

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	23-OPT-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Fountain Wind Project
<b>TN #:</b>	252407
<b>Document Title:</b>	Ron Dykstra Comments - Aerial firefighting at the proposed Fountain Wind Project
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	System
<b>Organization:</b>	Ron Dykstra
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Public
<b>Submission Date:</b>	9/25/2023 6:14:25 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	9/26/2023

*Comment Received From: Ron Dykstra*  
*Submitted On: 9/25/2023*  
*Docket Number: 23-OPT-01*

## **Aerial firefighting at the proposed Fountain Wind Project**

25 September 2023

To: CEC Fountain Wind project staff

Subject: CEC letter of 31 August 2023 to Henry Woltag of Fountain Wind, LLC

The CEC letter of 31 August 2023 to Henry Woltag of Fountain Wind LLC from Eric Knight, Manager of the Siting and Environmental Branch, stated that “Current information in the record indicates that due to the height of the proposed turbine towers, aerial firefighting will be precluded over and near the proposed [Fountain Wind] project.” While the current information in the record might support this statement, it does not comport with the testimony of Bret Gouvea, then Unit Chief at CAL FIRE, who spoke at the 26 October 2021 Shasta County Board of Supervisors Fountain Wind appeal hearing. Chief Gouvea did indicate that use of very large aerial tankers (VLATs) at the proposed turbine towers would not be possible (where precisely VLAT use will be precluded of course depends on the definition of “near” in the CEC letter). But Chief Gouvea also testified that he didn't agree that the project creates a no-fly zone, and that smaller fixed wing and rotary wing assets can get into much tighter areas than VLATs, according, in part, to his consultation with the CAL FIRE Tactical Air Operations Unit. The recording of the appeal hearing can be accessed at <https://media.avcaptureall.cloud/meeting/e6eb0ca4-dd54-44ae-9600-ac2f83f8d68c>. Chief Gouvea’s testimony can be viewed at 8:19:36 to 8:27:56 in the video.

CEC’s decision on this project must be based on the most accurate information available, and Chief Gouvea’s testimony does not support the conclusion that all aerial firefighting equipment use will be precluded over and near the proposed project. I request that the video of the Shasta County board of supervisors 26 October 2021 Fountain Wind appeal hearing, specifically Chief Gouvea’s testimony, be made part of the record.