

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	23-OPT-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Fountain Wind Project
<b>TN #:</b>	253290-4
<b>Document Title:</b>	County of Shasta Wind Ordinance Administrative Record Part 4 of 8
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	Dawn Forgeur
<b>Organization:</b>	County of Shasta
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Public Agency
<b>Submission Date:</b>	11/21/2023 6:50:19 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	11/22/2023

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## Continuance

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, this item was continued to enable staff to review and provide a written response to the comment letter from attorney Anne Mudge on behalf of ConnectGen LLC, which alleged that the proposed ordinance is not exempt from CEQA and that the County must prepare an environmental document in compliance with CEQA before enacting the ordinance.

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## Public Comments

In addition to those who have spoken during the previous public hearings, written comments regarding the proposed ordinance have been received from 36 groups, organizations, corporations, and individuals, 22 in opposition and 14 in support.

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## CEQA Determination

As outlined in the staff report, it can be seen with certainty that the proposed ordinance would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency or with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

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## CEQA Determination

It can likewise be seen with certainty that the proposed ordinance would not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

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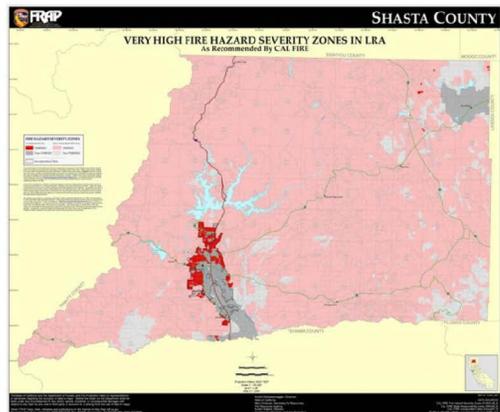
## CEQA Determination

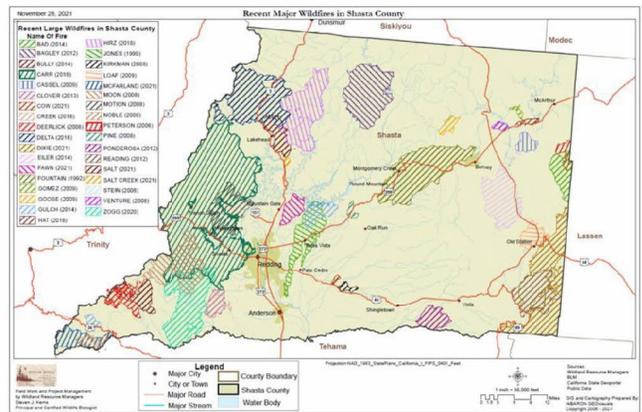
Therefore, the determination that the proposed ordinance is not subject to CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15060(c)(2), as specified in the proposed ordinance, is valid and defensible.

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## Staff Recommendation

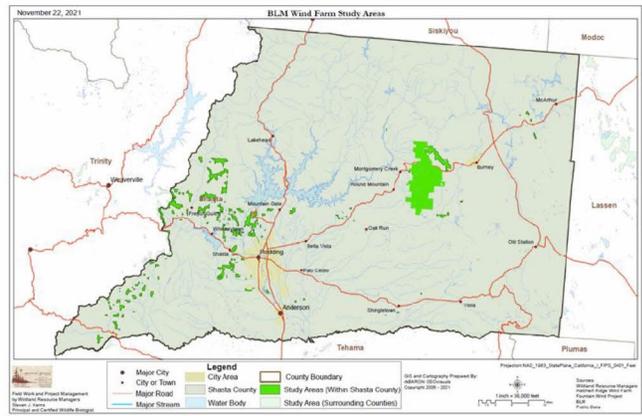
Open and close the public hearing and adopt a resolution recommending that the Board of Supervisors enact an ordinance to amend the Zoning Plan identified as Zone Amendment 22-0001.











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Small wind energy systems may be permitted with either an approved administrative permit or use permit, subject to the following requirements. ~~Wind energy systems which do not meet the following requirements may be permitted with an approved use permit.~~

A. The following definitions govern this section:

“Small wind energy system” means a wind energy conversion system consisting of a wind turbine(s), a tower(s), and associated control or conversion electronics, ~~which has a rated capacity that does not exceed the allowable rated capacity under the Emerging Renewables Fund of the Renewable Investment Plan administered by the California Energy Commission, and which will be used primarily to reduce on-site consumption of utility electricity obtained via the electric grid or to enable on-site generation of electricity in lieu of connecting to the electric grid.~~

- 
- B. One wind turbine may be permitted with an approved administrative permit. Two or more wind turbines may be permitted with an approved use permit.
- C. With an approved administrative permit, tower heights of not more than sixty-five feet shall be allowed on parcels between one and five acres, and tower heights of not more than eighty feet shall be allowed on parcels of greater than five acres or more, provided that the application includes evidence that the proposed height does not exceed the height recommended by the manufacturer or distributor of the system. Tower heights in excess of the aforementioned limits may be permitted with an approved use permit.
- D. Setbacks for the system tower from the property line shall be no less than the height of the system, provided that it also complies with any applicable fire setback requirements including, but not limited to, pursuant to Section 4290 of the Public Resources Code as it may be amended from time to time.

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- B. Public uses and public utilities, with the exception of large wind energy systems as defined in subsection 17.88.335.B. of this chapter, are permitted if a use permit is issued, except that public utility transmission lines, towers, distribution poles and lines, regardless of height, and gas pipelines, which are not associated with high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, are permitted uses.

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**B. Definitions.**

The following definition governs this section:

“Large wind energy system” means a wind energy conversion system that is not defined as a small wind energy system pursuant to subsection 17.88.035.A. of this chapter.

**C. Prohibition.**

Large wind energy systems are prohibited in all zone districts of the unincorporated area of the County of Shasta and no permit or approval of any type shall be issued therefor.

## May 11, 2022 comments for Shasta County Planning Commissioners,

The county is well aware of how I feel about wind energy. This is an industry that has time and again, deceived the citizens of Shasta County with fraudulent research, embellished energy projections and is still hiding behind nondisclosure agreements that conceal their ongoing slaughter to Shasta county's wildlife.

There is no reason to trust this industry, **no reason not to ban this industry in Shasta County** and in the future, no reason not to prosecute this industry. I would even help with investigations. As of May 2022, this industry has never provided a credible reason for any Shasta County commissioners to ever believe a thing they have to say.

Even so, I have resubmitted some of my thoughts with scientific facts once again in an attachment with these comments. My comments below are primarily to provide so insight into a group lurking in our midst called **North State Climate action**.

I am aware of their support of wind energy and a letter they have submitted to Shasta County.



Home Our Work |



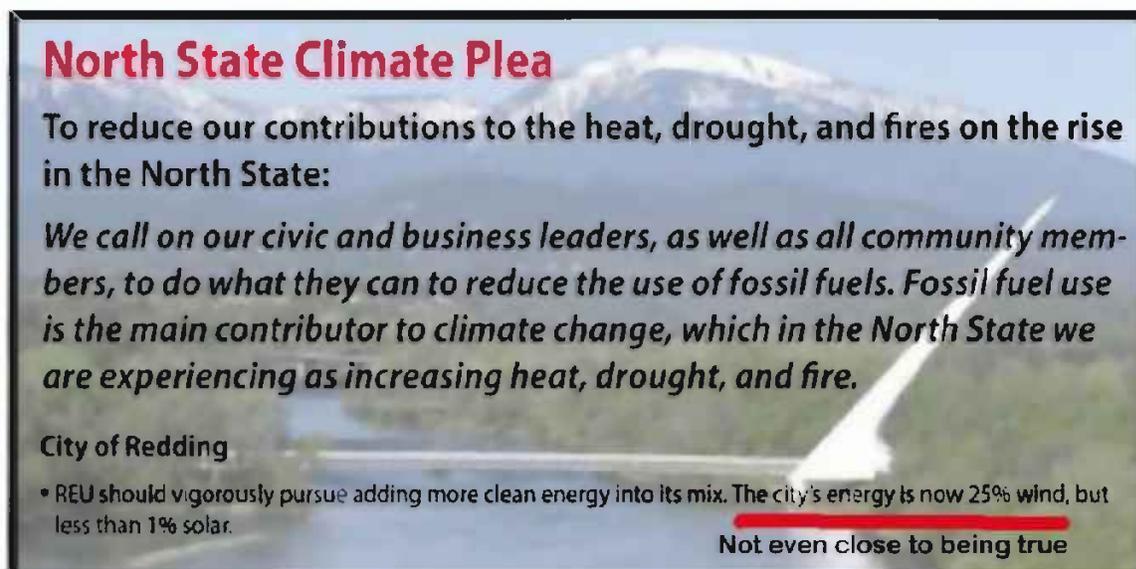
## What is the work this group really does?

This group appears to be just one more lockstep Wind industry mouthpiece. They make proclamations about helping climate without providing a shred of scientific evidence for their support of wind energy. They do not reveal if they have any **conflicts of interest, no credentials are given and nothing is said about their donors**. They're also promoting wind energy's wildly fraudulent claims about their energy contribution to the grid.

And by the way I happen to have plenty of wildlife expertise, decades of field research and no conflicts of interest.

As far as I'm concerned, the work of this group is to use fatally flawed research, loaded with conflicts of interest to spread falsehoods that benefit both the group financially and wind energy interests. Lobbying their interests to Shasta County does not make their mission truthful and remember, they have provided no research of their own.

**Audubon (see images below)** and ABC birds both sold out to wind energy years ago and have been operating the same way for years. They receive wind energy related funding, have hundreds of millions in assets, yet will not conduct a bit of independent research regarding the hidden and horrific impacts from wind energy developments. With their silence they are also lying by omission. I could write pages about these groups and the discussions I've had with their leaders.



**North State Climate Plea**

To reduce our contributions to the heat, drought, and fires on the rise in the North State:

*We call on our civic and business leaders, as well as all community members, to do what they can to reduce the use of fossil fuels. Fossil fuel use is the main contributor to climate change, which in the North State we are experiencing as increasing heat, drought, and fire.*

City of Redding

- REU should vigorously pursue adding more clean energy into its mix. The city's energy is now 25% wind, but less than 1% solar.

**Not even close to being true**

Gavin Newsom, California's Governor, isn't ready to tell California residents the truth, but here's what's coming, lots more nuclear power.

## California's future.....

### ***Postponing Diablo Canyon's closure could make sense — but the devil is in the details***

CT 11 - 120718 LD 1001A - JC AKJ

APR 22 2022 10:05 AM



Gov. Gavin Newsom has shifted his position on Diablo Canyon, California's last nuclear power plant, and now plans to apply for federal funds to keep it open. [johnston@tributenews.com](mailto:johnston@tributenews.com)

The reason, after 40 years of trying, the massive fraud and green lies about wind energy powering the future are coming to an end and without using Green's energy's fraudulent math and omissions, CA's fleet of turbines might be producing a pitiful net of only 2% for the grid.

Currently California is using nuclear power generated from Arizona, but our Faux green state doesn't like to broadcast this reality.

In the near future, California's growing energy needs will have to include more nuclear power and lots of it for electric cars. The Green math hucksters won't disclose this, but with each new electric car purchased, wind power's contribution to the grid just keeps on plummeting.

## Turbine Fires will happen

I don't see them all, but here is a new one sent to me from Garner, Iowa, April 22 2022.



**National Audubon settlement letter showing the day Audubon sold out to the Wind Industry. From this day forward, I encourage Shasta County Commissioners or Supervisors to look for find a single**

negative, meaningful or truthful statement about wind energy coming from this group.



1901 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20006-3  
(202) 861-2242  
(202) 861-9290 fax

November 2, 1999

Mr. Robert Gates, President  
Enron Wind Development Corporation  
13000 Jameson Road  
Tehachapi, California 93561

Dear Mr. Gates:

It is my understanding that Enron Wind Development Corporation, Tejon Ranch Company, and several other parties have reached an agreement concerning a proposed wind energy development project near Gorman, California. As you know, the National Audubon Society has opposed development of this site because of the potential impact it could have on California Condors.

According to the information we have been provided, Enron Wind Development has taken steps to permanently insure that the Gorman site will not be developed for wind energy, and has agreed with Tejon Ranch to develop another site in the area which does not pose a threat to condors.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your company for your leadership in working to resolve this very difficult issue. Your firm has a well-deserved reputation as an environmental leader in providing power through wind energy and your decision to seek an alternative to the Gorman site is to be applauded. Your agreement has set a new standard for prompt and responsible action to provide clean, renewable energy in a manner that does not pose a risk to the California Condor.

Given the agreements Enron Wind Development, Tejon Ranch and the other parties have reached, I'm writing to inform you about the steps the National Audubon Society will now take in this matter:

1. We will terminate our campaign to oppose the wind energy development project at the Gorman site.
2. We will inform members of the House of Representatives and Senate that legislation to deny the wind power production tax credit to the Gorman site through the addition of the Audubon amendment to the production tax credit is unnecessary and we do not recommend its passage. We will also inform them that Audubon supports reauthorization of the production tax credit legislation. This information will be communicated in a letter from me to each member; a draft

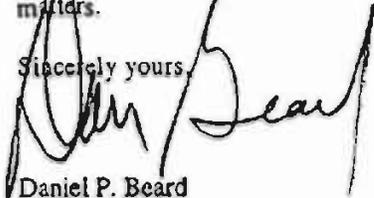
Mr. Robert Gates  
November 2, 1999  
Page 2

copy of the letter is attached. I will also send letters to the members on the attached list by the close of business November 3, 1999.

3. We will join you and the other parties in issuing the attached press release to inform the media and the public that the issues surrounding the proposed Gorman project have been resolved satisfactorily.
4. We will place the attached ads in congressional newspapers supporting the production tax credit legislation, assuming the funds to pay for these ads can be provided from other sources.
5. We will support your wind energy development project to be located at Section 21, Township 10 North, Range 15 West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined does not adversely affect recovery of the California Condor.

Once again, I want to thank you and your staff for their leadership in resolving this matter. I especially want to express my appreciation to Mr. Al Davies of your staff who worked very hard to make this agreement a reality. We look forward to working with you on this and other matters.

Sincerely yours,



Daniel P. Beard  
Senior Vice President -- Public Policy

  
Accepted and Approved

11/8/99  
Date

Shasta county should permanently ban these projects. They are highly destructive, need fraud or nondisclosures agreements to survive, are a danger to rural residents, an incredible drain of tax dollars and provide very little benefit to society.

I would be happy to discuss any of this with North State Climate Action, in front of commissioners, but only if I am allowed to ask questions.

Jim Wiegand - Wildlife Biologist, Lakehead CA 530 2225338

**From:** Viktoria Peterson <viktoriapeterson9@gmail.com>  
**To:** Resource Management; Clerk of the Board Mailbox  
**Sent:** 5/10/2022 5:12:56 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Fountain Wind

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On Tue, May 10, 2022 at 3:10 PM Viktoria Peterson <[viktoriapeterson9@gmail.com](mailto:viktoriapeterson9@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Hello Planning,

**This letter is to voice my objection to the Fountain Wind project. Many negative factors make this an unpleasant plan.**

**The lure of money for the company in the form of tax credits leads ConnectGen to try to infiltrate our rural area.**

**We will not gain quality of life, fire protection or strengthened community. Jobs are temporary except for a very few.**

**Loss of habitat for wildlife and destruction of the land also play into my view.**

**Others have stated much more than the above. I strongly urge you to deny access to this exploitative company. Tell them to go build in the ocean.**

**Thank you for keeping the representation of the people foremost in your thoughts and actions.**

**Sincerely,  
Viktoria Peterson, 2172 Hemingway St, Redding, CA 96003**

**From:** Kelly Tanner <kwillett2@hotmail.com>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**Sent:** 5/12/2022 6:48:57 AM  
**Subject:** Comments May 12 Planning Hearing Kelly Tanner

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Director Hellman and Commissioners-

I want to write in support of the ordinance to ban industrial turbines in Shasta County and applaud your efforts to create planning that protects communities from the risk of wildfire. As you know, I have a Masters's Degree in Disaster and Emergency Management and wrote extensively on the Fountain Fire. While some disagree about my expertise on fire, others, such as Hellman, have called me an expert on this topic.

This ordinance is not unprecedented. Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties have passed similar ordinances. It's inappropriate that a lawyer who cannot even properly write a letter was able to use it at the last hour to stall this process simply to draw more opposition from outside groups and special interests.

This ordinance ensures the safety of this County. Why waste county money, time, and resources (or any applicants) when the end result is the same. This county is at very high risk for fire, and regardless of the project, you will put lives at risk and leave them with limited or no fire protection. This should not be acceptable in any community in Shasta County. Nor should the long drawn-out process of leaving citizens in fear of this for years.

I applaud your courage and example in leading as commissioners. Please do not let outside interest groups and foreign or out-of-state companies dictate your decision. The letter was a stall tactic. They have millions of dollars and can mobilize people easily to oppose this. Our local communities are completely unaware. Your ordinance, as written, still allows for turbines that are smaller scale and better for this County. Please pass the ordinance that you want and do not back down to these groups. Economically more industrial size projects like these will be counterproductive and unsafe, and the County will subsidize them with tax money and get none of the economic benefits developers promise these projects. Nor, will they receive the clean energy promised.

I do not have time to attach the document but please ask for it - I do have a document in my possession that the same environmental group in this County suggests this is not the type of project for this County but they have to do something rather than nothing. Remember the spotted owl.

Respectfully,  
Kelly Tanner

**From:** Maggie Osa <mosabear1@gmail.com>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**CC:** mosabear1@gmail.com; sleepycreek2@gmail.com; Tracie Huff  
**Sent:** 5/9/2022 9:42:07 PM  
**Subject:** Planning Commissioners Letter for May 12th 2020 Regarding Resolution 2022-014 Agenda Item R5  
**Attachments:** Planning Commissioners Resolution 2022-014 - Agenda Item R5 - 12 May 2022 JMOSA.docx

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Hi Paul,

We hope all is going well for you and your staff.

I have attached a letter we would like to get to the Commissioners for review prior to the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> regarding agenda item R5.

Please let me know if you need any additional information or any problems with the attached document.

Hope to see you **Thursday** if all goes well.

