DOCKETED	
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Project Title:	Fountain Wind Project
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Document Title:	Request from Pit River Tribe
Description:	N/A
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Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
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<u>YATCH BAMFORD</u> TRIBAL CHAIRPERSON

ANTONIO MENDOZA VICE CHAIRPERSON

JOLIE GEORGE TRIBAL SECRETARY



ALEXANDRO URENA TRIBAL TREASURER

RUSSELL ELECK RECORDING SECRETARY

ANDREW MIKE SERGEANT AT ARMS

ELEVEN AUTONOMOUS BANDS

11-02-2023

TWAMSIN

ATSUGEW

ASTARAWI

APORIGE

AJUMAWI

VIA Email: chair. Hochschild @energy.ca.gov California Energy Commission Attn: Chairman David Hochschild 715 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for Voluntary AB 52 Consultation as allowed under the California Environmental Quality Act Public Resources Code 21080.3.1 for the Fountain Wind project.

Dear Chairman Hochschild,

On behalf of the Pit River Tribe (the "Tribe"), a federally recognized Indian tribe, I am writing regarding consultation with the Tribe for the Fountain Wind Project ("Project"). The Project proposes a development by Fountain Wind LLC ("Developer") of a wind energy generation facility composed of wind turbines and associated infrastructure on 4,500-acres in unincorporated Shasta County ("Project Site") located on the Tribe's ancestral lands.

The Tribe is a federally-recognized Indian tribe consisting of the original eleven (11) autonomous bands that are within the "100-mile square" ancestral territory expressly recognized in the constitution of the Pit River Nation, which is located in Shasta, Siskiyou, Modoc, and Lassen Counties, as stated in the Constitution of the Pit River Tribe and adopted by the Secretary of the Department of the Interior on August 16, 1964. Through this constitution, the Tribe has inherent sovereign governmental powers to protect and promote the health, safety, and/or general welfare of the people of the Pit River Tribe.

HAMMAWI HEWISEDAWI ILLMAWI ITSATAWI KOSEALEKTE

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Prior to approving an environmental impact report for a project, the lead agency must begin AB 52 Consultation with California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project, if the tribe requests notice.

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Accordingly, the Tribe requests the CEC engage in voluntary AB 52 Consultation going forward with the project. Tribal willingness to engage in consultation does not indicate support for the project and should not be used in furtherance of the project by the project proponent. The purpose of the consultation is for the Tribe to obtain more detailed information about the project site, specific location, and allow tribal cultural practitioners access to the site to establish whether specific traditional tribal cultural sites are located within the areas of potential effect, and what specific concerns are raised by the presence of such sites.

Please respond to Yatch Bamford at <u>Chairman@pitrivertribe.gov</u> with a response to this request with a copy to legal counsel, Michelle Lee, at <u>michelle@thecirclelaw.com</u>

Yatch Bamford, Tribal Chairman Pit River Tribe

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