor and outdoor lighting systems, and other measures. The O&M building would require minimal amount of electricity, which would be greatly offset by the generation of electricity from the Project.	3.7-8
Forestry	T-1: Preservation of timberlands suitable for forest management and production to allow for the continuation of such uses or to provide opportunities for the future establishment of such uses.	Consistent	Existing commercial and pre-commercial timber would be harvested, treated, and/or removed from the Project Site to allow development of the Project. A Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) would be drafted in accordance with requirements set forth in the Forest Practice Act (Pub. Res. Code §4582) and the Forest Practice Rules (CAL FIRE, 2019). The THP would specify the location of timber to be harvested, how it would be harvested, and environmental Best Management Practices (BMPs) that would be implemented during harvesting.	3.8-2
Forestry	T-2: Protection of timberlands from incompatible adjacent land uses which adversely impact forest management activities	Inconsistent	Prior to the County's prohibition on utility-scale wind, the Project was consistent with the Timber Production District's use regulations. In its June 2021 staff report to the Planning Commission, County staff determined the Project is permissible with approval of a use permit in the TP zone and is consistent with the Timberlands general plan land use designation. Staff further determined that Project impacts on timberland resources had been reduced to the lowest reasonable level. Given the County's recent amendment to its zoning regulations to prohibit large wind projects, the Project is no longer allowed in the TP zone under the County's zoning regulations.	3.8-2
Geology and Soils	SG-1: Protection of all development from seismic hazards by developing standards for the location of development relative to these hazards; and protection of essential or critical structures, such as schools, public meeting facilities, emergency services, high-rise and high-density structures, by developing standards appropriate for such protection.	Consistent	No active faults are present within the Project site. The Project also would comply with California Building Code standards, including standards for structural strength, means of ingress/egress to facilities (entering and exiting), and general stability of buildings.	3.9-12
Geology and Soils	SG-2: Protection of development on unstable slopes by developing standards for the location of development relative to these hazards.	Consistent	Geologic mapping indicates there are no landslide deposits located within the Project Site. Although the Project Site includes relatively steep slopes where landslides, debris flows, or rock falls could occur, the Project will prepare a site-specific, design-level geotechnical investigation prior to construction to site-specific conditions, including any potential for landslide potential or other slope instability in accordance with CBC requirements. Should any potential impact be identified, the resulting report would provide seismic design requirements for the Project consistent with the most updated version of the CBC.	3.9-12
Geology and Soils	SG-3: Protection of development from other geologic hazards, such as volcanoes, erosion, and expansive soils.	Consistent	A majority of the Project Site is underlain by soils with a low expansion potential, with some minor patches of soils with a moderate expansion potential. The Project will comply with CBC regulations and requirements and would employ standard engineering and building practices common to construction projects throughout California (e.g., soil removal and replacement with engineered soil). The required design-level geotechnical investigation described above would identify any expansive soils within the Project Site and specific responsive requirements to ensure that all foundations and other below-ground infrastructure would not be adversely affected by expansive soils.	3.9-12

Topic	Goals and Policies	Consistency Determination	Project Consistency	Section and Page in DEIR Describing Project Consistency
			The Project would also comply with the Construction General Permit, which includes erosion control measures for construction sites as well as post construction requirements. The Construction General Permit requires preparation and implementation of a SWPPP, which requires applying BMPs to control run-on and runoff from construction work sites. The BMPs would include but not be limited to physical barriers to prevent erosion and sedimentation; construction of sedimentation basins; limitations on work periods during storm events; use of infiltration swales; protection of stockpiled materials; and a variety of other measures that would substantially reduce or prevent erosion from occurring during construction.	