Best Regards,  
Maggie

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Subj: Resolution 2022-014 for Zone Amendments 22-0001, Agenda Item R5, for 12 May 2022

Dear Planning Commissioners,

We appreciate the effort Mr. Hellman, the Planning Department Staff and the Commission (especially Commissioner Kerns) have put into the Zone Amendment 22-0001 and ask that you “yes” on Resolution No. 2022-014. We concur with the research and statements provided in the staff report for the May 12<sup>th</sup> R5 agenda item. The Zone Amendment 22-0001 rightly seeks to ban industrial scale wind energy development in the unincorporated lands of Shasta County, it further accurately defines small scale wind energy systems in County Code and clearly defines how variations to allowed small wind energy systems would be considered by the County Planning Department.

This resolution was prompted by the information that came to light as a result of recent efforts involving the Fountain Wind project. Most importantly, the growing threat of wildfires in our area and the impediment to fighting them caused by industrial scale wind energy systems. Further evidence of the growing nature of the wildfire threat was also provided by staff and Commissioner Kerns in their presentation on the number of wildfires in Shasta County in the recent past. The most recent CalFire wildfire assessment Map was also presented in which over 95% of the County was rated “High” or “Very High” Wildfire Severity Zones. These facts along with the many other unavoidable environmental impacts of these types of developments to Native American culture and sacred sites, wildlife (including birds, bats, raptors, etc.), aesthetics, and many other impacted areas, are the reason the Fountain Wind project was denied and are the same reasons why this resolution should be adopted.

Some opponents to this Resolution have advocated that Shasta County residents should sacrifice the things they hold dear about Shasta County and put our lives at risk for the sake of meeting California’s Clean Energy goals. What these advocates don’t mention or seem to care about is that Shasta County already provides many times the clean energy it consumes through various other means including hydro, solar, biomass and wind. As County staff has correctly pointed out, California is currently advocating offshore wind energy development, not further onshore development, because offshore wind is much more consistent and abundant without the many issue related to onshore developments. If producing a given amount of clean energy is truly the goal, and it isn’t primarily about the money and making billion dollar corporations even richer, then those advocating for further wind energy development in highly fire prone Shasta County should instead be advocating and lobbying for the re-powering of existing antiquated wind energy systems in Highest Wind Resource areas such as Tehachapi, Altamont Pass, and other similar areas. There are thousands of wind turbines in those areas, and many of them are dilapidated or small and antiquated. We regularly drive through those areas and have seen 50 – 60 small turbines replaced by 5 – 6 large turbines and have read reports of similar revitalizations that produce several times the power of the old systems. The only reason it isn’t happening more often is because of the money, it’s not as profitable. Instead, companies like ConnectGen and others target areas like Shasta County because that’s where the profit is – NOT because it’s any cleaner or the wind resources are any better here, in fact Shasta County has marginal winds at best. They target areas like Shasta County because they can lease the lands cheaply, zoning regulations are generally poor or don’t address industrial wind energy systems and the Counties and the people are relatively poor and can be easily bought with community enhancement funds and tax revenue. Wind Energy advocates should work with State and National legislatures to incentivize repowering efforts and making it profitable for both owners and developers, instead of breaking virgin ground and exploiting other rural areas like Shasta County.

Ms. Mudge, the attorney who claimed the resolution needed to go through CEQA, stated that the ban would preclude 2,012 MW of potential wind energy, suggesting that it was a large part of the 3,500 MW additional clean energy California wanted to produce by 2025. Ms. Mudge states in a footnote (2) of her letter that she derived that very large number from considering ALL PRIVATE unincorporated lands within Shasta County that appear to have commercially viable wind speeds per the latest California Wind Energy maps. Her statement, along with the fact that wind energy data is still being collected within the County, is just further evidence that Industrial Wind Energy developers are still targeting Shasta County and that **action needs to be taken now** to save our County from becoming another Tehachapi or Altamont Pass. The unincorporated private lands she mentions that are of most interest to Wind Energy Developers is likely the various large tract owners like Shasta Cascade Timberlands and other timber companies. The 2,012 MW of wind energy she sites in Shasta County would be nearly 10-20 additional Hatchet Ridge or Fountain Wind size of developments. Such a plan would drastically change Shasta County and cause irreparable harm to the safety, peace, morals and general welfare of County residents forever. This is all the more reason why this resolution needs to be adopted now.

We believe this Commission can take this courageous positive step to responsibly provide the protections needed to support the health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the citizens of Shasta County for generations to come by approving Resolution No. 2022-014 and supporting the Zone Amendment 22-0001. We believe this commission has the expertise and experience needed to rightly approve this resolution. You have listened to extensive testimony regarding the impact industrial wind energy systems would have on our County, you know they pose an unacceptable risk to County residents, you know they are not the right kind of project for Shasta County. You know that the financial benefits do not outweigh the negative impacts and the risk to the lives of County residents. A "Yes" vote doesn't ban clean energy, it just bans industrial size wind energy systems that pose a risk to our way of life and our lives themselves. Shasta County has provided well above their fair share of clean energy and can continue to do so through other clean technologies without the risk to life and property and our general welfare.

There will never be another Commission within Shasta County who has more experience than you do right now concerning industrial wind projects. You know this is the right thing to do. Please vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014 and continue to work to advocate these Zone Amendment recommendations to the Supervisors for their approval. The time for positive change is now!

Best Regards,

Joseph and Maggie Osa

**From:** Ron Dykstra <dbdykstra@sbcglobal.net>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**Sent:** 5/12/2022 11:26:05 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)

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Thank you for trying to contact me even going the extra mile with an email. I'm beginning to think there is some incompatibility between my phone and the county phone system. Seems I only have trouble getting county calls. Maybe I'll have to go to TMobile to troubleshoot the problem. Anyway, thanks again. Below are the comments I had planned to present today.

"Mr. Chairman and commissioners.

My name is Ron Dykstra and I'm a long time Shasta County resident. I had hoped to deliver these comments in person, but am recovering from Covid, so I've sent them in by email.

I hope you all had a chance to look at my written comments, which I transmitted on Monday. I respect the fact that you are concerned about the health and welfare of Shasta County residents, that is as it should be. But as I stated in my comments, no harm will come to our county if you don't adopt the proposed resolution. Potential adverse impacts from wind farms such as wildfires obviously can't occur until a project is built, if they occur at all. And your ability to reject a project is not affected if you don't adopt this resolution. One of you mentioned in the April meeting that one reason for these proposed ordinance changes was that it is too difficult to pick and choose which sites would be suitable for wind projects. But it's not necessary for the commission to do this picking and choosing ahead of time. Let the project proponents pick what they deem to be a suitable site along with proposed project mitigations, and then let them convince you of the project's merits, or not. You have the power to reject any future wind farm proposals if you deem them unsuitable. And that's the course you should take, reject this proposed amendment and then you can examine any future proposals on their merits. Don't completely eliminate the possibility of future wind projects that could benefit from better siting, improved technology, and additional mitigations.

Please don't adopt this resolution.

Thank you"

On Thursday, May 12, 2022, 09:26:34 AM PDT, Paul Hellman <phellman@co.shasta.ca.us> wrote:

Ron,

After unsuccessfully attempting to return your call at (530) 262-0271 several times, I thought I would send you an e-mail instead. There are no remote participation options available for Planning Commission meetings. I provided your May 9<sup>th</sup> comment letter to the commissioners. If you would like to provide any additional written comments, please send them to me and I'll provide them to the commissioners if they are received prior to around noon.

Thanks,

**Paul Hellman, Director**

**Shasta County Department of Resource Management**

**(530) 225-5114**

**<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>**

**From:** Paul Hellman </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS /CN=6BBE491255E64F6BB3EEDE982B69B773-PAUL HELLMA>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**BCC:** Donn Walgamuth; skerns7118@aol.com; patrick@wallnerplumbing.com; Jim Chapin; Tim MacLean; Tim MacLean  
**Sent:** 5/12/2022 11:46:47 AM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Attachments:** Ferguson Email.pdf; Alward Email.pdf; Dykstra Email.pdf

Commissioners,

Attached are three additional comments received since this morning regarding item R5, Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance). If any additional comments are received prior to the meeting, hard copies will be provided to you at the meeting.

Thanks,

**Paul Hellman, Director**  
**Shasta County Department of Resource Management**  
**(530) 225-5114**  
**<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>**

**From:** [Lon Alward](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** #2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 9:59:14 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)

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Please vote yes on resolution #2022-014



<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]--> **Lon Alward** | Loan Officer  
NMLS 284494 | CA-DOC284494 | ID NLO-20907  
**Direct 530.605.4870 Cell 530.515.1086**  
**Office 530.244.6830 Fax 530.222.3270**  
2280 N. Bechelli Lane, Redding, CA 96002  
[lon@uslendingcompany.com](mailto:lon@uslendingcompany.com)

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**From:** [Ron Dykstra](#)  
**To:** [Paul Hellman](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 11:26:28 AM

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Please don't adopt this resolution.

Thank you"

On Thursday, May 12, 2022, 09:26:34 AM PDT, Paul Hellman <[phellman@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:phellman@co.shasta.ca.us)> wrote:

Ron,

After unsuccessfully attempting to return your call at (530) 262-0271 several times, I thought I would send you an e-mail instead. There are no remote participation options available for Planning Commission meetings. I provided your May 9<sup>th</sup> comment letter to the commissioners. If you would like to provide any additional written comments, please send them to me and I'll provide them to the commissioners if they are received prior to around noon.

Thanks,

Paul Hellman, Director

Shasta County Department of Resource Management

(530) 225-5114

<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>

**From:** [Jon Ferguson](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 9:17:58 AM

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**Please vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014.**

**From:** Paul Hellman </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS /CN=6BBE491255E64F6BB3EEDE982B69B773-PAUL HELLMA>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**BCC:** Donn Walgamuth; skerns7118@aol.com; patrick@wallnerplumbing.com; Jim Chapin; Tim MacLean; Tim MacLean  
**Sent:** 5/12/2022 8:33:55 AM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Attachments:** Tanner Email.pdf; Gable Email.pdf; Knight Email.pdf; Sollid Email.pdf

Commissioners,

Attached are four additional comments received since last night regarding item R5, Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance).

Thanks,

**Paul Hellman, Director**  
**Shasta County Department of Resource Management**  
**(530) 225-5114**  
**<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>**

**From:** [John Gable](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Industrial Wind Turbine Ban  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 8:52:47 PM

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I write this letter on behalf of all the residents of Moose Camp. First I would like to thank you for researching, deliberating and ultimately rejecting the Fountain Wind project. Second I commend you for proposing the ban on industrial size wind projects in the unincorporated areas of Shasta County. The obvious fire danger in the county along with the inability to fight wildfires from the air within and around turbine farms makes a ban the right thing to do. Los Angeles county banned industrial wind turbines in 2017 and San Bernardino county banned them in 2019. Wind energy production in California has barely increased in the past five years with very few new projects coming online. The future of industrial size turbine farms in California has moved from onshore to offshore. Shasta county should be proud of its ability to already provide enormous amounts of renewable energy to the county and clearly does not need to risk the lives of its residents by adding any more industrial size wind turbines. **Please vote yes on the large wind turbine ban.**

Sincerely,  
John Gable  
Moose Camp Board President

**From:** [Michael Knight](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:56:15 AM

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**I strongly ask you to vote Yes on Resolution No. 2022-014.**

We must do everything in our power ahead of time to reduce the danger of out-of-control wildfires and this area is ripe for one again. Having these huge towers up in this area is an invitation for disaster. Shasta county, not the corporation who owns the towers, will be the one who pays and suffers if wildfire occurs. Stay true to Shats county residents and keep us safe. Money can be garnered in safer ways than selling us out.

Thank you.

Michael Knight  
Round Mountain, CA

[knighttoday@gmail.com](mailto:knighttoday@gmail.com)

**From:** [asolid](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:14:43 AM

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**From:** [Kelly Tanner](#)  
**To:** [Paul Hellman](#)  
**Subject:** Comments May 12 Planning Hearing Kelly Tanner  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:49:18 AM

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Director Hellman and Commissioners-

I want to write in support of the ordinance to ban industrial turbines in Shasta County and applaud your efforts to create planning that protects communities from the risk of wildfire. As you know, I have a Masters's Degree in Disaster and Emergency Management and wrote extensively on the Fountain Fire. While some disagree about my expertise on fire, others, such as Hellman, have called me an expert on this topic.

This ordinance is not unprecedented. Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties have passed similar ordinances. It's inappropriate that a lawyer who cannot even properly write a letter was able to use it at the last hour to stall this process simply to draw more opposition from outside groups and special interests.

This ordinance ensures the safety of this County. Why waste county money, time, and resources (or any applicants) when the end result is the same. This county is at very high risk for fire, and regardless of the project, you will put lives at risk and leave them with limited or no fire protection. This should not be acceptable in any community in Shasta County. Nor should the long drawn-out process of leaving citizens in fear of this for years.

I applaud your courage and example in leading as commissioners. Please do not let outside interest groups and foreign or out-of-state companies dictate your decision. The letter was a stall tactic. They have millions of dollars and can mobilize people easily to oppose this. Our local communities are completely unaware. Your ordinance, as written, still allows for turbines that are smaller scale and better for this County. Please pass the ordinance that you want and do not back down to these groups. Economically more industrial size projects like these will be counterproductive and unsafe, and the County will subsidize them with tax money and get none of the economic benefits developers promise these projects. Nor, will they receive the clean energy promised.

I do not have time to attach the document but please ask for it - I do have a document in my possession that the same environmental group in this County suggests this is not the type of project for this County but they have to do something rather than nothing. Remember the spotted owl.

Respectfully,  
Kelly Tanner



**From:** Paul Hellman </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS /CN=6BBE491255E64F6BB3EEDE982B69B773-PAUL HELLMA>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**BCC:** Donn Walgamuth; skerns7118@aol.com; patrick@wallnerplumbing.com; Jim Chapin; Tim MacLean; Tim MacLean  
**Sent:** 5/11/2022 7:20:27 PM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Attachments:** Craig Letter.pdf; Lawson Email.pdf

Commissioners,

When I sent my previous e-mail, I did not anticipate receiving any additional comments regarding item R5, Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance), before leaving the office for the evening. However, since I received the attached additional comments I figured it would be better to provide them to you tonight rather than waiting until tomorrow.

Thanks,  
**Paul Hellman, Director**  
**Shasta County Department of Resource Management**  
**(530) 225-5114**  
<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>

**DOUGLAS W. CRAIG, PSYD  
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST  
1650 OREGON ST., SUITE 110  
REDDING, CA 96001  
LICENSE No. PSY 9469**

May 11, 2022

Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103  
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Proposed Amendments to Shasta County Zoning Code to Prohibit Large Wind Energy Systems (Amendment 22-0001)

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning Commission:

Last month, UN Secretary-General António Guterres issued his most dire warning ever on the catastrophic transformations we are facing as we continue to rely on fossil fuels for our energy and transportation needs.

He said, “We are on a fast track to climate disaster. Major cities under water. Unprecedented heatwaves. Terrifying storms. Widespread water shortages. The extinction of a million species of plants and animals. This is not fiction or exaggeration. It is what science tells us will result from our current energy policies.”

He continued, “We are on a pathway to global warming of more than double the 1.5°C limit agreed in Paris. Some Government and business leaders are saying one thing, but doing another. Simply put, they are lying. And the results will be catastrophic. This is a climate emergency.

“Climate scientists warn that we are already perilously close to tipping points that could lead to cascading and irreversible climate impacts. But, high-emitting Governments and corporations are not just turning a blind eye, they are adding fuel to the flames.

“They are choking our planet, based on their vested interests and historic investments in fossil fuels, when cheaper, renewable solutions provide green jobs, energy security and greater price stability.

“The science is clear: to keep the 1.5°C limit agreed in Paris within reach, we need to cut global emissions by 45 per cent this decade.”

Guterres outlined the solution. He said, "First and foremost, we must triple the speed of the shift to renewable energy. That means moving investments and subsidies from fossil fuels to renewables — now. In most cases, renewables are already far cheaper. It means Governments ending the funding of coal, not just abroad, but at home.

"A shift to renewables will mend our broken global energy mix and offer hope to millions of people suffering climate impacts today. Climate promises and plans must be turned into reality and action, now. It is time to stop burning our planet and start investing in the abundant renewable energy all around us."

Here in Shasta County, we are facing the triple threat of excessive heat, devastating drought and disastrous wildfires. As we continue to emit heat-trapping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, we are stealing our children's future. We don't have to do this. It is not too late. We need to dramatically transition away from dirty fuels and toward renewable energy like wind and solar as quickly as possible.

Banning Large Wind Energy Systems in Shasta County is madness and incredibly irresponsible. Are we going to stand on the sidelines while other communities step up to do all they can to preserve a livable planet for future generations? Will history show that Shasta County shirked its duty, ignored the science and betrayed its moral obligation to care for others?

I beg of you to not amend Shasta County's code to prohibit large wind energy systems. This would be insane. Instead, send a message to our community that we will join with the rest of the world in bringing about the clean energy revolution that the world's biosphere desperately requires now.

Sincere regards,

*Douglas W. Craig*

**From:** [Barbara Lawson](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Developments  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 6:00:12 PM

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Dear Madam or Sirs,

Please, **vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014.**

**Thank you**

**B. A. Lawson**

**Shasta County Resident**

**From:** Paul Hellman </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS /CN=6BBE491255E64F6BB3EEDE982B69B773-PAUL HELLMA>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**BCC:** Donn Walgamuth; skerns7118@aol.com; patrick@wallnerplumbing.com; Jim Chapin; Tim MacLean; Tim MacLean  
**Sent:** 5/11/2022 5:51:24 PM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Attachments:** Davis Letter.pdf; Harner Email.pdf; McCrary Email.pdf; DiMaio Email.pdf; Wiegand Letter.pdf; MacDonald Email.pdf; Kirkland Email.pdf

Commissioners,

Attached are 7 additional comments received since yesterday evening regarding item R5, Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance). The unsigned letter with the filename "Wiegand Letter.pdf" is from Jim Wiegand; Mr. Wiegand submitted a previous comment letter which was provided as an attachment to the staff report.

Thanks,

**Paul Hellman, Director**  
**Shasta County Department of Resource Management**  
**(530) 225-5114**  
<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>

Subject: Zone Amendment 22-0001, Regulation of Wind Energy Systems County-Wide (Zoning Text Amendment) - Agenda Item R5, on Planning Commission Agenda for May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Greetings Shasta County Planning Commissioners

I write you regarding resolution No. 2022-014, a resolution of the Shasta County Planning Commission recommending that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors approve Zone Amendment 22-0001, regulating small and large wind energy systems. I support the prohibition of large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County for the purpose of protecting and promoting the public health, safety, and general welfare of all the residents of Shasta County.

This resolution came about as a result of our “community active efforts” involving the stopping of the Fountain Wind Project. Most importantly for myself, the protections of tribal prayer grounds, village sites, sacred places, tribal burials and other vital tribal cultural sources. The Pit River Tribal Nation, with over 4,000 Tribal members, passed and presented their Resolution opposing such industrial wind developments- the Fountain Wind Project. Tribal Band Representatives and Tribal members who testified with insurmountable evidence at both public hearings, stating how offensive these developments were with no regard for the unavoidable negative impacts to tribal cultural sacred places, burial grounds, the ecology, the biology, the wildlife (including raptors, bats, birds etc.), the aesthetics, and etc. Also, the continued and growing threat of wildfires that would be an impediment to fighting them when caused by industrial scale wind energy systems. Equally important, is the information provided by the staff and Commissioner Kerns in their presentation on the number of wildfires in Shasta County in the most recent past. The CalFire wildfire assessment Map was also presented in which over 95% of the County was rated “High” or “Very High” Wildfire Severity Zones. The above statements alone provide enough for you the vote YES!

This Commission discussed the need for zoning changes in January of 2022 and then directed Mr. Hellman’s staff to put together the Resolution to present to the Supervisors for consideration. Resolution No. 2022-014 captures the items discussed and requested by the Commission. Mr. Hellman, provided all the necessary background, including CEQA law review, which supports the decision to implement the zoning changes listed within the proposed Zone Amendment 22-0001, enabling the protection of the communities across Shasta County most affected by these types of industrial developments. Various experts provided overwhelming testimony, during the recent public hearings, that industrial wind turbine developments in forested areas only introduce unnecessary wildfire risk where wildfires could not be fought effectively within/surrounding the turbine fields. These expert testimonies were provided by at least 6 wildfire pilots whose careers have thousands of hours of wildfire fighting experience. One of those experts attended the Supervisor’s public hearing for the Fountain Wind Appeal, while on a break from fighting the Dixie Fire, where he had also dropped retardant on the Fawn Fire- it was powerful testimony!

This Commission denied the Fountain Wind Project in order to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community members. It has already been proven, even stated by the Fire Safety Representative from Shasta County, and addressed to Supervisor Moty, that the preparation work and clearing for these industrial projects bring their own risk so it is as not as “clear cut” for fire safety through the environmental review process. As stated on numerous occasions, by various experts, these types of industrial developments. Therefore, please continue taking the hard look and protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of OUR WHOLE COMMUNITY!

I acknowledge your proactive efforts with these zoning amendments, just as has been done in other counties, which provide protections to the tribal cultural resources, environment, safety, protection, and general welfare of the community members. In the Big Bend area it is a fact that developers continue to test for wind resources, therefore, it is imperative that you pass this Resolution Zone Amendment now. It will only be a matter of time before the County receives the next special use permit for a mega-industrial wind development project in our forested areas. The Zone Amendment 22-0001 rightly seeks to ban industrial scale wind energy development in the unincorporated lands of Shasta County, it further accurately defines small scale wind energy systems in County Code and clearly defines how variations to allowed small wind energy systems would be considered by the County Planning Department. You know that the financial benefits do not outweigh the negative impacts and the risk to the lives of County residents. A “Yes” vote doesn’t ban clean energy, it just bans industrial size wind energy systems that pose a risk to our way of life and our lives themselves. Shasta County has provided well above their fair share of clean energy and can continue to do so through other clean technologies without the risk to life and property and our general welfare.

**Approve Resolution No. 2022-014, which supports the zone changes for Zone Amendment 22-001**, prohibiting additional large scale industrial wind developments within Shasta County. The approval of Resolution No. 2022-014 will support the communities targeted, even for their marginal wind resources, and stop the emotional and financial trauma brought to the community members who are threatened by these industrial developments. The approval will also remove the fear and threats of future desecration and the erasure of tribal cultural ceremonies and scared sites protections for the Pit River Tribe and other surrounding Tribes.

Sincerely,

Radley Davis, Concerned Resident  
Tribal Citizen of the Pit River Nation belonging to the Illmawi Band

From: [cdjmd7160](mailto:cdjmd7160)  
To: [SCPlanning](mailto:SCPlanning)  
Subject: R5 Zone Amendment 22-0001  
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 1:56:20 PM

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I have been a resident of Montgomery Creek since Feb. 1, 1990.

First of all, I wish to thank the Planning Department and particularly the Planning Commission for your 5-0 vote denying the Use Permit for ConnectGen, and the many hours of checking all the pros and cons before coming to that decision. It was a wonderful victory for the "little guy"! And you all are to be commended for this.

I believe these large environmental projects target low income and sparsely populated areas, because they think there will be no opposition from these areas, possibly because of little education. Of course, they care nothing about the land or its residents, out only to make millions in profits. But, they found out with the Stop Fountain Wind group, there are some very intelligent educated residents in this area, that helped to beat this project. It took almost 3 years of diligent work for our Committee of 12 to present the downside of this project. We also thank you for helping protect this area from wildfires. This year wildland fires are predicted to be much worse.

My husband and I were members of the Montgomery Creek Volunteer Fire Company 71 for 12 years; we had only been members of this Company for 6 months before the Fountain Fire came running through. I remember standing on the side of Highway 299E in Montgomery Creek watching the Fountain Fire coming up both sides of the highway, destroying everything in its path, and assisting those evacuating with nothing but their vehicle and the clothes on their back to the Montgomery Creek School parking lot. This fire went all the way over Hatchet Summit into the Burney area, which stunned many people.

I live on the side of a hill, and my view includes Hatchet Ridge Turbines, a photo of which I have attached. I would have seen all of the Fountain Wind Turbines from my home and they would also have been reflected off of a mirrored wall into my Living Room, making its value decrease and perhaps not sellable. In my 32 years here, I have had many people come here, for various reasons, and they always remark what a wonderful and great view I have. I call this my "little piece of Heaven"!

I would ask that you approve your Zoning Amendment to protect this area of wildland fire devastation; we thank you especially for the work you have done in these last few months to bring this Amendment forward, even though the Environmentalists are doing their best to get your Commission to not approve it.

I want to thank the commission for pursuing this amendment, regardless of opposition.

Sincerely, Joan DiMaio



REV-SLWP0000218.00003

COS0000487

**From:** [Betty Harner](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Ban of Wind Farms  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 11:41:15 AM

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Shasta County Planning Commissioners:

What are the non-political justifications for banning wind farms in Shasta County? There are so many reasons for developing alternate sources of energy that we have to question this action.

All means of producing electricity seem to have drawbacks, from inconveniently unaesthetic (fields of oil pumps, acres of solar panels) to dangerous pollution (coal fired generators), and the windmills seem to be less offensive than these.

With the continuing drought our reliance on hydroelectric power may not be as assured as in the past, just when the higher temperatures we have been experiencing will mean an even greater need for electricity to power our air conditioners. Wind is one of the natural resources we have in Shasta County; it can provide energy with less pollution and, possibly, bring jobs to the area. Why not use it?

We ask that you consider the long-term effects of your actions today. Banning, or even just delaying the development of, energy production here may negatively affect all of us in the future.

Thank you,

Marion and Betty Harner

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Nancy Kirkland](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 5:30:12 PM

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Please recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the ordinance amending title 17, Zoning Plan to prohibit large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County.

As heard previously in public hearings for the Fountain Wind Project, pilot testimonies provided conclusive evidence that the turbine fields will prohibit aerial firefighting efforts.

Also, please consider that preparing the ground for turbines includes excavation, hauling components to the sites, much concrete is needed, roads will need to be put in for access, Miles of converter cables and stations would owe needed as well as thousands of gallons of diesel needed to set up and maintain them.

There are verified complaints about the nonstop noise that the turbines generate. Right now, half a million birds and bats are killed yearly by them. Some estimate that these deaths will increase to a million and a half deaths/year within 3 years. Also, consider that there the recycling of the rare-earth metals that are contained within the system have not been well studied. Unfortunately, while other components are recyclable, the blades themselves are not. These blades can reach 351 feet long and require large trucks to transport them. Currently, the life of a wind turbine is only 20 years.

The actual CO2 savings that these wind farms are designed to reduce are miniscule, due to the inherent nature of wind energy. There is a study by BENTEK (How Less Became More) which has found that ZERO scientific empirical proof provided by the wind industry to support their claims of consequential CO@ reduction. How much CO2 is generated by a half - two million pound concrete base for each turbine?

Turbines do not provide local jobs nor will they provide 'low cost' energy. Wind energy is much more expensive than anything we have now. Wind is 100% undependable as well. We can never depend on wind to blow consistently or within a certain range.

Energy sources should be abundant, reliable, and low-cost. Wind energy does not fit the need. Wind energy is our least sustainable form of energy-it depends on fossil fuel for construction, delivery, maintenance, and operation.

Please vote YES on Resolution No. 2022-014 on Thursday, May 12.

Thank you, Nancy Kirkland: a Shasta County resident

**From:** [Lisa MacDonald](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 5:13:42 PM

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Dear Planning Commission,

Please support the amendment to the zoning changes regarding large & small wind turbine developments. As a resident of Round Mountain and a member of the opposition to the Fountain Wind Project I ask you to vote YES on the resolution. I support the resolution not just because of my opposition to the project in my area but for all citizens of Shasta County that could be tremendously harmed by any such project.

Thank you.

Regards,

**Lisa MacDonald**  
**SUNSET REAL ESTATE**  
**2610 BECHELLI LN.**  
**STE# H**  
**REDDING CA 96002**

**530-941-9082 call/text**  
**530-221-9000 office**  
**SunsetRealEstate.com**

**CA DRE LIC #01400197**

From: [MaryAnn M](#)  
To: [SCPlanning](#)  
Subject: Zoning Amendment 22-0001, Agenda Item R5  
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 11:22:52 AM

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To: Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103,  
Redding, CA 96001

Comments on the proposed zoning ordinance Amendment 22-0001, Agenda Item R5, for the May 12, 2022 meeting of the Shasta County Planning Commission

In the staff report prepared for agenda item R5 the rationale supporting the proposed regulation of wind energy rests on fire safety issues and fire hazard maps of Shasta County unincorporated areas. The amendment then should apply to the high and very high fire hazard zones, not to the entire unincorporated area of Shasta County.

The scope switch from high and very high fire hazard zones to all of the unincorporated area of Shasta County was explained only by the relatively small portion of the unincorporated area that is considered to be a “moderate fire hazard area”.

However, at the scale of the fire hazard maps, the small area of moderate fire hazard is in the neighborhood of 30,000 acres. Should this arbitrary choice to include the entire unincorporated area, dictate what can and cannot be done on those 30,000 acres?

It seems un-American to do so.

The amendment would serve appointed staff interests for expedience, perhaps. It would serve PG&E’s interests to maintain their monopoly on energy, certainly.

As written, Amendment 22-0001 does not serve to allow a free market to solve energy and economic problems in Shasta County. The proposed ordinance amendment is an example of well-intentioned government workers substituting their paternalistic thinking for the principles that made our country great. This is government over-reach. And that is exactly how the future of Shasta County gets limited.

Sincerely,

MaryAnn McCrary

Redding resident & voter



## May 11, 2022 comments for Shasta County Planning Commissioners,

The county is well aware of how I feel about wind energy. This is an industry that has time and again, deceived the citizens of Shasta County with fraudulent research, embellished energy projections and is still hiding behind nondisclosure agreements that conceal their ongoing slaughter to Shasta county's wildlife.

There is no reason to trust this industry, **no reason not to ban this industry in Shasta County** and in the future, no reason not to prosecute this industry. I would even help with investigations. As of May 2022, this industry has never provided a credible reason for any Shasta County commissioners to ever believe a thing they have to say.

Even so, I have resubmitted some of my thoughts with scientific facts once again in an attachment with these comments. My comments below are primarily to provide so insight into a group lurking in our midst called **North State Climate action**.

I am aware of their support of wind energy and a letter they have submitted to Shasta County.



Home Our Work |



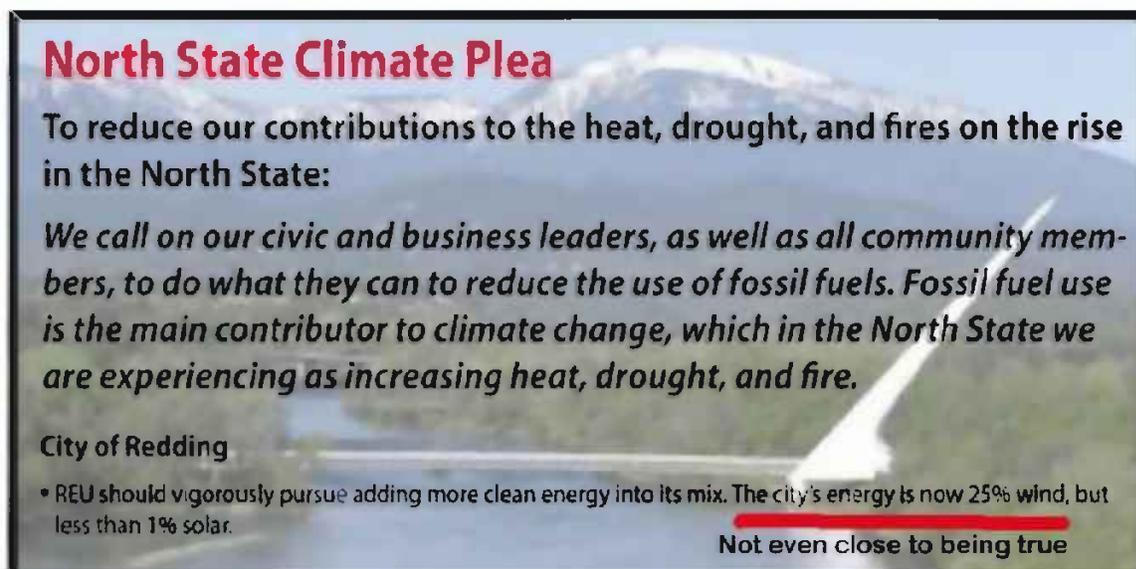
## What is the work this group really does?

This group appears to be just one more lockstep Wind industry mouthpiece. They make proclamations about helping climate without providing a shred of scientific evidence for their support of wind energy. They do not reveal if they have any **conflicts of interest, no credentials are given and nothing is said about their donors**. They're also promoting wind energy's wildly fraudulent claims about their energy contribution to the grid.

And by the way I happen to have plenty of wildlife expertise, decades of field research and no conflicts of interest.

As far as I'm concerned, the work of this group is to use fatally flawed research, loaded with conflicts of interest to spread falsehoods that benefit both the group financially and wind energy interests. Lobbying their interests to Shasta County does not make their mission truthful and remember, they have provided no research of their own.

**Audubon (see images below)** and ABC birds both sold out to wind energy years ago and have been operating the same way for years. They receive wind energy related funding, have hundreds of millions in assets, yet will not conduct a bit of independent research regarding the hidden and horrific impacts from wind energy developments. With their silence they are also lying by omission. I could write pages about these groups and the discussions I've had with their leaders.



**North State Climate Plea**

To reduce our contributions to the heat, drought, and fires on the rise in the North State:

*We call on our civic and business leaders, as well as all community members, to do what they can to reduce the use of fossil fuels. Fossil fuel use is the main contributor to climate change, which in the North State we are experiencing as increasing heat, drought, and fire.*

City of Redding

- REU should vigorously pursue adding more clean energy into its mix. The city's energy is now 25% wind, but less than 1% solar.

**Not even close to being true**

Gavin Newsom, California's Governor, isn't ready to tell California residents the truth, but here's what's coming, lots more nuclear power.

## California's future.....

### ***Postponing Diablo Canyon's closure could make sense — but the devil is in the details***

CT 11 - 12078 LD 1099A - JC AKJ

APR 22 2022 10:05 AM



Gov. Gavin Newsom has shifted his position on Diablo Canyon, California's last nuclear power plant, and now plans to apply for federal funds to keep it open. [johnston@tributenews.com](mailto:johnston@tributenews.com)

The reason, after 40 years of trying, the massive fraud and green lies about wind energy powering the future are coming to an end and without using Green's energy's fraudulent math and omissions, CA's fleet of turbines might be producing a pitiful net of only 2% for the grid.

Currently California is using nuclear power generated from Arizona, but our Faux green state doesn't like to broadcast this reality.

In the near future, California's growing energy needs will have to include more nuclear power and lots of it for electric cars. The Green math hucksters won't disclose this, but with each new electric car purchased, wind power's contribution to the grid just keeps on plummeting.

## Turbine Fires will happen

I don't see them all, but here is a new one sent to me from Garner, Iowa, April 22 2022.



**National Audubon settlement letter showing the day Audubon sold out to the Wind Industry. From this day forward, I encourage Shasta County Commissioners or Supervisors to look for find a single**

negative, meaningful or truthful statement about wind energy coming from this group.



1901 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20006-3  
(202) 861-2242  
(202) 861-4290 fax

November 2, 1999

Mr. Robert Gates, President  
Enron Wind Development Corporation  
13000 Jameson Road  
Tehachapi, California 93561

Dear Mr. Gates:

It is my understanding that Enron Wind Development Corporation, Tejon Ranch Company, and several other parties have reached an agreement concerning a proposed wind energy development project near Gorman, California. As you know, the National Audubon Society has opposed development of this site because of the potential impact it could have on California Condors.

According to the information we have been provided, Enron Wind Development has taken steps to permanently insure that the Gorman site will not be developed for wind energy, and has agreed with Tejon Ranch to develop another site in the area which does not pose a threat to condors.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your company for your leadership in working to resolve this very difficult issue. Your firm has a well-deserved reputation as an environmental leader in providing power through wind energy and your decision to seek an alternative to the Gorman site is to be applauded. Your agreement has set a new standard for prompt and responsible action to provide clean, renewable energy in a manner that does not pose a risk to the California Condor.