Geology and Soils	SG-4: Protection of waterways from adverse water quality impacts caused by development on highly erodible soils.	Consistent	The Project will comply with applicable General Orders and obtain necessary NPDES permits prior to construction. Consistent with requirements of the Construction General Permit, a SWPPP and a Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control (TESC) plan, containing site-appropriate BMPs would be implemented to limit potential water quality contamination. Temporary and permanent measures would be installed to protect stormwater conveyance infrastructure. Measures could include engineered erosion control devices such as silt fences and straw wattles (along contours) and interceptors at culverts and stormwater inlets to limit delivery of silt, sediment, and stormwater contaminants into receiving waters. The TESC would stipulate appropriate intervals to monitor and adjust BMPs to ensure that measures perform as designed.	3.9-12
Geology and Soils	SG-b: In order to minimize development that would be endangered by landslides, geological investigations by a registered geologist or a geological engineer will be required on all subdivision and/or developments where the preliminary staff report indicates the possibility of landslides on or adjacent to the development. A landslide map shall be developed and maintained as these reports are accumulated for reference by the development sponsors.	Consistent	Geologic mapping indicates there are no landslide deposits located within the Project Site. Although the Project Site includes relatively steep slopes where landslides, debris flows, or rock falls could occur, the Project will prepare a site-specific, design-level geotechnical investigation prior to construction to site-specific conditions, including any potential for landslide potential or other slope instability in accordance with CBC requirements. Should any potential impact be identified, the resulting report would provide seismic design requirements for the Project consistent with the most updated version of the CBC.	3.9-13
Geology and Soils	SG-d: Shasta County shall develop and maintain standards for erosion and sediment control plans for new land use development. Special attention shall be given to erosion prone hillside areas, including those with extremely erodible soils types such as those evolved from decomposed granite.	Consistent	The Project would comply with the Construction General Permit, which includes erosion control measures for construction sites as well as post construction requirements. The Construction General Permit requires preparation and implementation of a SWPPP, which requires applying BMPs to control run-on and runoff from construction work sites. The BMPs would include but not be limited to physical barriers to prevent erosion and sedimentation; construction of sedimentation basins; limitations on work periods during storm events; use of infiltration swales; protection of stockpiled materials; and a variety of other measures that would substantially reduce or prevent erosion from occurring during construction.	3.9-13
Geology and Soils	SG-e: When soil tests reveal the presence of expansive soils, engineering design measures designed to eliminate or mitigate their impacts shall be employed.	Consistent	A majority of the Project Site is underlain by soils with a low expansion potential, with some minor patches of soils with a moderate expansion potential. The Project will comply with CBC regulations and requirements and would employ standard engineering and building practices common to construction projects throughout California (e.g., soil removal and replacement with engineered soil). The required design-level geotechnical investigation described above would identify any expansive soils within the Project Site and specific responsive requirements to ensure that all foundations and other below-ground infrastructure would not be adversely affected by expansive soils.	3.9-13
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	HM-1: Protection of life and property from contact with hazardous materials through site design and land use regulations and storage and transportation standards.	Consistent	The Project would comply with applicable hazardous materials transportation, reporting, and procedural requirements. In accordance with applicable law and regulations, the Applicant would prepare a Hazardous Materials Business Plan/Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan (HMBP/SPCC). The HMBP would include best management practices (BMPs) for the transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste. The HMBP also would include information regarding construction activities, worker training procedures, and hazardous materials inventory procedures.	3.11-7
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	HM-2: Protection of life and property in the event of the accidental release of hazardous materials through emergency preparedness planning.	Consistent	The Project would manage hazardous materials and, if needed, clean up accidental spills, remove hazardous materials from the Project Site, and/or construct remediation systems in accordance with applicable law.	3.11-8
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	HM-a: The County shall make every effort to inform applicants for discretionary and nondiscretionary projects which are located within potential border zone property of known hazardous waste facilities that they must comply with State requirements regarding hazardous waste facilities. A map shall be prepared and maintained which identifies these areas.	Consistent	The Project's Phase I included a database search report consistent with ASTM Standard Practice E1527-13. According to the findings of the search, the Project Site was not listed on any of the databases reviewed.	3.11-8