Given the agreements Enron Wind Development, Tejon Ranch and the other parties have reached, I'm writing to inform you about the steps the National Audubon Society will now take in this matter:

1. We will terminate our campaign to oppose the wind energy development project at the Gorman site.
2. We will inform members of the House of Representatives and Senate that legislation to deny the wind power production tax credit to the Gorman site through the addition of the Audubon amendment to the production tax credit is unnecessary and we do not recommend its passage. We will also inform them that Audubon supports reauthorization of the production tax credit legislation. This information will be communicated in a letter from me to each member; a draft

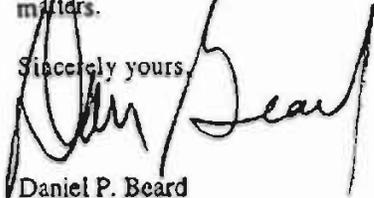
Mr. Robert Gates  
November 2, 1999  
Page 2

copy of the letter is attached. I will also send letters to the members on the attached list by the close of business November 3, 1999.

3. We will join you and the other parties in issuing the attached press release to inform the media and the public that the issues surrounding the proposed Gorman project have been resolved satisfactorily.
4. We will place the attached ads in congressional newspapers supporting the production tax credit legislation, assuming the funds to pay for these ads can be provided from other sources.
5. We will support your wind energy development project to be located at Section 21, Township 10 North, Range 15 West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined does not adversely affect recovery of the California Condor.

Once again, I want to thank you and your staff for their leadership in resolving this matter. I especially want to express my appreciation to Mr. Al Davies of your staff who worked very hard to make this agreement a reality. We look forward to working with you on this and other matters.

Sincerely yours,



Daniel P. Beard  
Senior Vice President -- Public Policy

  
Accepted and Approved

11/8/99  
Date

---

Shasta county should permanently ban these projects. They are highly destructive, need fraud or nondisclosures agreements to survive, are a danger to rural residents, an incredible drain of tax dollars and provide very little benefit to society.

I would be happy to discuss any of this with North State Climate Action, in front of commissioners, but only if I am allowed to ask questions.

Jim Wiegand - Wildlife Biologist, Lakehead CA 530 2225338

**From:** Paul Hellman </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS /CN=6BBE491255E64F6BB3EEDE982B69B773-PAUL HELLMA>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**BCC:** Donn Walgamuth; skerns7118@aol.com; patrick@wallnerplumbing.com; Jim Chapin; Tim MacLean; Tim MacLean  
**Sent:** 5/10/2022 5:29:18 PM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Attachments:** Silberstein Email.pdf; Dobbins Email.pdf; Fehr Email.pdf; Camp Email.pdf

Commissioners,

Attached are four additional comments received since this morning regarding item R5, Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance).

Thanks,

**Paul Hellman, Director**  
**Shasta County Department of Resource Management**  
**(530) 225-5114**  
**<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>**

**From:** [Catherine Camp](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed ban on wind farms  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 11:15:42 AM

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I strongly urge you to reject the proposed ban on wind farms throughout the unincorporated areas of the county. I can't imagine why this is a good idea. Any proposed wind farm will come before the county and can be considered on the specific merits. Wind energy in general is clean, cheap and renewable. The proposed preemptive ban has the feel of a political statement rather than a considered assessment of how the county confronts energy needs, climate challenges and economic challenges for families. Please vote no.

**From:** [Diane Dobbins](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Wind farm future for Shasta County  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 10:16:00 AM

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Thank you - yes, I hit send too quickly.

I want to add my voice in support of wind farms for this county. We moved here 5 years ago and are constantly beset with strong winds. Whether that's just the way it is in the north state or it's climate change is aside from the fact that we do have winds on a regular basis. That said, I think it is short sighted not to approve wind farms to produce electricity and reduce the burden on shasta county residents. I do not buy into conspiracy theories that they are killing all our eagles or that they cause cancer. The science does not back this up.

So here's my voice in support of wind farms and hope the planning commission is smart and doesn't succumb to people who just don't want change

Sincerely,  
Diane Dobbins

Sent from my iPhone

> On May 10, 2022, at 8:11 AM, SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)> wrote:

>

> Good Morning,

>

> There doesn't appear to be a message or an attachment to this email. If you had one of those, you might want to try this email again.

>

> Tracie Huff

> Administrative Secretary I

> Planning Division

> Shasta County Resource Management

> 1855 Placer Street STE 103

> Redding CA 96001

> (530) 225-5532 Phone

> (530) 245-6468 Fax

> [resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us)

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Diane Dobbins <[diane.dobbins@gmail.com](mailto:diane.dobbins@gmail.com)>

> Sent: May 10, 2022 6:28 AM

> To: SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)>

> Subject: Wind farm future for Shasta County

>

> EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not follow links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Daniel Fehr](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Farm Resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 10:52:23 AM

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**May 10, 2022**

Honorable Shasta County Planning Commissioners:

The purpose of this email is to vociferously oppose the pending resolution banning wind farms in unincorporated Shasta County, slated for consideration on May 12, 2022.

Support of this resolution represents the ultimate myopia, resulting in the limitation of an available renewable energy option. If humanity is to reverse this carbon-based climate crisis, Shasta County will require all available tools in our toolbox.

We implore the Planning Commission to oppose consideration of this asinine NIMBY and politically-motivated resolution.

Daniel & Susan Fehr  
1705 Verda Street  
Redding, California 96001

**From:** [Dana Silberstein](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Farms  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 8:50:23 AM

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**I am writing in opposition to a ban on wind farms. With water and power being in such peril we can no longer afford to reject genuine solutions.**

**We must remain open to alternative energy sources while at the same time controlling their location and aesthetic.**

**As much as we would like to we cannot continue relying on resources that are dwindling.**

**Thank you,**

**Dana Silberstein**

**From:** Paul Hellman </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS /CN=6BBE491255E64F6BB3EEDE982B69B773-PAUL HELLMA>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**BCC:** Donn Walgamuth; skerns7118@aol.com; Jim Chapin; patrick@wallnerplumbing.com; Tim MacLean; Tim MacLean  
**Sent:** 5/10/2022 8:15:11 AM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Attachments:** Osa Letter.pdf; Koterba Email.pdf; Brady Email.pdf

Commissioners,

Attached are three additional comments received since last night regarding item R5, Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance).

Thanks,

**Paul Hellman, Director**  
**Shasta County Department of Resource Management**  
**(530) 225-5114**  
**<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>**

**From:** [Anita Brady](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Ordinance to eliminate wind farms in the county  
**Date:** Monday, May 9, 2022 8:41:14 PM

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You are worried about wind farms but OK a development that puts lives and property at risk ?

You have shown your true colors-- developers can buy your influence, wind farms? (not so much)

Shame on you all. Please submit your resignations immediately.

Regards  
Anita Brady  
Born and bred in Shasta County

**From:** [Michael Koterba](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Windmill Ban  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 7:21:04 AM

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**Dear Council Members**

To simply ban windmills strikes me as a knee-jerk reaction that reduces the likelihood we will ever have clean sustainable renewable energy at a reasonable cost. We already are losing our ability to produce hydroelectric energy as we have more frequent and multi annual years of drought and reservoirs remain at levels too low to provide consistent electrical power generation. Solar and wind are the only suitable local alternatives. So actions such as this simply mean we will depend on others for our power generation. So who will that be? Companies such as PGE who will simply charge what they want to ensure their stockholders make a profit at our expense. For a county that continuously bristles at outsiders dictating how we live I find actions such as this to be simply demonstrating that we actually haven't got the will to control locally what we really need to be sustainability independent.

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Subj: Resolution 2022-014 for Zone Amendments 22-0001, Agenda Item R5, for 12 May 2022

Dear Planning Commissioners,

We appreciate the effort Mr. Hellman, the Planning Department Staff and the Commission (especially Commissioner Kerns) have put into the Zone Amendment 22-0001 and ask that you “yes” on Resolution No. 2022-014. We concur with the research and statements provided in the staff report for the May 12<sup>th</sup> R5 agenda item. The Zone Amendment 22-0001 rightly seeks to ban industrial scale wind energy development in the unincorporated lands of Shasta County, it further accurately defines small scale wind energy systems in County Code and clearly defines how variations to allowed small wind energy systems would be considered by the County Planning Department.

This resolution was prompted by the information that came to light as a result of recent efforts involving the Fountain Wind project. Most importantly, the growing threat of wildfires in our area and the impediment to fighting them caused by industrial scale wind energy systems. Further evidence of the growing nature of the wildfire threat was also provided by staff and Commissioner Kerns in their presentation on the number of wildfires in Shasta County in the recent past. The most recent CalFire wildfire assessment Map was also presented in which over 95% of the County was rated “High” or “Very High” Wildfire Severity Zones. These facts along with the many other unavoidable environmental impacts of these types of developments to Native American culture and sacred sites, wildlife (including birds, bats, raptors, etc.), aesthetics, and many other impacted areas, are the reason the Fountain Wind project was denied and are the same reasons why this resolution should be adopted.

Some opponents to this Resolution have advocated that Shasta County residents should sacrifice the things they hold dear about Shasta County and put our lives at risk for the sake of meeting California’s Clean Energy goals. What these advocates don’t mention or seem to care about is that Shasta County already provides many times the clean energy it consumes through various other means including hydro, solar, biomass and wind. As County staff has correctly pointed out, California is currently advocating offshore wind energy development, not further onshore development, because offshore wind is much more consistent and abundant without the many issue related to onshore developments. If producing a given amount of clean energy is truly the goal, and it isn’t primarily about the money and making billion dollar corporations even richer, then those advocating for further wind energy development in highly fire prone Shasta County should instead be advocating and lobbying for the re-powering of existing antiquated wind energy systems in Highest Wind Resource areas such as Tehachapi, Altamont Pass, and other similar areas. There are thousands of wind turbines in those areas, and many of them are dilapidated or small and antiquated. We regularly drive through those areas and have seen 50 – 60 small turbines replaced by 5 – 6 large turbines and have read reports of similar revitalizations that produce several times the power of the old systems. The only reason it isn’t happening more often is because of the money, it’s not as profitable. Instead, companies like ConnectGen and others target areas like Shasta County because that’s where the profit is – NOT because it’s any cleaner or the wind resources are any better here, in fact Shasta County has marginal winds at best. They target areas like Shasta County because they can lease the lands cheaply, zoning regulations are generally poor or don’t address industrial wind energy systems and the Counties and the people are relatively poor and can be easily bought with community enhancement funds and tax revenue. Wind Energy advocates should work with State and National legislatures to incentivize repowering efforts and making it profitable for both owners and developers, instead of breaking virgin ground and exploiting other rural areas like Shasta County.

Ms. Mudge, the attorney who claimed the resolution needed to go through CEQA, stated that the ban would preclude 2,012 MW of potential wind energy, suggesting that it was a large part of the 3,500 MW additional clean energy California wanted to produce by 2025. Ms. Mudge states in a footnote (2) of her letter that she derived that very large number from considering ALL PRIVATE unincorporated lands within Shasta County that appear to have commercially viable wind speeds per the latest California Wind Energy maps. Her statement, along with the fact that wind energy data is still being collected within the County, is just further evidence that Industrial Wind Energy developers are still targeting Shasta County and that **action needs to be taken now** to save our County from becoming another Tehachapi or Altamont Pass. The unincorporated private lands she mentions that are of most interest to Wind Energy Developers is likely the various large tract owners like Shasta Cascade Timberlands and other timber companies. The 2,012 MW of wind energy she sites in Shasta County would be nearly 10-20 additional Hatchet Ridge or Fountain Wind size of developments. Such a plan would drastically change Shasta County and cause irreparable harm to the safety, peace, morals and general welfare of County residents forever. This is all the more reason why this resolution needs to be adopted now.

We believe this Commission can take this courageous positive step to responsibly provide the protections needed to support the health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the citizens of Shasta County for generations to come by approving Resolution No. 2022-014 and supporting the Zone Amendment 22-0001. We believe this commission has the expertise and experience needed to rightly approve this resolution. You have listened to extensive testimony regarding the impact industrial wind energy systems would have on our County, you know they pose an unacceptable risk to County residents, you know they are not the right kind of project for Shasta County. You know that the financial benefits do not outweigh the negative impacts and the risk to the lives of County residents. A "Yes" vote doesn't ban clean energy, it **just** bans industrial size wind energy systems that pose a risk to our way of life and our lives themselves. Shasta County has provided well above their fair share of clean energy and can continue to do so through other clean technologies without the risk to life and property and our general welfare.

There will never be another Commission within Shasta County who has more experience than you do right now concerning industrial wind projects. You know this is the right thing to do. Please vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014 and continue to work to advocate these Zone Amendment recommendations to the Supervisors for their approval. The time for positive change is now!

Best Regards,

Joseph and Maggie Osa

**From:** Paul Hellman </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS /CN=6BBE491255E64F6BB3EEDE982B69B773-PAUL HELLMA>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**BCC:** Donn Walgamuth; skerns7118@aol.com; patrick@wallnerplumbing.com; Jim Chapin; Tim MacLean; Tim MacLean  
**Sent:** 5/9/2022 5:57:38 PM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Attachments:** Dykstra Letter.pdf; Livingston Email.pdf

Commissioners,

Attached are two additional comments received today regarding item R5, Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance).

Thanks,

**Paul Hellman, Director**  
**Shasta County Department of Resource Management**  
**(530) 225-5114**  
**<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>**

May 9 2022

Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103,  
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Proposed Amendment 22-0001 to Shasta County Zoning Code to Prohibit Large Wind Energy Systems, May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, Item R5

Dear Chair and members of the Planning Commission:

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, I transmitted comments regarding this issue for a group of which I am a member, North State Climate Action (NSCA). My comments today represent solely my views and may not reflect the opinions of NSCA.

My comments primarily address firefighting information you discussed at the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Other concerns were addressed in opposition comments transmitted for the April meeting. Fire fighting ability for any wind farm proposal should be analyzed on a site-specific basis, not on the assumption that any fire at any proposed county wind farm is un-fightable.

At the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, a commissioner stated incorrectly that wind towers “take out aerial attack.” CalFire’s Bret Gouvea addressed this issue at the Supervisor’s meeting last October (see the [recording of the meeting](#) at 8:19:39 to 8:28:00). Mr. Gouvea noted that the largest capacity aerial fire fighting equipment would not be usable close to wind towers such as at Fountain Wind, but other aerial fighting equipment would be. Mr. Gouvea stated “When you say a no fly zone, that’s a very broad term, I can’t agree to that.” And the configuration of wind towers in any project are critical to analyze fire fighting capabilities. In his comments Mr. Gouvea noted, as per the CalFire Tactical Air Unit, that “Obviously the placement and separation of those wind towers dictate the use of aircraft.” A future wind farm project would not be identical to Fountain Wind, and tower placement must be considered in assessing fire fighting ability, including aerial attack. If the Fountain Wind project had presented insurmountable fire fighting difficulties, it seems that Mr. Gouvea would have so stated. But he did not.

The commission should have been more precise in its framing of the firefighting issue. The commission characterized all of Shasta County as an “extreme” fire hazard zone. This is not how CalFire characterizes county fire danger. CalFire mostly regards the county as high and very high fire danger, not extreme. Also, approximately 12,000 acres in Shasta County are not designated either high or very high fire danger by the [CalFire Fire Hazard Severity Zones in SRA](#) map. This map does not provide fire hazard designations for those areas that are federal firefighting responsibility so this 12,000 acre value could be an underestimate. The [map that was shown at the April](#) meeting designates about 150,000 acres as less than a very high fire danger area, but does not further categorize those areas. As you know, the Fountain Wind project was in a very high fire danger zone in accordance with that map. Future wind projects may not be in that zone or even in a high fire hazard zone. [The County fire hazard map](#), although outdated, designated about 30,000 acres as moderate fire danger areas, and about 50,000 acres were unclassified. Over 300,000 acres were designated as high fire danger (as opposed to very high). I don’t know the property ownership or wind resources in areas designated as less than very high fire hazard, but the county will be prohibiting wind farms in lesser fire concern areas if the ordinance changes are implemented.

The commission displayed a map showing relatively recent fires in Shasta County. I don't understand the purpose of this graphic. We all know that the county has suffered from many severe fires in the recent past. But how is that relevant to vetting future wind farms for fire fighting ability near them? And future proposals would need an identical fire impact analysis as Fountain Wind, through CEQA.

The commission stated the issue of wind farms in Shasta County has been studied for the last 2-1/2 to three years, but is that the case? The commission has been primarily studying the Fountain Wind project, and that is not equivalent to studying wind projects in general in the county. The impacts of the Fountain Wind project are not necessarily relevant to a proposed future project. Site specific configuration, benefits, and impacts of future projects should be considered on a case by case basis.

The commission stated that everything about wind farms had been discussed, and no new information has been presented since the commission denied the Fountain Wind project in June. But a new proposed wind project, by its differing location and configuration, would necessarily include new information.

Lastly, a photograph of spent fiberglass turbine blades in a landfill was presented by the commission. I hate to see these blades not being recycled, but fiberglass is hardly a dangerous or hazardous waste that will result in groundwater or surface water contamination, or any other adverse outcome. Previously, formaldehyde had been used in turbine blade manufacture, but that is being phased out. Wind power is not yet a mature industry and land filling of spent turbine material is not a given. The reuse of spent fiber glass is now being studied and even implemented in certain cases. In addition, turbine blade manufacture using thermosetting resins is being studied. Thermoplastic resin blades would be recyclable, and also lighter and cheaper than fiberglass.

You should not recommend a county wide prohibition on wind farms, and you should analyze any future wind farm proposals considering their unique benefits and impacts. Shasta County can be a leader in supporting appropriate renewable wind projects. Before you make a decision on these ordinance changes, you must ask yourselves what is the harm done to the county if the changes are not adopted. The simple and correct answer is that there is no harm. If a project is proposed in the future, that is the time to examine its health, safety, and other environmental issues.

Please do not recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the proposed ordinance changes.

Thank you

Ron Dykstra

**From:** [John Livingston](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Cc:** [Ron Dykstra](#)  
**Subject:** We should not ban large commercial wind farms  
**Date:** Monday, May 9, 2022 8:53:42 AM

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I have lived in Shasta County for over 55 years and am aghast at the actions of Shasta County Planning Commission and Supervisors. It is completely inappropriate for Shasta County to ban large scale wind farms completely. There is so much positive energy from wind farms and their ability to replace fossil fuels that we need to consider each project on a case by case basis. We would not ban pig farms outright even though they smell terrible and pollute the surface and groundwater. /we would do an analysis of each project and have community meetings and write an EIR and then decide. The Planning Commission should either throw out the proposed ordinance or modify it significantly to allow projects to be considered, analyzed and proper environmental analysis made before making a final decision.

Respectfully John Livingston Resident

## On the hope of a new year

by Amanda Gorman National Youth Poet.

May this be the day  
We come together.  
Mourning, we come to mend,  
Withered, we come to weather,  
Torn, we come to tend,  
Battered, we come to better.

Tethered by this year of yearning,  
We are learning  
That though we weren't ready for this,  
We have been readied by it.  
We steadily vow that no matter  
How we are weighed down,  
We must always pave a way forward.

*Excerpt from poem "New Day's Lyric."*

**From:** Paul Hellman </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS /CN=6BBE491255E64F6BB3EEDE982B69B773-PAUL HELLMA>  
**To:** Paul Hellman  
**BCC:** Donn Walgamuth; skerns7118@aol.com; patrick@wallnerplumbing.com; Jim Chapin; Tim MacLean; Tim MacLean  
**Sent:** 5/9/2022 8:45:19 AM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Attachments:** Messick-Lattin Letter.pdf; Erickson Email.pdf; Levens Email.pdf

Commissioners,

Attached are comments received regarding item R5, Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance), that were received subsequent to the distribution of the agenda packet.

Thanks,

**Paul Hellman, Director**  
**Shasta County Department of Resource Management**  
**(530) 225-5114**  
**<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>**

**From:** [Ginny Erickson](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Cc:** [Virginia Erickson](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Farm  
**Date:** Saturday, May 7, 2022 1:38:59 PM

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Please know that many of us approve of and have hopes that the wind farms will become a reality in Shasta County.

Virginia Erickson

**From:** [Jennifer Levens](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind energy ban  
**Date:** Saturday, May 7, 2022 3:51:58 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

Be advised that given the number of trees you are allowing to be destroyed for new housing, you are essentially smothering this area. Now you want to ban a clean source of energy to further the demise of all living things. For shame. For Shame.

Jennifer Levens

MAY 9 2022

To: Shasta County Planning Commissioners  
Mr. Paul Hellman, Director of Resource Management

ADMINISTRATION

From: Citizens in Opposition to the Fountain Wind Project (CIO FWP)

Subj: Zone Amendment 22-0001, Regulation of Wind Energy Systems County-Wide (Zoning Text Amendment) - Agenda Item R5, on Planning Commission Agenda for May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

We fully support Resolution No. 2022-014, a resolution of the Shasta County Planning Commission recommending that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors approve Zone Amendment 22-0001, regulating small and large wind energy systems. We fully support the prohibition of large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County for the purpose of protecting and promoting the public health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of Shasta County.

This Commission discussed the need for zoning changes in January of 2022 and then directed Mr. Hellman's staff to put together the Resolution to present to the Supervisors for consideration. Resolution No. 2022-014 captures the items discussed and requested by the Commission. Mr. Hellman, provided all the necessary background, including CEQA law review, which supports the decision to implement the zoning changes listed within the proposed Zone Amendment 22-0001, enabling the protection of the communities across Shasta County most affected by these types of industrial developments. In addition to Mr. Hellman's Resolution 2022-014, Commissioner Kerns provided overwhelming support, via his Shasta County wildfire map, where wildfires have engulfed large areas across Shasta County. Commissioner Chapin, with decades of forestry expertise, also stated he does not believe that these types of industrial developments should be built within the forested areas. He stated these are the highest wildfire prone areas which could destroy trees and take decades or a hundred years or more to fully recover. Various experts provided overwhelming testimony, during the recent public hearings, that industrial wind turbine developments in forested areas only introduce unnecessary wildfire risk where wildfires could not be fought effectively within/surrounding the turbine fields. These expert testimonies were provided by at least 6 wildfire pilots whose careers have thousands of hours of wildfire fighting experience. One of those experts attended the Supervisor's public hearing for the Fountain Wind Appeal, while on a break from fighting the Dixie Fire, where he had also dropped retardant on the Fawn Fire.

The CIO FWP submitted 2,386 signatures to reject the Fountain Wind Industrial Development. As a point of reference the 2,386 signatures include some of the Shasta County residents from 22 unincorporated communities and three incorporated communities. We also continue to stand with over 4,000 Pit River Tribe members who presented their Resolution opposing such industrial developments. You witnessed numerous members who testified at both public hearings, stating how offensive these developments were. The spiritual native cultural impacts can only be understood by the tribal members and never captured through the CEQA or political process. The approval of Resolution No. 2022-014 support Zone Amendment 22-0001 will remove the fear and threats of future destruction, desecration, and erasing of native cultural ceremonies and scared sites for the Pit River Tribe and other surrounding Tribes.

This Commission denied the Fountain Wind Project in order to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community members. It has already been proven, even stated by the Fire Safety Representative from Shasta County, and addressed to Supervisor Moty, that the

preparation work and clearing for these industrial projects bring their own risk so it is as not as “clear cut” for fire safety through the environmental review process. As stated on numerous occasions, by various experts, these types of industrial developments, within the highest wildfire rated and forested areas are not acceptable.

We truly appreciate and commend your proactive efforts with these zoning amendments, just as has been done in other counties, which provide protections to the native cultural resources, environment, safety, protection, and general welfare of the community members. We believe time is of the essence since community members within the Big Bend area have stated developers continue to test the wind resources. We believe it will only be a matter of time before the County receives the next special use permit for an industrial wind development in our forested areas.

We humbly request you approve Resolution No. 2022-014, which supports the zone changes for Zone Amendment 22-001, prohibiting additional large scale industrial wind developments within Shasta County. The approval of Resolution No. 2022-014 will support the communities targeted, even for their marginal wind resources, and stop the emotional and financial trauma brought to the community members who are threatened by these industrial developments. As Commission Kerns correctly stated we were under threat for our communities, religious and cultural freedoms, livelihood, and way of life for over 2 ½ years by the Fountain Wind Project please don't allow that to happen to again other community members within Shasta County.

Sincerely,

Beth Messick-Lattin  
Chair, Citizens in Opposition  
to the Fountain Wind Project

**From:** [Lon Alward](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** #2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 9:59:14 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)

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Please vote yes on resolution #2022-014



<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]--> **Lon Alward** | Loan Officer

NMLS 284494 | CA-DOC284494 | ID NLO-20907

**Direct 530.605.4870 Cell 530.515.1086**

**Office 530.244.6830 Fax 530.222.3270**

2280 N. Bechelli Lane, Redding, CA 96002

[lon@uslendingcompany.com](mailto:lon@uslendingcompany.com)



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**From:** [Anita Brady](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Ordinance to eliminate wind farms in the county  
**Date:** Monday, May 9, 2022 8:41:14 PM

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You are worried about wind farms but OK a development that puts lives and property at risk ?

You have shown your true colors-- developers can buy your influence, wind farms? (not so much)

Shame on you all. Please submit your resignations immediately.

Regards  
Anita Brady  
Born and bred in Shasta County

**From:** [Catherine Camp](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed ban on wind farms  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 11:15:42 AM

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I strongly urge you to reject the proposed ban on wind farms throughout the unincorporated areas of the county. I can't imagine why this is a good idea. Any proposed wind farm will come before the county and can be considered on the specific merits. Wind energy in general is clean, cheap and renewable. The proposed preemptive ban has the feel of a political statement rather than a considered assessment of how the county confronts energy needs, climate challenges and economic challenges for families. Please vote no.

**DOUGLAS W. CRAIG, PSYD  
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST  
1650 OREGON ST., SUITE 110  
REDDING, CA 96001  
LICENSE No. PSY 9469**

May 11, 2022

Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103  
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Proposed Amendments to Shasta County Zoning Code to Prohibit Large Wind Energy Systems (Amendment 22-0001)

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning Commission:

Last month, UN Secretary-General António Guterres issued his most dire warning ever on the catastrophic transformations we are facing as we continue to rely on fossil fuels for our energy and transportation needs.

He said, “We are on a fast track to climate disaster. Major cities under water. Unprecedented heatwaves. Terrifying storms. Widespread water shortages. The extinction of a million species of plants and animals. This is not fiction or exaggeration. It is what science tells us will result from our current energy policies.”

He continued, “We are on a pathway to global warming of more than double the 1.5°C limit agreed in Paris. Some Government and business leaders are saying one thing, but doing another. Simply put, they are lying. And the results will be catastrophic. This is a climate emergency.

“Climate scientists warn that we are already perilously close to tipping points that could lead to cascading and irreversible climate impacts. But, high-emitting Governments and corporations are not just turning a blind eye, they are adding fuel to the flames.

“They are choking our planet, based on their vested interests and historic investments in fossil fuels, when cheaper, renewable solutions provide green jobs, energy security and greater price stability.

“The science is clear: to keep the 1.5°C limit agreed in Paris within reach, we need to cut global emissions by 45 per cent this decade.”

Guterres outlined the solution. He said, "First and foremost, we must triple the speed of the shift to renewable energy. That means moving investments and subsidies from fossil fuels to renewables — now. In most cases, renewables are already far cheaper. It means Governments ending the funding of coal, not just abroad, but at home.

"A shift to renewables will mend our broken global energy mix and offer hope to millions of people suffering climate impacts today. Climate promises and plans must be turned into reality and action, now. It is time to stop burning our planet and start investing in the abundant renewable energy all around us."

Here in Shasta County, we are facing the triple threat of excessive heat, devastating drought and disastrous wildfires. As we continue to emit heat-trapping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, we are stealing our children's future. We don't have to do this. It is not too late. We need to dramatically transition away from dirty fuels and toward renewable energy like wind and solar as quickly as possible.

Banning Large Wind Energy Systems in Shasta County is madness and incredibly irresponsible. Are we going to stand on the sidelines while other communities step up to do all they can to preserve a livable planet for future generations? Will history show that Shasta County shirked its duty, ignored the science and betrayed its moral obligation to care for others?

I beg of you to not amend Shasta County's code to prohibit large wind energy systems. This would be insane. Instead, send a message to our community that we will join with the rest of the world in bringing about the clean energy revolution that the world's biosphere desperately requires now.

Sincere regards,

*Douglas W. Craig*

Subject: Zone Amendment 22-0001, Regulation of Wind Energy Systems County-Wide (Zoning Text Amendment) - Agenda Item R5, on Planning Commission Agenda for May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Greetings Shasta County Planning Commissioners

I write you regarding resolution No. 2022-014, a resolution of the Shasta County Planning Commission recommending that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors approve Zone Amendment 22-0001, regulating small and large wind energy systems. I support the prohibition of large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County for the purpose of protecting and promoting the public health, safety, and general welfare of all the residents of Shasta County.

This resolution came about as a result of our “community active efforts” involving the stopping of the Fountain Wind Project. Most importantly for myself, the protections of tribal prayer grounds, village sites, sacred places, tribal burials and other vital tribal cultural sources. The Pit River Tribal Nation, with over 4,000 Tribal members, passed and presented their Resolution opposing such industrial wind developments- the Fountain Wind Project. Tribal Band Representatives and Tribal members who testified with insurmountable evidence at both public hearings, stating how offensive these developments were with no regard for the unavoidable negative impacts to tribal cultural sacred places, burial grounds, the ecology, the biology, the wildlife (including raptors, bats, birds etc.), the aesthetics, and etc. Also, the continued and growing threat of wildfires that would be an impediment to fighting them when caused by industrial scale wind energy systems. Equally important, is the information provided by the staff and Commissioner Kerns in their presentation on the number of wildfires in Shasta County in the most recent past. The CalFire wildfire assessment Map was also presented in which over 95% of the County was rated “High” or “Very High” Wildfire Severity Zones. The above statements alone provide enough for you the vote YES!

This Commission discussed the need for zoning changes in January of 2022 and then directed Mr. Hellman’s staff to put together the Resolution to present to the Supervisors for consideration. Resolution No. 2022-014 captures the items discussed and requested by the Commission. Mr. Hellman, provided all the necessary background, including CEQA law review, which supports the decision to implement the zoning changes listed within the proposed Zone Amendment 22-0001, enabling the protection of the communities across Shasta County most affected by these types of industrial developments. Various experts provided overwhelming testimony, during the recent public hearings, that industrial wind turbine developments in forested areas only introduce unnecessary wildfire risk where wildfires could not be fought effectively within/surrounding the turbine fields. These expert testimonies were provided by at least 6 wildfire pilots whose careers have thousands of hours of wildfire fighting experience. One of those experts attended the Supervisor’s public hearing for the Fountain Wind Appeal, while on a break from fighting the Dixie Fire, where he had also dropped retardant on the Fawn Fire- it was powerful testimony!

This Commission denied the Fountain Wind Project in order to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community members. It has already been proven, even stated by the Fire Safety Representative from Shasta County, and addressed to Supervisor Moty, that the preparation work and clearing for these industrial projects bring their own risk so it is as not as “clear cut” for fire safety through the environmental review process. As stated on numerous occasions, by various experts, these types of industrial developments. Therefore, please continue taking the hard look and protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of OUR WHOLE COMMUNITY!

I acknowledge your proactive efforts with these zoning amendments, just as has been done in other counties, which provide protections to the tribal cultural resources, environment, safety, protection, and general welfare of the community members. In the Big Bend area it is a fact that developers continue to test for wind resources, therefore, it is imperative that you pass this Resolution Zone Amendment now. It will only be a matter of time before the County receives the next special use permit for a mega-industrial wind development project in our forested areas. The Zone Amendment 22-0001 rightly seeks to ban industrial scale wind energy development in the unincorporated lands of Shasta County, it further accurately defines small scale wind energy systems in County Code and clearly defines how variations to allowed small wind energy systems would be considered by the County Planning Department. You know that the financial benefits do not outweigh the negative impacts and the risk to the lives of County residents. A “Yes” vote doesn’t ban clean energy, it just bans industrial size wind energy systems that pose a risk to our way of life and our lives themselves. Shasta County has provided well above their fair share of clean energy and can continue to do so through other clean technologies without the risk to life and property and our general welfare.

**Approve Resolution No. 2022-014, which supports the zone changes for Zone Amendment 22-001**, prohibiting additional large scale industrial wind developments within Shasta County. The approval of Resolution No. 2022-014 will support the communities targeted, even for their marginal wind resources, and stop the emotional and financial trauma brought to the community members who are threatened by these industrial developments. The approval will also remove the fear and threats of future desecration and the erasure of tribal cultural ceremonies and scared sites protections for the Pit River Tribe and other surrounding Tribes.

Sincerely,

Radley Davis, Concerned Resident  
Tribal Citizen of the Pit River Nation belonging to the Illmawi Band

From: [cdjmd7160](mailto:cdjmd7160)  
To: [SCPlanning](#)  
Subject: R5 Zone Amendment 22-0001  
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 1:56:20 PM

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I have been a resident of Montgomery Creek since Feb. 1, 1990.

First of all, I wish to thank the Planning Department and particularly the Planning Commission for your 5-0 vote denying the Use Permit for ConnectGen, and the many hours of checking all the pros and cons before coming to that decision. It was a wonderful victory for the "little guy"! And you all are to be commended for this.

I believe these large environmental projects target low income and sparsely populated areas, because they think there will be no opposition from these areas, possibly because of little education. Of course, they care nothing about the land or its residents, out only to make millions in profits. But, they found out with the Stop Fountain Wind group, there are some very intelligent educated residents in this area, that helped to beat this project. It took almost 3 years of diligent work for our Committee of 12 to present the downside of this project. We also thank you for helping protect this area from wildfires. This year wildland fires are predicted to be much worse.

My husband and I were members of the Montgomery Creek Volunteer Fire Company 71 for 12 years; we had only been members of this Company for 6 months before the Fountain Fire came running through. I remember standing on the side of Highway 299E in Montgomery Creek watching the Fountain Fire coming up both sides of the highway, destroying everything in its path, and assisting those evacuating with nothing but their vehicle and the clothes on their back to the Montgomery Creek School parking lot. This fire went all the way over Hatchet Summit into the Burney area, which stunned many people.

I live on the side of a hill, and my view includes Hatchet Ridge Turbines, a photo of which I have attached. I would have seen all of the Fountain Wind Turbines from my home and they would also have been reflected off of a mirrored wall into my Living Room, making its value decrease and perhaps not sellable. In my 32 years here, I have had many people come here, for various reasons, and they always remark what a wonderful and great view I have. I call this my "little piece of Heaven"!

I would ask that you approve your Zoning Amendment to protect this area of wildland fire devastation; we thank you especially for the work you have done in these last few months to bring this Amendment forward, even though the Environmentalists are doing their best to get your Commission to not approve it.

I want to thank the commission for pursuing this amendment, regardless of opposition.

Sincerely, Joan DiMaio



REV-SLWP0000302.00003

COS0000528

From: [Diane Dobbins](#)  
To: [SCPlanning](#)  
Subject: Re: Wind farm future for Shasta County  
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 10:16:00 AM

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Thank you - yes, I hit send too quickly.

I want to add my voice in support of wind farms for this county. We moved here 5 years ago and are constantly beset with strong winds. Whether that's just the way it is in the north state or it's climate change is aside from the fact that we do have winds on a regular basis. That said, I think it is short sighted not to approve wind farms to produce electricity and reduce the burden on shasta county residents. I do not buy into conspiracy theories that they are killing all our eagles or that they cause cancer. The science does not back this up.

So here's my voice in support of wind farms and hope the planning commission is smart and doesn't succumb to people who just don't want change

Sincerely,  
Diane Dobbins

Sent from my iPhone

> On May 10, 2022, at 8:11 AM, SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)> wrote:

>

> Good Morning,

>

> There doesn't appear to be a message or an attachment to this email. If you had one of those, you might want to try this email again.

>

> Tracie Huff

> Administrative Secretary I

> Planning Division

> Shasta County Resource Management

> 1855 Placer Street STE 103

> Redding CA 96001

> (530) 225-5532 Phone

> (530) 245-6468 Fax

> [rcsourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:rcsourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us)

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Diane Dobbins <[diane.dobbins@gmail.com](mailto:diane.dobbins@gmail.com)>

> Sent: May 10, 2022 6:28 AM

> To: SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)>

> Subject: Wind farm future for Shasta County

>

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>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ron Dykstra](#)  
**To:** [Paul Hellman](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 11:26:28 AM

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Thank you for trying to contact me even going the extra mile with an email. I'm beginning to think there is some incompatibility between my phone and the county phone system. Seems I only have trouble getting county calls. Maybe I'll have to go to TMobile to troubleshoot the problem. Anyway, thanks again. Below are the comments I had planned to present today.