Hydrology and Water Quality	SG-4: Protection of waterways from adverse water quality impacts caused by development on highly erodible soils.	Consistent	The Project will comply with applicable General Orders and obtain necessary NPDES permits prior to construction. Consistent with requirements of the Construction General Permit, a SWPPP and a Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control (TESC) plan, containing site-appropriate BMPs would be implemented to limit potential water quality contamination. Temporary and permanent measures would be installed to protect stormwater conveyance infrastructure. Measures could include engineered erosion control devices such as silt fences and straw wattles (along contours) and interceptors at culverts and stormwater inlets to limit delivery of silt, sediment, and stormwater contaminants into receiving waters. The TESC would stipulate appropriate intervals to monitor and adjust BMPs to ensure that measures perform as designed.	3.12-10

Topic	Goals and Policies	Consistency Determination	Project Consistency	Section and Page in DEIR Describing Project Consistency
Hydrology and Water Quality	SG-d: Shasta County shall develop and maintain standards for erosion and sediment control plans for new land use development. Special attention shall be given to erosion prone hillside areas, including those with extremely erodible soils types such as those evolved from decomposed granite.	Consistent	The Project would comply with the Construction General Permit, which includes erosion control measures for construction sites as well as post construction requirements. The Construction General Permit requires preparation and implementation of a SWPPP, which requires applying BMPs to control run-on and runoff from construction work sites. The BMPs would include but not be limited to physical barriers to prevent erosion and sedimentation; construction of sedimentation basins; limitations on work periods during storm events; use of infiltration swales; protection of stockpiled materials; and a variety of other measures that would substantially reduce or prevent erosion from occurring during construction.	3.12-10
Hydrology and Water Quality	FL-2: Protection of public health and safety, both on-site and downstream, from flooding through floodplain management which regulates the types of land uses which may locate in the floodplain, prescribes construction designs for floodplain development, and requires mitigation measures for development which would impact the floodplain by increasing runoff quantities.	Consistent	The Project Site is located in Zone X, classified by FEMA as an area of minimal flood hazard. Further, although the construction of the turbine pads would introduce new impervious surfaces, the Project would include grading and erosion control measures to prevent sedimentation and damage to off-site property. Therefore, the runoff produced from the pads would be controlled by drainage control improvements and would not concentrate flows such that there would be a substantial increase in erosion, runoff volumes, or flooding potential.	3.12-10
Hydrology and Water Quality	W-9: Institute effective measures to protect groundwater quality from potential adverse effects of increased pumping or potential sources of contamination.	Consistent	The Project would require excavation to a depth of 10 to 15 feet to support the turbine pedestals and excavation for a foundation depth of 40 feet to support the Project's microwave tower structure at the switching station. Groundwater levels for wells in the vicinity of the Project's switching station range from 87 to 155 feet below ground surface, so it is unlikely that the depth of excavation required for construction of the Project would impact these groundwater resources nor alter groundwater flow patterns. Further, all activities related to blasting will follow Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent contamination of groundwater including preparing, reviewing and following an approved blasting plan; proper drilling, explosive handling and loading procedures; observing the entire blasting procedures; evaluating blasting performance; and handling and storage of blasted rock. Any wells constructed onsite would comply with applicable regulations designed to avoid contamination.	3.12-10
Hydrology and Water Quality	W-a: Sedimentation and erosion from proposed developments shall be minimized through grading and hillside development ordinances and other similar safeguards as adopted and implemented by the County.	Consistent	The Project would comply with the Construction General Permit, which includes erosion control measures for construction sites as well as post construction requirements. The Construction General Permit requires preparation and implementation of a SWPPP, which requires applying BMPs to control run-on and runoff from construction work sites. The BMPs would include but not be limited to physical barriers to prevent erosion and sedimentation; construction of sedimentation basins; limitations on work periods during storm events; use of infiltration swales; protection of stockpiled materials; and a variety of other measures that would substantially reduce or prevent erosion from occurring during construction.	3.12-10