"Mr. Chairman and commissioners.

My name is Ron Dykstra and I'm a long time Shasta County resident. I had hoped to deliver these comments in person, but am recovering from Covid, so I've sent them in by email.

I hope you all had a chance to look at my written comments, which I transmitted on Monday. I respect the fact that you are concerned about the health and welfare of Shasta County residents, that is as it should be. But as I stated in my comments, no harm will come to our county if you don't adopt the proposed resolution. Potential adverse impacts from wind farms such as wildfires obviously can't occur until a project is built, if they occur at all. And your ability to reject a project is not affected if you don't adopt this resolution. One of you mentioned in the April meeting that one reason for these proposed ordinance changes was that it is too difficult to pick and choose which sites would be suitable for wind projects. But it's not necessary for the commission to do this picking and choosing ahead of time. Let the project proponents pick what they deem to be a suitable site along with proposed project mitigations, and then let them convince you of the project's merits, or not. You have the power to reject any future wind farm proposals if you deem them unsuitable. And that's the course you should take, reject this proposed amendment and then you can examine any future proposals on their merits. Don't completely eliminate the possibility of future wind projects that could benefit from better siting, improved technology, and additional mitigations.

Please don't adopt this resolution.

Thank you"

On Thursday, May 12, 2022, 09:26:34 AM PDT, Paul Hellman <[shellman@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:shellman@co.shasta.ca.us)> wrote:

Ron,

After unsuccessfully attempting to return your call at (530) 262-0271 several times, I thought I would send you an e-mail instead. There are no remote participation options available for Planning Commission meetings. I provided your May 9<sup>th</sup> comment letter to the commissioners. If you would like to provide any additional written comments, please send them to me and I'll provide them to the commissioners if they are received prior to around noon.

Thanks,

Paul Hellman, Director

Shasta County Department of Resource Management

(530) 225-5114

<https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm>

May 9 2022

Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103,  
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Proposed Amendment 22-0001 to Shasta County Zoning Code to Prohibit Large Wind Energy Systems, May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, Item R5

Dear Chair and members of the Planning Commission:

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, I transmitted comments regarding this issue for a group of which I am a member, North State Climate Action (NSCA). My comments today represent solely my views and may not reflect the opinions of NSCA.

My comments primarily address firefighting information you discussed at the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Other concerns were addressed in opposition comments transmitted for the April meeting. Fire fighting ability for any wind farm proposal should be analyzed on a site-specific basis, not on the assumption that any fire at any proposed county wind farm is un-fightable.

At the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, a commissioner stated incorrectly that wind towers “take out aerial attack.” CalFire’s Bret Gouvea addressed this issue at the Supervisor’s meeting last October (see the [recording of the meeting](#) at 8:19:39 to 8:28:00). Mr. Gouvea noted that the largest capacity aerial fire fighting equipment would not be usable close to wind towers such as at Fountain Wind, but other aerial fighting equipment would be. Mr. Gouvea stated “When you say a no fly zone, that’s a very broad term, I can’t agree to that.” And the configuration of wind towers in any project are critical to analyze fire fighting capabilities. In his comments Mr. Gouvea noted, as per the CalFire Tactical Air Unit, that “Obviously the placement and separation of those wind towers dictate the use of aircraft.” A future wind farm project would not be identical to Fountain Wind, and tower placement must be considered in assessing fire fighting ability, including aerial attack. If the Fountain Wind project had presented insurmountable fire fighting difficulties, it seems that Mr. Gouvea would have so stated. But he did not.

The commission should have been more precise in its framing of the firefighting issue. The commission characterized all of Shasta County as an “extreme” fire hazard zone. This is not how CalFire characterizes county fire danger. CalFire mostly regards the county as high and very high fire danger, not extreme. Also, approximately 12,000 acres in Shasta County are not designated either high or very high fire danger by the [CalFire Fire Hazard Severity Zones in SRA](#) map. This map does not provide fire hazard designations for those areas that are federal firefighting responsibility so this 12,000 acre value could be an underestimate. The [map that was shown at the April](#) meeting designates about 150,000 acres as less than a very high fire danger area, but does not further categorize those areas. As you know, the Fountain Wind project was in a very high fire danger zone in accordance with that map. Future wind projects may not be in that zone or even in a high fire hazard zone. [The County fire hazard map](#), although outdated, designated about 30,000 acres as moderate fire danger areas, and about 50,000 acres were unclassified. Over 300,000 acres were designated as high fire danger (as opposed to very high). I don’t know the property ownership or wind resources in areas designated as less than very high fire hazard, but the county will be prohibiting wind farms in lesser fire concern areas if the ordinance changes are implemented.

The commission displayed a map showing relatively recent fires in Shasta County. I don't understand the purpose of this graphic. We all know that the county has suffered from many severe fires in the recent past. But how is that relevant to vetting future wind farms for fire fighting ability near them? And future proposals would need an identical fire impact analysis as Fountain Wind, through CEQA.

The commission stated the issue of wind farms in Shasta County has been studied for the last 2-1/2 to three years, but is that the case? The commission has been primarily studying the Fountain Wind project, and that is not equivalent to studying wind projects in general in the county. The impacts of the Fountain Wind project are not necessarily relevant to a proposed future project. Site specific configuration, benefits, and impacts of future projects should be considered on a case by case basis.

The commission stated that everything about wind farms had been discussed, and no new information has been presented since the commission denied the Fountain Wind project in June. But a new proposed wind project, by its differing location and configuration, would necessarily include new information.

Lastly, a photograph of spent fiberglass turbine blades in a landfill was presented by the commission. I hate to see these blades not being recycled, but fiberglass is hardly a dangerous or hazardous waste that will result in groundwater or surface water contamination, or any other adverse outcome. Previously, formaldehyde had been used in turbine blade manufacture, but that is being phased out. Wind power is not yet a mature industry and land filling of spent turbine material is not a given. The reuse of spent fiber glass is now being studied and even implemented in certain cases. In addition, turbine blade manufacture using thermosetting resins is being studied. Thermoplastic resin blades would be recyclable, and also lighter and cheaper than fiberglass.

You should not recommend a county wide prohibition on wind farms, and you should analyze any future wind farm proposals considering their unique benefits and impacts. Shasta County can be a leader in supporting appropriate renewable wind projects. Before you make a decision on these ordinance changes, you must ask yourselves what is the harm done to the county if the changes are not adopted. The simple and correct answer is that there is no harm. If a project is proposed in the future, that is the time to examine its health, safety, and other environmental issues.

Please do not recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the proposed ordinance changes.

Thank you

Ron Dykstra

**From:** [Ginny Erickson](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Cc:** [Virginia Erickson](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Farm  
**Date:** Saturday, May 7, 2022 1:38:59 PM

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Please know that many of us approve of and have hopes that the wind farms will become a reality in Shasta County.

Virginia Erickson

**From:** [Daniel Fehr](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Farm Resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 10:52:23 AM

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**May 10, 2022**

Honorable Shasta County Planning Commissioners:

The purpose of this email is to vociferously oppose the pending resolution banning wind farms in unincorporated Shasta County, slated for consideration on May 12, 2022.

Support of this resolution represents the ultimate myopia, resulting in the limitation of an available renewable energy option. If humanity is to reverse this carbon-based climate crisis, Shasta County will require all available tools in our toolbox.

We implore the Planning Commission to oppose consideration of this asinine NIMBY and politically-motivated resolution.

Daniel & Susan Fehr  
1705 Verda Street  
Redding, California 96001

**From:** [Jon Ferguson](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 9:17:58 AM

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**Please vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014.**

**From:** [John Gable](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Industrial Wind Turbine Ban  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 8:52:47 PM

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I write this letter on behalf of all the residents of Moose Camp. First I would like to thank you for researching, deliberating and ultimately rejecting the Fountain Wind project. Second I commend you for proposing the ban on industrial size wind projects in the unincorporated areas of Shasta County. The obvious fire danger in the county along with the inability to fight wildfires from the air within and around turbine farms makes a ban the right thing to do. Los Angeles county banned industrial wind turbines in 2017 and San Bernardino county banned them in 2019. Wind energy production in California has barely increased in the past five years with very few new projects coming online. The future of industrial size turbine farms in California has moved from onshore to offshore. Shasta county should be proud of its ability to already provide enormous amounts of renewable energy to the county and clearly does not need to risk the lives of its residents by adding any more industrial size wind turbines. **Please vote yes on the large wind turbine ban.**

Sincerely,  
John Gable  
Moose Camp Board President

**From:** [Betty Harner](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Ban of Wind Farms  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 11:41:15 AM

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Shasta County Planning Commissioners:

What are the non-political justifications for banning wind farms in Shasta County? There are so many reasons for developing alternate sources of energy that we have to question this action.

All means of producing electricity seem to have drawbacks, from inconveniently unaesthetic (fields of oil pumps, acres of solar panels) to dangerous pollution (coal fired generators), and the windmills seem to be less offensive than these.

With the continuing drought our reliance on hydroelectric power may not be as assured as in the past, just when the higher temperatures we have been experiencing will mean an even greater need for electricity to power our air conditioners. Wind is one of the natural resources we have in Shasta County; it can provide energy with less pollution and, possibly, bring jobs to the area. Why not use it?

We ask that you consider the long-term effects of your actions today. Banning, or even just delaying the development of, energy production here may negatively affect all of us in the future.

Thank you,

Marion and Betty Harner

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Nancy Kirkland](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 5:30:12 PM

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Please recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the ordinance amending title 17, Zoning Plan to prohibit large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County.

As heard previously in public hearings for the Fountain Wind Project, pilot testimonies provided conclusive evidence that the turbine fields will prohibit aerial firefighting efforts.

Also, please consider that preparing the ground for turbines includes excavation, hauling components to the sites, much concrete is needed, roads will need to be put in for access, Miles of converter cables and stations would owe needed as well as thousands of gallons of diesel needed to set up and maintain them.

There are verified complaints about the nonstop noise that the turbines generate. Right now, half a million birds and bats are killed yearly by them. Some estimate that these deaths will increase to a million and a half deaths/year within 3 years. Also, consider that there the recycling of the rare-earth metals that are contained within the system have not been well studied. Unfortunately, while other components are recyclable, the blades themselves are not. These blades can reach 351 feet long and require large trucks to transport them. Currently, the life of a wind turbine is only 20 years.

The actual CO2 savings that these wind farms are designed to reduce are miniscule, due to the inherent nature of wind energy. There is a study by BENTEK (How Less Became More) which has found that ZERO scientific empirical proof provided by the wind industry to support their claims of consequential CO@ reduction. How much CO2 is generated by a half - two million pound concrete base for each turbine?

Turbines do not provide local jobs nor will they provide 'low cost' energy. Wind energy is much more expensive than anything we have now. Wind is 100% undependable as well. We can never depend on wind to blow consistently or within a certain range.

Energy sources should be abundant, reliable, and low-cost. Wind energy does not fit the need. Wind energy is our least sustainable form of energy-it depends on fossil fuel for construction, delivery, maintenance, and operation.

Please vote YES on Resolution No. 2022-014 on Thursday, May 12.

Thank you, Nancy Kirkland: a Shasta County resident

**From:** [Michael Knight](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:56:15 AM

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**I strongly ask you to vote Yes on Resolution No. 2022-014.**

We must do everything in our power ahead of time to reduce the danger of out-of-control wildfires and this area is ripe for one again. Having these huge towers up in this area is an invitation for disaster. Shasta county, not the corporation who owns the towers, will be the one who pays and suffers if wildfire occurs. Stay true to Shats county residents and keep us safe. Money can be garnered in safer ways than selling us out.

Thank you.

Michael Knight  
Round Mountain, CA

[knighttoday@gmail.com](mailto:knighttoday@gmail.com)

**From:** [Michael Koterba](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Windmill Ban  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 7:21:04 AM

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**Dear Council Members**

To simply ban windmills strikes me as a knee-jerk reaction that reduces the likelihood we will ever have clean sustainable renewable energy at a reasonable cost. We already are losing our ability to produce hydroelectric energy as we have more frequent and multi annual years of drought and reservoirs remain at levels too low to provide consistent electrical power generation. Solar and wind are the only suitable local alternatives. So actions such as this simply mean we will depend on others for our power generation. So who will that be? Companies such as PGE who will simply charge what they want to ensure their stockholders make a profit at our expense. For a county that continuously bristles at outsiders dictating how we live I find actions such as this to be simply demonstrating that we actually haven't got the will to control locally what we really need to be sustainability independent.

**From:** [Barbara Lawson](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Developments  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 6:00:12 PM

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Dear Madam or Sirs,

Please, **vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014.**

**Thank you**

**B. A. Lawson**

**Shasta County Resident**

**From:** [Jennifer Levens](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind energy ban  
**Date:** Saturday, May 7, 2022 3:51:58 PM

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**To Whom It May Concern:**

Be advised that given the number of trees you are allowing to be destroyed for new housing, you are essentially smothering this area. Now you want to ban a clean source of energy to further the demise of all living things. For shame. For Shame.

Jennifer Levens

**From:** [John Livingston](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Cc:** [Ron Dykstra](#)  
**Subject:** We should not ban large commercial wind farms  
**Date:** Monday, May 9, 2022 8:53:42 AM

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I have lived in Shasta County for over 55 years and am aghast at the actions of Shasta County Planning Commission and Supervisors. It is completely inappropriate for Shasta County to ban large scale wind farms completely. There is so much positive energy from wind farms and their ability to replace fossil fuels that we need to consider each project on a case by case basis. We would not ban pig farms outright even though they smell terrible and pollute the surface and groundwater. /we would do an analysis of each project and have community meetings and write an EIR and then decide. The Planning Commission should either throw out the proposed ordinance or modify it significantly to allow projects to be considered, analyzed and proper environmental analysis made before making a final decision.

Respectfully John Livingston Resident

## On the hope of a new year

by Amanda Gorman National Youth Poet.

May this be the day  
We come together.  
Mourning, we come to mend,  
Withered, we come to weather,  
Torn, we come to tend,  
Battered, we come to better.

Tethered by this year of yearning,  
We are learning  
That though we weren't ready for this,  
We have been readied by it.  
We steadily vow that no matter  
How we are weighed down,  
We must always pave a way forward.

*Excerpt from poem "New Day's Lyric."*

**From:** [Lisa MacDonald](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 5:13:42 PM

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Dear Planning Commission,

Please support the amendment to the zoning changes regarding large & small wind turbine developments. As a resident of Round Mountain and a member of the opposition to the Fountain Wind Project I ask you to vote YES on the resolution. I support the resolution not just because of my opposition to the project in my area but for all citizens of Shasta County that could be tremendously harmed by any such project.

Thank you.

Regards,

**Lisa MacDonald**  
**SUNSET REAL ESTATE**  
**2610 BECHELLI LN.**  
**STE# H**  
**REDDING CA 96002**

**530-941-9082 call/text**  
**530-221-9000 office**  
**SunsetRealEstate.com**

**CA DRE LIC #01400197**

From: [MaryAnn M](#)  
To: [SCPlanning](#)  
Subject: Zoning Amendment 22-0001, Agenda Item R5  
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 11:22:52 AM

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To: Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103,  
Redding, CA 96001

Comments on the proposed zoning ordinance Amendment 22-0001, Agenda Item R5, for the May 12, 2022 meeting of the Shasta County Planning Commission

In the staff report prepared for agenda item R5 the rationale supporting the proposed regulation of wind energy rests on fire safety issues and fire hazard maps of Shasta County unincorporated areas. The amendment then should apply to the high and very high fire hazard zones, not to the entire unincorporated area of Shasta County.

The scope switch from high and very high fire hazard zones to all of the unincorporated area of Shasta County was explained only by the relatively small portion of the unincorporated area that is considered to be a "moderate fire hazard area".

However, at the scale of the fire hazard maps, the small area of moderate fire hazard is in the neighborhood of 30,000 acres. Should this arbitrary choice to include the entire unincorporated area, dictate what can and cannot be done on those 30,000 acres?

It seems un-American to do so.

The amendment would serve appointed staff interests for expedience, perhaps. It would serve PG&E's interests to maintain their monopoly on energy, certainly.

As written, Amendment 22-0001 does not serve to allow a free market to solve energy and economic problems in Shasta County. The proposed ordinance amendment is an example of well-intentioned government workers substituting their paternalistic thinking for the principles that made our country great. This is government over-reach. And that is exactly how the future of Shasta County gets limited.

Sincerely,

MaryAnn McCrary

Redding resident & voter



MAY 9 2022

To: Shasta County Planning Commissioners  
Mr. Paul Hellman, Director of Resource Management

ADMINISTRATION

From: Citizens in Opposition to the Fountain Wind Project (CIO FWP)

Subj: Zone Amendment 22-0001, Regulation of Wind Energy Systems County-Wide (Zoning Text Amendment) - Agenda Item R5, on Planning Commission Agenda for May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

We fully support Resolution No. 2022-014, a resolution of the Shasta County Planning Commission recommending that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors approve Zone Amendment 22-0001, regulating small and large wind energy systems. We fully support the prohibition of large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County for the purpose of protecting and promoting the public health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of Shasta County.

This Commission discussed the need for zoning changes in January of 2022 and then directed Mr. Hellman's staff to put together the Resolution to present to the Supervisors for consideration. Resolution No. 2022-014 captures the items discussed and requested by the Commission. Mr. Hellman, provided all the necessary background, including CEQA law review, which supports the decision to implement the zoning changes listed within the proposed Zone Amendment 22-0001, enabling the protection of the communities across Shasta County most affected by these types of industrial developments. In addition to Mr. Hellman's Resolution 2022-014, Commissioner Kerns provided overwhelming support, via his Shasta County wildfire map, where wildfires have engulfed large areas across Shasta County. Commissioner Chapin, with decades of forestry expertise, also stated he does not believe that these types of industrial developments should be built within the forested areas. He stated these are the highest wildfire prone areas which could destroy trees and take decades or a hundred years or more to fully recover. Various experts provided overwhelming testimony, during the recent public hearings, that industrial wind turbine developments in forested areas only introduce unnecessary wildfire risk where wildfires could not be fought effectively within/surrounding the turbine fields. These expert testimonies were provided by at least 6 wildfire pilots whose careers have thousands of hours of wildfire fighting experience. One of those experts attended the Supervisor's public hearing for the Fountain Wind Appeal, while on a break from fighting the Dixie Fire, where he had also dropped retardant on the Fawn Fire.

The CIO FWP submitted 2,386 signatures to reject the Fountain Wind Industrial Development. As a point of reference the 2,386 signatures include some of the Shasta County residents from 22 unincorporated communities and three incorporated communities. We also continue to stand with over 4,000 Pit River Tribe members who presented their Resolution opposing such industrial developments. You witnessed numerous members who testified at both public hearings, stating how offensive these developments were. The spiritual native cultural impacts can only be understood by the tribal members and never captured through the CEQA or political process. The approval of Resolution No. 2022-014 support Zone Amendment 22-0001 will remove the fear and threats of future destruction, desecration, and erasing of native cultural ceremonies and scared sites for the Pit River Tribe and other surrounding Tribes.

This Commission denied the Fountain Wind Project in order to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community members. It has already been proven, even stated by the Fire Safety Representative from Shasta County, and addressed to Supervisor Moty, that the

preparation work and clearing for these industrial projects bring their own risk so it is as not as “clear cut” for fire safety through the environmental review process. As stated on numerous occasions, by various experts, these types of industrial developments, within the highest wildfire rated and forested areas are not acceptable.

We truly appreciate and commend your proactive efforts with these zoning amendments, just as has been done in other counties, which provide protections to the native cultural resources, environment, safety, protection, and general welfare of the community members. We believe time is of the essence since community members within the Big Bend area have stated developers continue to test the wind resources. We believe it will only be a matter of time before the County receives the next special use permit for an industrial wind development in our forested areas.

We humbly request you approve Resolution No. 2022-014, which supports the zone changes for Zone Amendment 22-001, prohibiting additional large scale industrial wind developments within Shasta County. The approval of Resolution No. 2022-014 will support the communities targeted, even for their marginal wind resources, and stop the emotional and financial trauma brought to the community members who are threatened by these industrial developments. As Commission Kerns correctly stated we were under threat for our communities, religious and cultural freedoms, livelihood, and way of life for over 2 ½ years by the Fountain Wind Project please don't allow that to happen to again other community members within Shasta County.

Sincerely,

Beth Messick-Lattin  
Chair, Citizens in Opposition  
to the Fountain Wind Project

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Subj: Resolution 2022-014 for Zone Amendments 22-0001, Agenda Item R5, for 12 May 2022

Dear Planning Commissioners,

We appreciate the effort Mr. Hellman, the Planning Department Staff and the Commission (especially Commissioner Kerns) have put into the Zone Amendment 22-0001 and ask that you “yes” on Resolution No. 2022-014. We concur with the research and statements provided in the staff report for the May 12<sup>th</sup> R5 agenda item. The Zone Amendment 22-0001 rightly seeks to ban industrial scale wind energy development in the unincorporated lands of Shasta County, it further accurately defines small scale wind energy systems in County Code and clearly defines how variations to allowed small wind energy systems would be considered by the County Planning Department.

This resolution was prompted by the information that came to light as a result of recent efforts involving the Fountain Wind project. Most importantly, the growing threat of wildfires in our area and the impediment to fighting them caused by industrial scale wind energy systems. Further evidence of the growing nature of the wildfire threat was also provided by staff and Commissioner Kerns in their presentation on the number of wildfires in Shasta County in the recent past. The most recent CalFire wildfire assessment Map was also presented in which over 95% of the County was rated “High” or “Very High” Wildfire Severity Zones. These facts along with the many other unavoidable environmental impacts of these types of developments to Native American culture and sacred sites, wildlife (including birds, bats, raptors, etc.), aesthetics, and many other impacted areas, are the reason the Fountain Wind project was denied and are the same reasons why this resolution should be adopted.

Some opponents to this Resolution have advocated that Shasta County residents should sacrifice the things they hold dear about Shasta County and put our lives at risk for the sake of meeting California’s Clean Energy goals. What these advocates don’t mention or seem to care about is that Shasta County already provides many times the clean energy it consumes through various other means including hydro, solar, biomass and wind. As County staff has correctly pointed out, California is currently advocating offshore wind energy development, not further onshore development, because offshore wind is much more consistent and abundant without the many issue related to onshore developments. If producing a given amount of clean energy is truly the goal, and it isn’t primarily about the money and making billion dollar corporations even richer, then those advocating for further wind energy development in highly fire prone Shasta County should instead be advocating and lobbying for the re-powering of existing antiquated wind energy systems in Highest Wind Resource areas such as Tehachapi, Altamont Pass, and other similar areas. There are thousands of wind turbines in those areas, and many of them are dilapidated or small and antiquated. We regularly drive through those areas and have seen 50 – 60 small turbines replaced by 5 – 6 large turbines and have read reports of similar revitalizations that produce several times the power of the old systems. The only reason it isn’t happening more often is because of the money, it’s not as profitable. Instead, companies like ConnectGen and others target areas like Shasta County because that’s where the profit is – NOT because it’s any cleaner or the wind resources are any better here, in fact Shasta County has marginal winds at best. They target areas like Shasta County because they can lease the lands cheaply, zoning regulations are generally poor or don’t address industrial wind energy systems and the Counties and the people are relatively poor and can be easily bought with community enhancement funds and tax revenue. Wind Energy advocates should work with State and National legislatures to incentivize repowering efforts and making it profitable for both owners and developers, instead of breaking virgin ground and exploiting other rural areas like Shasta County.

Ms. Mudge, the attorney who claimed the resolution needed to go through CEQA, stated that the ban would preclude 2,012 MW of potential wind energy, suggesting that it was a large part of the 3,500 MW additional clean energy California wanted to produce by 2025. Ms. Mudge states in a footnote (2) of her letter that she derived that very large number from considering ALL PRIVATE unincorporated lands within Shasta County that appear to have commercially viable wind speeds per the latest California Wind Energy maps. Her statement, along with the fact that wind energy data is still being collected within the County, is just further evidence that Industrial Wind Energy developers are still targeting Shasta County and that **action needs to be taken now** to save our County from becoming another Tehachapi or Altamont Pass. The unincorporated private lands she mentions that are of most interest to Wind Energy Developers is likely the various large tract owners like Shasta Cascade Timberlands and other timber companies. The 2,012 MW of wind energy she sites in Shasta County would be nearly 10-20 additional Hatchet Ridge or Fountain Wind size of developments. Such a plan would drastically change Shasta County and cause irreparable harm to the safety, peace, morals and general welfare of County residents forever. This is all the more reason why this resolution needs to be adopted now.

We believe this Commission can take this courageous positive step to responsibly provide the protections needed to support the health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the citizens of Shasta County for generations to come by approving Resolution No. 2022-014 and supporting the Zone Amendment 22-0001. We believe this commission has the expertise and experience needed to rightly approve this resolution. You have listened to extensive testimony regarding the impact industrial wind energy systems would have on our County, you know they pose an unacceptable risk to County residents, you know they are not the right kind of project for Shasta County. You know that the financial benefits do not outweigh the negative impacts and the risk to the lives of County residents. A "Yes" vote doesn't ban clean energy, it **just** bans industrial size wind energy systems that pose a risk to our way of life and our lives themselves. Shasta County has provided well above their fair share of clean energy and can continue to do so through other clean technologies without the risk to life and property and our general welfare.

There will never be another Commission within Shasta County who has more experience than you do right now concerning industrial wind projects. You know this is the right thing to do. Please vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014 and continue to work to advocate these Zone Amendment recommendations to the Supervisors for their approval. The time for positive change is now!

Best Regards,

Joseph and Maggie Osa

**From:** [Dana Silberstein](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Farms  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 8:50:23 AM

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**I am writing in opposition to a ban on wind farms. With water and power being in such peril we can no longer afford to reject genuine solutions.**

**We must remain open to alternative energy sources while at the same time controlling their location and aesthetic.**

**As much as we would like to we cannot continue relying on resources that are dwindling.**

**Thank you,**

**Dana Silberstein**

**From:** [asolid](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:14:43 AM

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From: [Kelly Tanner](#)  
To: [Paul Hellman](#)  
Subject: Comments May 12 Planning Hearing Kelly Tanner  
Date: Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:49:18 AM

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Director Hellman and Commissioners-

I want to write in support of the ordinance to ban industrial turbines in Shasta County and applaud your efforts to create planning that protects communities from the risk of wildfire. As you know, I have a Masters's Degree in Disaster and Emergency Management and wrote extensively on the Fountain Fire. While some disagree about my expertise on fire, others, such as Hellman, have called me an expert on this topic.

This ordinance is not unprecedented. Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties have passed similar ordinances. It's inappropriate that a lawyer who cannot even properly write a letter was able to use it at the last hour to stall this process simply to draw more opposition from outside groups and special interests.

This ordinance ensures the safety of this County. Why waste county money, time, and resources (or any applicants) when the end result is the same. This county is at very high risk for fire, and regardless of the project, you will put lives at risk and leave them with limited or no fire protection. This should not be acceptable in any community in Shasta County. Nor should the long drawn-out process of leaving citizens in fear of this for years.

I applaud your courage and example in leading as commissioners. Please do not let outside interest groups and foreign or out-of-state companies dictate your decision. The letter was a stall tactic. They have millions of dollars and can mobilize people easily to oppose this. Our local communities are completely unaware. Your ordinance, as written, still allows for turbines that are smaller scale and better for this County. Please pass the ordinance that you want and do not back down to these groups. Economically more industrial size projects like these will be counterproductive and unsafe, and the County will subsidize them with tax money and get none of the economic benefits developers promise these projects. Nor, will they receive the clean energy promised.

I do not have time to attach the document but please ask for it - I do have a document in my possession that the same environmental group in this County suggests this is not the type of project for this County but they have to do something rather than nothing. Remember the spotted owl.

Respectfully,  
Kelly Tanner





# SHASTA COUNTY

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## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1450 Court Street, Suite 308B  
Redding, California 96001-1673  
(530) 225-5557  
(800) 479-8009

Supervisor Joe Chimenti, District 1  
Supervisor Tim Garman, District 2  
Supervisor Mary Rickert, District 3  
Supervisor Patrick Jones, District 4  
Supervisor Les Baugh, District 5

## AGENDA

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**Tuesday, July 12, 2022, 9:00 AM**

The Board of Supervisors welcomes you to its meetings which are regularly scheduled for Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers on the second floor of the Shasta County Administration Center, 1450 Court Street, Suite 263, Redding, California. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated. If the meeting has not concluded by 12:00 p.m., the Board may recess for 30 minutes and reconvene at 12:30 p.m.

The agenda is divided into two sections: **CONSENT CALENDAR:** These matters include routine financial and administrative actions and are usually approved by a single majority vote. **REGULAR CALENDAR:** These items include significant financial, policy, and administrative actions and are classified by program areas. The regular calendar also includes "Scheduled Hearings," which are noticed and public hearings, and any items not on the consent calendar.

**TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** The Board of Supervisors provides the members of the public with a Public Comment-Open Time period, where the public may directly address the Board on any agenda item on the regular calendar and on the consent calendar and may also address the Board on any matter not listed on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. In addition, members of the public may also comment on any item on the consent calendar before the Board's consideration of the item and may also comment on any item on the regular calendar before or during the Board's consideration of the item. Members of the public may also address matters scheduled for public hearings at the time such public hearings are opened for comment.

Pursuant to the Brown Act (Govt. Code section 54950, et seq.), **Board action or discussion cannot be taken on non-agenda matters**, but the Board may briefly respond to statements or questions and, if deemed necessary, refer the subject matter to the appropriate department for follow-up and/or to schedule the matter on a subsequent Board Agenda.

Persons wishing to address the Board in the Board Room are requested to fill out a Speaker Request Form and provide it to the Clerk before the meeting begins. Speaker Request Forms are available at the following locations: (1) online at <http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/docs/libraries/bos-docs/docs/speaker-request-form.pdf>; (2) from the Clerk of the Board on the third floor of 1450 Court Street, Suite 308B, Redding; and (3) in the back of the Board of Supervisors Chambers. If you have documents to present for the members of the Board of Supervisors to review, please provide a minimum of ten copies. When addressing the Board in the Board Room, please approach the rostrum, and after receiving recognition from the Chair, give your comments.

**Each speaker is allocated three minutes to speak. Comments should be limited to matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board.**

Reasonable accommodations will be made for individuals with disabilities, with any doubt being resolved in favor of accessibility. If you would like to request an accommodation for accessibility, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (530) 225-5550. To better enable us to assist you, please contact us with your request at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

The Board wishes to ensure that business is conducted in an orderly fashion and that all have an equal opportunity to observe and participate in the proceedings. Each person who addresses the Board of Supervisors shall not use loud, threatening, profane, or abusive language which disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of the Board meeting. Any such language or any other disorderly conduct which disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of the Board meeting is prohibited.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Invocation: Pastor Jeremy Twombly, Cow Creek Community Church

Pledge of Allegiance: River's Edge Academy Youth

### **REGULAR CALENDAR**

Members of the public may comment on any item on the Regular Calendar before or during the Board's consideration of the item. Members of the public may also address matters scheduled for public hearings at the time such public hearings are opened for comment. Each speaker is allocated three minutes to speak.

### **BOARD MATTERS**

**R 1 Support Services-Personnel**

Approve a resolution which recognizes Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency Staff Services Analyst II, Erin Pillsbury, as Shasta County's Employee of the Month for July 2022.

**No Additional General Fund Impact                      Simple Majority Vote**

**R 2 Probation**

Adopt a proclamation which designates July 17-23, 2022, as "Probation Supervision Week".

**No Additional General Fund Impact                      Simple Majority Vote**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - OPEN TIME**

During the Public Comment Open Time period, the public may address the Board on any agenda item on the regular calendar and on the consent calendar and may address the Board on any matter not listed on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. Each speaker is allocated three minutes to speak.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following Consent Calendar items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. They may be acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion. Any Board member or staff member may request that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion and consideration. Members of the public may comment on any item on the Consent Calendar





Take the following actions: (1) Receive an update from the Acting County Executive Officer on County issues and consider action on specific legislation related to Shasta County's legislative platform; and (2) receive Supervisors' reports on countywide issues.

**No General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

R 4 **County Clerk/Elections**

Declare persons elected and nominated to County offices based on the certified results of the June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election.

**No Additional General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

R 5 **County Clerk/Elections**

Appoint an officer, other than the County Clerk, to appoint and supervise a special recount board or boards for the recount of the election for the Office of County Clerk, pursuant to Elections Code section 15625.

**General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

R 6 **Support Services-Personnel**

Adopt a resolution approving a successor Memorandum of Understanding with United Public Employees of California – Professional Unit and a Salary Resolution Amending the Salary Schedule for Positions in County Service.

**General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

R 7 **Support Services-Personnel**

Adopt a salary resolution amending the Salary Schedule for the Attorney Career Series positions of County Service.

**General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

## **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

R 8 **Resource Management**

**Building Division**

Take the following actions: (1) Find that the proposed ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the reasons stated in the ordinance; and (2) introduce and waive the reading of “An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta Amending Section 16.04.160 of Article II of Chapter 16.04 of the Shasta County Code” to eliminate the prohibition against the issuance of onsite wastewater treatment system permits and building permits due to ongoing violations of Chapter 12.12 or of Titles 15, 16, or 17 of the Shasta County Code.

**No Additional General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

## **OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

R 9 **County Service Area No. 1-County Fire**

Approve a retroactive renewal agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in the amount of \$7,858,481 for the administration of the Shasta County Fire Department.

**No Additional General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

### **SCHEDULED HEARINGS**

A court challenge to action taken by the Board of Supervisors on any project or decision may be limited to only those issues raised during the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the Board of Supervisors during, or prior to, the scheduled public hearing.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

#### **R 10 Public Works-County Service Areas**

Take the following actions on behalf of County Service Areas (CSAs): (1) Conduct a public hearing; and (2) adopt a resolution which: (a) confirms the Reports of Delinquent Fees and Uncollectible Debts for CSAs; (b) directs that the annual liens be placed on the tax bills for Fiscal Year 2022-23; and (c) approves a discharge of accountability for collection of unpaid water and sewer service accounts that have been deemed uncollectible.

**No General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

#### **R 11 Public Works-County Service Areas**

Take the following actions on behalf of County Service Areas (CSAs): (1) Conduct a public hearing; and (2) adopt a resolution which: (a) confirms the Annual Parcel Charge Reports for the various CSAs in the same amount as currently charged; and (b) directs that the parcel charges be placed on the property tax bills for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

**No General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

#### **R 12 Public Works**

Take the following actions on behalf of Permanent Road Divisions (PRDs): (1) Conduct a public hearing; and (2) adopt a resolution which: (a) confirms the Annual Parcel Charge Reports for the various PRDs in the same amount as currently charged, except where downward adjustments are noted in the Parcel Charges Summary; and (b) directs that the parcel charges be placed on the property tax bills for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

**No General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

### **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

#### **R 13 Resource Management**

##### **Planning Division**

Consider the following: (1) Conduct a public hearing; and (2) take actions relating to a proposed ordinance amending the Shasta County Zoning Plan, Title 17 of the Shasta County Code, identified as Zone Amendment 22-0001, to regulate small

and large wind energy systems within the unincorporated area of Shasta County, including finding that the proposed ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in the ordinance and either approving or denying the proposed ordinance or referring the proposed ordinance to the Planning Commission for further review.

**No Additional General Fund Impact**

**Simple Majority Vote**

**ADJOURN**

**REMINDERS**

Date:	Time:	Event:	Location:
07/21/2022	3:00 p.m.	Board of Supervisors Special Meeting: Tierra Robles Project Appeal	Board Chambers
07/26/2022	9:00 a.m.	Board of Supervisors Meeting	Board Chambers
08/02/2022	8:30 a.m.	Air Pollution Control Board Meeting	Board Chambers
08/02/2022	9:00 a.m.	Board of Supervisors Meeting	Board Chambers
08/11/2022	2:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting	Board Chambers

**COMMUNICATIONS** received by the Board of Supervisors are on file and available for review in the Clerk of the Board's Office.