Hydrology and Water Quality	W-b: Septic systems, waste disposal sites, and other sources of hazardous or polluting materials shall be designed to prevent contamination to streams, creeks, rivers, reservoirs, or groundwater basins in accordance with standards and water resource management plans adopted by the County.	Consistent	<p>The Project will comply with applicable General Orders and obtain necessary NPDES permits prior to construction. Consistent with requirements of the Construction General Permit, a SWPPP and a Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control (TESC) plan, containing site-appropriate BMPs would be implemented to limit potential water quality contamination. Temporary and permanent measures would be installed to protect stormwater conveyance infrastructure. Measures could include engineered erosion control devices such as silt fences and straw wattles (along contours) and interceptors at culverts and stormwater inlets to limit delivery of silt, sediment, and stormwater contaminants into receiving waters. The TESC would stipulate appropriate intervals to monitor and adjust BMPs to ensure that measures perform as designed.</p> <p>The majority of water used during construction and decommissioning would be for activities related to fire protection and dust suppression, and would not require treatment as wastewater because this water would be applied to the ground (or to facilities, and later run off to the ground) and most would infiltrate or evaporate. Additional runoff generated by other construction activities or increases in impervious surfaces would be managed and controlled by the SWPPP. During construction, portable toilets would be used by construction workers and would be treated on a regular basis by a licensed contractor with capacity to dispose of sanitary wastewater pursuant to applicable regulations. Wastewater would also be processed during maintenance and operation from the O&M facility, which would use an onsite septic system. The onsite septic system would be installed in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.</p>	3.12-10
Hydrology and Water Quality	W-c: All proposed land divisions and developments in Shasta County shall have an adequate water supply of a quantity and a quality for the planned uses. Project proponents shall submit sufficient data and reports, when requested, which demonstrate that potential adverse impacts on the existing water users will not be significant. The reports for land divisions shall be submitted to the County for review and acceptance prior to a completeness determination of a tentative map. This policy will not apply to developments in special districts which have committed and documented, in writing, the ability to provide the needed water supply.	Consistent	The Project prepared a Water Supply Assessment (TN 248320-1). The Project is not within the service area of a public water system but the project may purchase water from the Burney Water District and truck it on site. The Burney Water District is expected to have sufficient supplies available to serve the lifespan of the Project even in dry and multiple dry years.	3.12-10
Noise and Vibration	Policy N-b: Noise likely to be created by a proposed non-transportation land use shall be mitigated so as not to exceed the noise level standards of an hourly Leq of 55 dBA during daytime hours (7 a.m. to 10 p.m.) and 50 dBA during nighttime hours (10 p.m. to 7 a.m.) as measured immediately within the property line of adjacent lands designated as noise-	Consistent	The closest residences to any single turbine are located about 2,200 feet away. Given the long propagation distances and terrain between the turbines and the closest receptors, turbine sound would be subject to attenuation by shielding from intervening terrain, atmospheric absorption, ground absorption, and variations in temperature and wind. Based on noise modeling, wind turbine operation would result in noise levels less than the 55 dBA daytime and 50 dBA nighttime noise standards of the Shasta County General Plan at all of the nearest	3.13-13

Topic	Goals and Policies	Consistency Determination	Project Consistency	Section and Page in DEIR Describing Project Consistency
	<p>sensitive. The noise levels specified above shall be lowered by 5 dB for simple tone noises, noises consisting primarily of speech or music, or for recurring impulsive noises. These noise level standards do not apply to residential units established in conjunction with industrial or commercial uses (e.g., caretaker dwellings). The County can impose noise level standards, which are more restrictive than those specified above based upon determination of existing low ambient noise levels. In rural areas where large lots exist, the exterior noise level standard shall be applied at a point 100 feet away from the residence. Industrial, light industrial, commercial, and public service facilities which have the potential for producing objectionable noise levels at nearby noise-sensitive uses are dispersed throughout the County.</p>		<p>residential receptor locations. Other noise sources during Project operations, including O&M activities and the onsite substation, also would be below County daytime and nighttime standards. Hourly average noise levels from heavy construction activities would be in the range of 48 to 53 dBA Leq, not taking into account any shielding from intervening terrain, at the closest residences. However, Project construction, including blasting, may result in intermittent, temporary increases in noise above applicable standards. The Project would employ various BMPs, including but not limited to noise-control (e.g., muffler) devices, to reduce construction-related noise.</p>	
Noise and Vibration	<p>Policy N-c: Where proposed non-residential land uses are likely to produce noise levels exceeding the performance standards of Policy N-b upon existing or planned noise-sensitive uses, an acoustical analysis shall be required as part of the environmental review process so that appropriate noise mitigation may be included in the project design. The requirements for the content of an acoustical analysis are: A. Be the financial responsibility of the applicant. B. Be prepared by a qualified person experienced in the fields of environmental noise assessment and architectural acoustics. C. Include representative noise level measurements with sufficient sampling periods and locations to adequately describe local conditions and the predominant noise sources. D. Estimate existing and projected cumulative (20 years) noise levels in terms of Ldn or CNEL and/or the standards of [General Plan] Table I, and compare those levels to the adopted policies of the Noise Element. E. Recommend appropriate mitigation to achieve compliance with the adopted policies and standards of the Noise Element, giving preference to proper site planning and design over mitigation measures which require the construction of noise barriers or structural modifications to buildings which contain noise-sensitive land uses. F. Estimate the noise exposure after the prescribed mitigation measures have been implemented. G. Describe a post-project assessment program which could be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures.</p>	Consistent	<p>The Applicant prepared a noise assessment, and the County's EIR similarly analyzed potential noise impacts from the Project. Both the noise assessment and EIR included recommended mitigation measures that would reduce potentially significant noise impacts to a level of less-than-significant. The noise assessment and EIR complied with all requirements of Policy N-C.</p>	3.13-13
Noise and Vibration	<p>Policy N-g: Existing noise-sensitive uses may be exposed to increased noise levels due to future roadway improvement projects as a result of increased traffic capacity and volumes and increases in travel speeds. In these instances, it may not be practical to reduce increased traffic noise levels consistent with those applicable to residential land uses which are specified to be 60 dBA, Ldn for outdoor activity areas and 45 dBA, Ldn for interior spaces. Therefore, as an alternative, the following criteria may be used as a test of significance for increases in the ambient outdoor activity areas of the noise level of noise-sensitive uses created as a result of a new roadway improvement project: • Where existing traffic noise levels are less than 60 dB Ldn, a +5 dB Ldn increase will be considered significant. • Where existing traffic noise levels range between 60 and 65 dB Ldn, a +3 dB Ldn increase will be considered significant. • Where existing traffic noise levels are greater than 65 dB Ldn, a + 1.5 dB Ldn increase will be considered significant.</p>	Consistent	<p>Although the Project does not propose any offsite roadway improvements, the Project would include onsite access roads or require the use of existing access roads. Existing ambient noise levels at receptors along local access roads are below 60 dBA Ldn. The closest residence to the west access road is located about 300 feet from the center of the road. At this distance, the peak hour noise level generated by the Project's construction-related trips would be 44 dBA Leq. The existing daytime peak hour noise level at this residence ranges from 43 to 49 dBA Leq. The resulting peak hour noise levels with combined ambient and Project construction traffic noise levels would be 47 to 50 dBA Leq. This would equate to a 1 to 4 dBA Leq noise increase above existing ambient levels, which would be below the 5 dBA Ldn threshold. If construction activities are required during nighttime hours when existing traffic levels are lower, the resulting combined nighttime ambient and Project construction traffic noise level could exceed the ambient nighttime noise level at the closest residence (average of 36 dBA Leq) by more than the 5 dBA Ldn threshold. In that event, construction traffic could be redirected from the west access road to use alternative access routes such as the north and east access roads to avoid construction-related noise near residential uses. There are no noise sensitive receptors adjacent to the north and east access roads, therefore use of these roads, even during night time hours, would not exceed ambient noise standards for residential uses.</p>	3.13-13
Noise and Vibration	<p>Policy N-i: Where noise mitigation measures are required to achieve the standards of Policies N-b and N-g, the emphasis of such measures shall be placed upon site planning and project design. The use of noise barriers shall be considered a means of achieving compliance with the noise standards only after all other practical design-related noise mitigation measures have been integrated into the project.</p>	Consistent	<p>As provided in the noise assessment and County EIR, all Project noise-related impacts would be less-than-significant, except for potential noise impacts related to construction traffic, potential helicopter use, and blasting. The EIR included mitigation measures based upon Project planning and design to reduce impacts to a level of less-than-significant; noise barriers will not be required.</p>	3.13-13

Topic	Goals and Policies	Consistency Determination	Project Consistency	Section and Page in DEIR Describing Project Consistency
Transportation	Policy C-6j: New development shall provide circulation improvements for emergency access by police, fire, and medical vehicles; and shall provide for escape by residents/occupants in accordance with the Fire Safety Standards.	Consistent	The Project Site is located in a rural area adjacent to SR 299, with the three Project driveways allowing adequate egress/ingress to the site in the event of an emergency. Additionally, as part of the Project, additional onsite access roadways (internal to the site) would be constructed. During inclement winter months, emergency access could be provided to and through the Project Site via snowcats, ATVs, or helicopter where sufficient clearance is available. The Project also would not require closures of public roads, which could inhibit access by emergency vehicles. The Project also would prepare a traffic management plan to ensure that the Project's proposed use of oversized vehicles during construction and decommissioning would not cause a significant adverse impact on emergency access to or near the Project Site.	3.14-5
Transportation	Policy C-6k: Shasta County shall adopt the following LOS standards for considering any new roads: • rural arterial and collectors—LOS C • urban/suburban arterial and collectors—LOS C	Consistent	The Project does not propose any new public roads. Further, traffic generated during Project construction and operation would not cause roadway operating conditions to deteriorate below LOS C.	3.14-5
Transportation	Policy C-6l: New development which may result in exceeding LOS E on existing facilities shall demonstrate that all feasible methods of reducing travel demand have been attempted to reach LOS C. New development shall not be approved unless traffic impacts are adequately mitigated.	Consistent	Traffic generated during Project construction and operation would not cause roadway operating conditions to deteriorate below LOS C.	3.14-6
Transportation	Policy C-8b: Working in conjunction with Caltrans, the County shall designate and provide signed truck routes, ensure that adequate pavement depth, lane widths, loading areas, bridge capacities, vertical height of overpasses and utility lines, and turn radii are maintained on the designated truck routes, and prohibit commercial truck traffic from non-truck routes except for deliveries.	Consistent	During Project construction, heavy construction equipment and wind turbine components (e.g., blades, nacelles) would be delivered to (and during decommissioning would be removed from) the Project Site using area roadways, some of which may require transport by oversize/overweight vehicles. The transport of these materials would comply with applicable state requirements for oversize/overweight vehicles. The Project also would prepare a traffic management plan to ensure that the Project's proposed use of oversized vehicles during construction and decommissioning would not cause a significant adverse impact on emergency access to or near the Project Site.	3.14-6
Transportation	Policy C-8c: Adequate truck access to off-street loading areas in commercial and industrial areas shall be provided in all new development applications.	Consistent	The Project would include a temporary construction equipment area and associated parking area for construction vehicles, as well as a graveled parking area for O&M vehicles.	3.14-6
Utilities Service Systems	W-9: Institute effective measures to protect groundwater quality from potential adverse effects of increased pumping or potential sources of contamination.	Consistent	The Project would require excavation to a depth of 10 to 15 feet to support the turbine pedestals and excavation for a foundation depth of 40 feet to support the Project's microwave tower structure at the switching station. Groundwater levels for wells in the vicinity of the Project's switching station range from 87 to 155 feet below ground surface, so it is unlikely that the depth of excavation required for construction of the Project would impact these groundwater resources nor alter groundwater flow patterns. Further, all activities related to blasting will follow Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent contamination of groundwater including preparing, reviewing and following an approved blasting plan; proper drilling, explosive handling and loading procedures; observing the entire blasting procedures; evaluating blasting performance; and handling and storage of blasted rock. Any wells constructed onsite would comply with applicable regulations designed to avoid contamination.	3.15-5
Utilities Service Systems	W-a: Sedimentation and erosion from proposed developments shall be minimized through grading and hillside development ordinances and other similar safeguards as adopted and implemented by the County.	Consistent	The Project would comply with the Construction General Permit, which includes erosion control measures for construction sites as well as post construction requirements. The Construction General Permit requires preparation and implementation of a SWPPP, which requires applying BMPs to control run-on and runoff from construction work sites. The BMPs would include but not be limited to physical barriers to prevent erosion and sedimentation; construction of sedimentation basins; limitations on work periods during storm events; use of infiltration swales; protection of stockpiled materials; and a variety of other measures that would substantially reduce or prevent erosion from occurring during construction.	3.15-5
Utilities Service Systems	W-c: All proposed land divisions and developments in Shasta County shall have an adequate water supply of a quantity and a quality for the planned uses. Project proponents shall submit sufficient data and reports, when requested, which demonstrate that potential adverse impacts on the existing water users will not be significant. The reports for land divisions shall be submitted to the County for review and acceptance prior to a completeness determination of a tentative map. This policy will not apply to developments in special districts which have committed and documented, in writing, the ability to provide the needed water supply.	Consistent	The Project prepared a Water Supply Assessment (TN 248320-1). The Project is not within the service area of a public water system but the project may purchase water from the Burney Water District and truck it on site. The Burney Water District is expected to have sufficient supplies available to serve the lifespan of the Project even in dry and multiple dry years.	3.15-5
Wildfire	FS-1: Protect development from wildland and non-wildland fires by requiring new development projects to incorporate effective site and building design measures commensurate with level of potential risk presented by such a hazard and by discouraging and/or preventing development from locating in high risk fire hazard areas.	Consistent	The Project would implement of a Project-specific Fire Prevention Plan to reduce potential sources of ignition and require immediate and effective suppression measures. The plan would specify that when the National Weather Service issues a Red Flag Warning (an alert that high winds and dry conditions could lead to rapid or dramatic increases in wildfire activity), the Applicant and its contractor must cease all non-emergency work to respond to changes in fire risk. Additionally, the plan would prepare work crews with emergency suppression equipment and plans to respond quickly to any onsite incidents caused by construction activities. In accordance with applicable firebreak clearance requirements, the Applicant would trim or remove flammable vegetation in the area	3.16-13

Topic	Goals and Policies	Consistency Determination	Project Consistency	Section and Page in DEIR Describing Project Consistency
			<p>surrounding power lines to reduce potential fire and other safety hazards. Also in accordance with tree and power line clearance requirements, the Applicant would regularly inspect vegetation and trim trees to manage fire and safety hazards and ensure electrical reliability for all Project collector lines constructed overhead. A 15-foot gravel ring would be placed around the base of the foundation of turbines and maintained free of vegetation and an area of between 65 and 95 feet in diameter (depending on site conditions) would be removed from timber production and maintained as low-growing vegetation. Further, an approximately 80-foot-wide corridor would be maintained around the overhead collector system and cleared of tall woody vegetation. Additionally, the Applicant would prepare a Vegetation Management Plan that would outline vegetation management procedures to be implemented onsite pursuant to all applicable state regulations pertaining to electrical systems, and would include vegetation management for all other components of the Project.</p> <p>Further, Project access roads will be constructed in accordance with applicable road design standards as implemented by the CEC. The project and its infrastructure will serve to break up the continuity of the existing dense vegetation, reducing the severity of wildfires. Project access roads and turbine pads also effectively create numerous, permanent fuelbreaks. These roadways and travel corridors will serve to greatly increase access throughout the project area for wildfire suppression purposes. Additionally, new permanent water tanks will be distributed throughout the project, increasing both the amount and the accessibility of water within the project footprint for fire suppression. The project also will maintain a fire coordinator during construction who will be responsible for training all construction personnel on fire prevention, identification, reporting, and response, and who will have a direct line of communication to appropriate authorities.</p>	
Wildfire	FS-2: Protection of life and property from crime by encouraging new development projects to incorporate effective defensible space design techniques.	Consistent	<p>In accordance with applicable firebreak clearance requirements, the Applicant would trim or remove flammable vegetation in the area surrounding power lines to reduce potential fire and other safety hazards. Also in accordance with tree and power line clearance requirements, the Applicant would regularly inspect vegetation and trim trees to manage fire and safety hazards and ensure electrical reliability for all Project collector lines constructed overhead. A 15-foot gravel ring would be placed around the base of the foundation of turbines and maintained free of vegetation and an area of between 65 and 95 feet in diameter (depending on site conditions) would be removed from timber production and maintained as low-growing vegetation. Further, an approximately 80-foot-wide corridor would be maintained around the overhead collector system and cleared of tall woody vegetation. Additionally, the Applicant would prepare a Vegetation Management Plan that would outline vegetation management procedures to be implemented onsite pursuant to all applicable state regulations pertaining to electrical systems, and would include vegetation management for all other components of the Project</p>	3.16-13
Wildfire	FS-a: All new land use projects shall conform to the County Fire Safety Standards.	Consistent	<p>Project access roads will be constructed in accordance with applicable road design standards as implemented by the CEC. The project and its infrastructure will serve to break up the continuity of the existing dense vegetation, reducing the severity of wildfires. Project access roads and turbine pads also effectively create numerous, permanent fuelbreaks. These roadways and travel corridors will serve to greatly increase access throughout the project area for wildfire suppression purposes. Additionally, new permanent water tanks will be distributed throughout the project, increasing both the amount and the accessibility of water within the project footprint for fire suppression. The project also will maintain a fire coordinator during construction who will be responsible for training all construction personnel on fire prevention, identification, reporting, and response, and who will have a direct line of communication to appropriate authorities.</p>	3.16-13
Wildfire	FS-b: Known fire hazard information should be reported as part of every General Plan amendment, zone change, use permit, variance, building site approval, and all other land development applications subject to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).	Consistent	<p>The Applicant has provided substantial fire hazard information as part of its application, which will be further reviewed and analyzed by the CEC. All fire hazard information will be available to the public through the CEC's docketing system and in accordance with CEQA requirements.</p>	3.16-13