**The County of Shasta does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its buildings, facilities, programs, services, or activities. The County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may be forwarded to the County's ADA Coordinator: Director of Support Services, Shelley Forbes, County of Shasta, 1450 Court Street, Room 348, Redding, CA 96001-1676, Phone: (530) 225-5515, California Relay Service: (800) 735-2922, Fax: (530) 225-5345, E-mail: [adacoordinator@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:adacoordinator@co.shasta.ca.us). Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and/or services for effective communication in the County's programs and services are invited to make their needs and preferences known to the affected department or the ADA Coordinator. For aids or services needed for effective communication during Board of Supervisors meetings, please call Clerk of the Board (530) 225-5550 at least 24 hours before the meeting. This notice is available in accessible alternate formats from the affected department or the ADA Coordinator. Accommodations may include, but are not limited to, interpreters, assistive listening devices, accessible seating, or documentation in an alternate format.**

The Board of Supervisors meetings are viewable on Shasta County's website at [www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/bos/meeting-agendas](http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/bos/meeting-agendas).

Public records which relate to any of the matters on this agenda (except Closed Session items), and which have been distributed to the members of the Board, are available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 1450 Court Street, Suite 308B, Redding, CA 96001-1673.

This document and other Board of Supervisors documents are available online at [www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/bos/meeting-agendas](http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/bos/meeting-agendas).

**REPORT TO SHASTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** July 12, 2022

**CATEGORY:** Scheduled Hearings - Resource Management-13.

**SUBJECT:**

Consider the following: (1) Conduct a public hearing; and (2) take actions relating to a proposed ordinance amending the Shasta County Zoning Plan, Title 17 of the Shasta County Code, identified as Zone Amendment 22-0001, to regulate small and large wind energy systems within the unincorporated area of Shasta County, including finding that the proposed ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in the ordinance and either approving or denying the proposed ordinance or referring the proposed ordinance to the Planning Commission for further review.

**DEPARTMENT:** Resource Management  
Planning Division

**Supervisory District No. :** All

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT:** Paul A. Hellman, Director of Resource Management, (530) 225-5789

**STAFF REPORT APPROVED BY:** Paul A. Hellman, Director of Resource Management

<b>Vote Required?</b>	<b>General Fund Impact?</b>
Simple Majority Vote	No Additional General Fund Impact

**RECOMMENDATION**

Take the following actions: (1) Conduct a public hearing; and (2) refer the proposed ordinance amending the Shasta County Zoning Plan, Title 17 of the Shasta County Code, identified as Zone Amendment 22-0001, to regulate small and large wind energy systems within the unincorporated area of Shasta County, to the Planning Commission for further review in light of the approval of Assembly Bill 205 by the Governor on June 30, 2022, which, among other provisions, removed local jurisdictional permitting authority for wind and solar photovoltaic facilities with a generating capacity of 50 megawatts or more and established the California Energy Commission as the permitting authority for such facilities.

**DISCUSSION**

**Assembly Bill 205**

On June 28, 2022, the Board of Supervisors authorized Acting County Executive Officer Patrick Minturn to submit a letter of opposition to Assembly Bill 205 (AB 205) to the California State Legislature, which, among other provisions, proposed to remove local jurisdictional permitting authority for wind and solar photovoltaic facilities with a generating capacity of 50 megawatts (MW) or more and to establish the California Energy Commission as the permitting authority for such facilities. For comparison purposes, the Fountain Wind Project proposed a maximum generating capacity of 216 MW and the Hatchet Ridge Wind Project has a maximum generating capacity of 102 MW. Despite opposition from Shasta County and numerous other local jurisdictions, the Legislature approved AB 205, which was signed by the Governor on June 30, 2022 and took effect immediately. Since the Planning Commission was unaware of AB 205 at the time they recommended that the Board approve the proposed ordinance prohibiting large wind energy systems within the unincorporated area of Shasta County, staff recommends that the proposed ordinance be referred to the Planning Commission for further review.

**Background of the Proposed Ordinance**

On November 10, 2021, by a 4-0 vote the Planning Commission directed staff to place on the Commission's December 9, 2021 agenda a report regarding options for regulating wind turbine developments and consideration of a resolution proposed by Commissioner Steven Kerns recommending that the Board of Supervisors adopt a moratorium on wind turbine developments pending further study and potential changes to the Shasta County Zoning Plan and General Plan. Subsequent to the issuance of a memorandum from Rubin E. Cruse, Jr., County Counsel, dated November 19, 2021, specifying that the County would not legally be able to justify a moratorium on large wind energy systems, Commissioner Kerns proposed an alternative resolution recommending that the Board of Supervisors take specific actions with respect to wind turbine developments, including initiating the process to amend the County Zoning Plan and General Plan.

On December 9, 2021, by a 4-0 vote the Planning Commission directed staff to prepare a resolution of intention to initiate an amendment to the Shasta County Zoning Plan to prohibit the development of large wind energy systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County.

On January 13, 2022, by a 4-0 vote the Planning Commission adopted attached Resolution No. 2022-003, a resolution of intention to consider amendments to the Shasta County Zoning Plan regulating large wind energy systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County. The findings of Resolution No. 2022-003 were as follows:

- The Shasta County Zoning Plan regulates small wind energy systems, which are defined as wind energy conversion systems consisting of a wind turbine, a tower, and associated control or conversion electronics used primarily to reduce on-site consumption of utility power.
- Private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems are regulated by the Zoning Plan as public utilities, which are permissible in all zone districts with the approval of a use permit.
- The adverse impacts of private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems, particularly with respect to wildfire, aerial firefighting, aesthetics, biological resources, and historical, cultural, and tribal resources, are of significant concern to many residents of Shasta County as evidenced by the numerous public comments received regarding the proposed Fountain Wind Project between 2019 and 2021.
- The vast majority of the unincorporated area of Shasta County is designated as being in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- The Shasta County Planning Commission is of the opinion that private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems are incompatible in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.
- Amendments to the Zoning Plan to define and regulate private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County, should be considered, in furtherance of the public necessity, convenience, and general welfare.

Through the resolution of intention, the Planning Commission directed the Department of Resource Management to propose amendments to the Shasta County Zoning Plan defining private wind energy systems not classified as small wind energy systems as large wind energy systems and prohibiting the development of such systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County.

On April 14, 2022, the proposed ordinance was presented to the Planning Commission. By a 5-0 vote, the Commission continued their consideration of the proposed ordinance to May 12, 2022 to enable staff to review and provide a written response to the letter from Anne E. Mudge of Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP on behalf of ConnectGen LLC (Fountain Wind Project applicant). This letter alleges that the proposed ordinance is not exempt from CEQA and that the County must prepare an environmental document in compliance with CEQA before approving the proposed ordinance. Staff's response to this letter is contained in the attached May 12, 2022 Planning Commission staff report under "Environmental Determination."

On May 12, 2022, by a 4-1 vote (with Commissioner Tim MacLean voting no) the Planning Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve the proposed ordinance.

#### The Proposed Amendment

The primary proposed amendments to Section 17.88.035, "Small wind energy systems," of the Shasta County Code consist of the following:

- One wind turbine would be permitted with an approved administrative permit and two or more wind turbines would be permitted with an approved use permit.
- Tower heights in excess of 65 feet on parcels between one and five acres and 80 feet on parcels greater than five acres would be permissible with an approved use permit.
- Small wind energy systems would only be permissible in order to reduce on-site consumption of electricity obtained via the electric grid or to enable on-site generation of electricity in lieu of connecting to the electric grid.

The proposed amendments would allow for the potential of more than one wind turbine on a property and for wind turbine heights in excess of 80 feet; such allowances would require approval of a use permit by the Planning Commission, or by the Board of Supervisors if the Planning Commission’s decision is appealed. Because small wind energy systems would be limited to electricity generation capacities that do not exceed on-site electricity consumption, proposed systems exceeding the limits permissible under an administrative permit are anticipated to be the exception rather than the rule.

Proposed amendments to Section 17.88.100, “Public uses, public utilities, and high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects,” of the Shasta County Code consist of precluding large wind energy systems from the provision allowing for public utilities to be permitted with an approved use permit.

Section 17.88.335, “Large wind energy systems,” is proposed to be added to the Shasta County Code. This section would define a large wind energy system as a wind energy conversion system that is not defined as a small wind energy system pursuant to subsection 17.88.035.A. of the Shasta County Code and would prohibit large wind energy systems in all zone districts of the unincorporated area of Shasta County.

**Public Comments**

Written comments both in support of and in opposition to the proposed ordinance have been received. These written comments are attached to this report.

**ALTERNATIVES**

The Board may elect to either approve the proposed ordinance or deny the proposed ordinance rather than to refer it to the Planning Commission for further review.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT**

County Counsel has approved the draft ordinance as to form. The County Administrative Office has reviewed this recommendation.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Approval of the proposed ordinance would not result in any additional general fund impact.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Description	Upload Date	Description
Planning Commission Resolution No. 22-003	6/24/2022	Planning Commission Resolution No. 2022-003
May 12, 2022 Planning Commission Staff Report	6/24/2022	May 12, 2022 Planning Commission Staff Report
Public Comments Received Through May 12, 2022	6/24/2022	Public Comments Received Through May 12, 2022
Planning Commission Resolution No. 2022-014	6/24/2022	Planning Commission Resolution No. 2022-014
Draft Ordinance	6/24/2022	Draft Ordinance

**Strikeout Version of Draft Ordinance**

**6/24/2022**

**Strikeout Version of Draft Ordinance**

**AB 205 Letter of Opposition**

**7/6/2022**

**AB 205 Letter of Opposition**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-003**

**RESOLUTION OF INTENTION OF THE SHASTA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE SHASTA COUNTY ZONING PLAN REGULATING LARGE WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Shasta has adopted a Zoning Plan identified as Title 17 (Zoning) of the Shasta County Code.

**WHEREAS**, the County of Shasta may make and enforce within its limits all local, police, sanitary, and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws.

**WHEREAS**, California Government Code section 65850 authorizes the County of Shasta to adopt ordinances that regulate the use of buildings, structures, and land and the intensity of land uses.

**WHEREAS**, the Zoning Plan regulates small wind energy systems, which are defined as wind energy conversion systems consisting of a wind turbine, a tower, and associated control or conversion electronics used primarily to reduce on-site consumption of utility power.

**WHEREAS**, private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems are regulated by the Zoning Plan as public utilities, which are permissible in all zone districts with the approval of a use permit.

**WHEREAS**, the adverse impacts of private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems, particularly with respect to wildfire, aerial firefighting, aesthetics, biological resources, and historical, cultural, and tribal resources, are of significant concern to many residents of Shasta County as evidenced by the numerous public comments received regarding the proposed Fountain Wind Project between 2019 and 2021.

**WHEREAS**, the vast majority of the unincorporated area of Shasta County is designated as being in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

**WHEREAS**, the Shasta County Planning Commission is of the opinion that private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems are incompatible in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

**WHEREAS**, amendments to the Zoning Plan to define and regulate private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County, should be considered, in furtherance of the public necessity, convenience, and general welfare.

Resolution No. 2022-003

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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Shasta County Planning Commission, pursuant to section 17.92.080(B) of the Shasta County Code, hereby intends to consider amendments to the Zoning Plan to regulate private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems in furtherance of the public necessity, convenience, and general welfare.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such proposed regulations consist of defining private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems as large wind energy systems and prohibiting the development of such systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Shasta County Department of Resource Management is directed to study the matter, propose amendments to the Zoning Plan, and submit any proposed amendments to the Shasta County Planning Commission, in accordance with section 17.92.080 of the Shasta County Code, for the Planning Commission's consideration and recommended action.

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: CHAPIN, KERNS, MACLEAN, WALLNER

NOES:

ABSENT: WALGAMUTH

ABSTAIN:

RECUSE:



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TIM MACLEAN, Chair  
Planning Commission  
County of Shasta, State of California

ATTEST:



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PAUL A. HELLMAN, Secretary  
Planning Commission  
County of Shasta, State of California

**REPORT TO THE SHASTA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

<b><u>PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:</u></b> <b><u>REGULAR AGENDA</u></b>	<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM #</b>
<b>ZONE AMENDMENT 22-0001 REGULATION OF WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS COUNTY-WIDE (ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT)</b>	<b>5/12/22</b>	<b>R5</b>

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Planning Commission:

1. Pursuant to a motion passed by the Planning Commission on April 14, 2022, open the public hearing for this continued item.
2. Close the public hearing.
3. Adopt a resolution recommending that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors: a) find that Zone Amendment 22-0001 is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the reasons stated in Resolution 2022-014; b) adopt the recommended findings listed in Resolution 2022-014; and c) introduce, waive the reading of, and enact an ordinance to amend the Zoning Plan of the County of Shasta identified as Zone Amendment 22-0001.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:**

On April 14, 2022, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing and continued this item to May 12, 2022 to enable staff to review and provide a written response to the attached letter from Anne E. Mudge of Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP on behalf of ConnectGen LLC dated April 13, 2022. This letter alleges that the proposed amendments to the Zoning Plan are not exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and that the County must prepare an environmental document in compliance with CEQA before approving the proposed amendments. Staff’s response to this letter is provided below under “Environmental Determination.” Additional public comments received to date are also attached to this staff report.

On January 13, 2022, the Planning Commission adopted attached Resolution No. 2022-003, a resolution of intention to consider amendments to the Shasta County Zoning Plan regulating large wind energy systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County. In this resolution, the Planning Commission found that:

- The Shasta County Zoning Plan regulates small wind energy systems, which are defined as wind energy conversion systems consisting of a wind turbine, a tower, and associated control or conversion electronics used primarily to reduce on-site consumption of utility power.
- Private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems are regulated by the Zoning Plan as public utilities, which are permissible in all zone districts with the approval of a use permit.
- The adverse impacts of private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems, particularly with respect to wildfire, aerial firefighting, aesthetics, biological resources, and historical, cultural, and tribal resources, are of significant concern to many residents of Shasta County as evidenced by the numerous public comments received regarding the proposed Fountain Wind Project between 2019 and 2021.
- The vast majority of the unincorporated area of Shasta County is designated as being in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- The Shasta County Planning Commission is of the opinion that private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems are incompatible in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.
- Amendments to the Zoning Plan to define and regulate private wind energy production systems not

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classified as small wind energy systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County, should be considered, in furtherance of the public necessity, convenience, and general welfare.

Through the resolution of intention, the Planning Commission directed the Department of Resource Management to propose amendments to the Shasta County Zoning Plan defining private wind energy systems not classified as small wind energy systems as large wind energy systems and prohibiting the development of such systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County, and to submit any proposed amendments to the Planning Commission for its consideration and recommended action.

The primary proposed amendments to Section 17.88.035, "Small wind energy systems," of the Shasta County Code consist of the following:

- One wind turbine would be permitted with an approved administrative permit and two or more wind turbines would be permitted with an approved use permit.
- Tower heights in excess of 65 feet on parcels between one and five acres and 80 feet on parcels greater than five acres would be permissible with an approved use permit.
- Small wind energy systems would only be permissible in order to reduce on-site consumption of electricity obtained via the electric grid or to enable on-site generation of electricity in lieu of connecting to the electric grid.

The proposed amendments would allow for the potential of more than one wind turbine on a property and for wind turbine heights in excess of 80 feet; such allowances would require approval of a use permit by the Planning Commission, or by the Board of Supervisors if the Planning Commission's decision is appealed. Because small wind energy systems would be limited to electricity generation capacities that do not exceed on-site electricity consumption, proposed systems exceeding the limits permissible under an administrative permit are anticipated to be the exception rather than the rule.

Proposed amendments to Section 17.88.100, "Public uses, public utilities, and high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects," of the Shasta County Code consist of precluding large wind energy systems from the provision allowing for public utilities to be permitted with an approved use permit.

Section 17.88.335, "Large wind energy systems," is proposed to be added to the Shasta County Code. This section would define a large wind energy system as a wind energy conversion system that is not defined as a small wind energy system pursuant to subsection 17.88.035.A. of the Shasta County Code and would prohibit large wind energy systems in all zone districts of the unincorporated area of Shasta County.

Environmental Determination: In the April 13, 2022 letter from Anne Mudge of Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP on behalf of ConnectGen LLC, it is alleged that the proposed amendments to the Zoning Plan are not exempt from CEQA and that the County must prepare an environmental document in compliance with CEQA before approving the proposed amendments.

Ms. Mudge states the proposed amendments would preclude the potential development of approximately 2012 MW of wind energy, preclude the displacement of 2,143,241 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year, thwart the California Public Utility Commission's (CPUC) Adopted Plan for procurement of approximately 3,500 MW of on-shore wind energy by 2025, thwart the State of California's goals contained in SB 100 requiring renewable energy and zero-carbon resources to supply 100% of electric retail sales to end use customers by 2045, undermine the goal of AB 32 to reduce statewide GHG emissions by 40% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels, and undermine the

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Shasta County Air Quality Management District's Regional Climate Action Plan.

While it is true that potential wind energy development in Shasta County would be significantly reduced if the proposed amendments are adopted, the proposed amendments would not result in any violations of state law or Shasta County regulations or policies. No citation is provided in the letter for the CPUC's adopted plan for the procurement of approximately 3,500 MW of on-shore wind energy by 2025 that is referenced; an online search for this plan did not yield any results. Regardless of whether such a plan exists, it would not be possible for a new wind energy development proposal to obtain the required utility interconnection agreement, land use entitlements, and grading and building permits and be constructed and operational by 2025. The state's renewable energy and GHG emissions reduction goals contained in SB 100 and AB 32 do not require that all types of renewable energy development be permitted in all 58 counties in California. Further, the proposed amendments do not conflict with the energy objectives and policies of the Shasta County General Plan, which do not specifically address wind energy. General Plan Objective E-2 is as follows:

"Increase utilization of renewable energy resources by encouraging development of solar, hydroelectric, biomass, waste-to-energy, and cogeneration sources."

Shasta County contains one industrial wind energy facility, the 101.2 MW Hatchet Ridge Wind Project, as well as numerous additional renewable energy facilities, including hydroelectric, biomass, and cogeneration. Prohibiting the development of additional industrial wind energy facilities will neither preclude the ongoing operation of existing renewable energy facilities nor the development of additional renewable energy facilities, including small wind energy systems, in Shasta County. Due to the significant variations with respect to factors including native vegetation, wildlife, topography, fire hazard severity zones, surface water resources, scenic resources, and tribal cultural resources, not all types of renewable energy facilities are equally suitable in all counties in California. California Government Code section 65850 authorizes California counties to regulate the use of land and the intensity of land uses. Furthermore, Article XI, Section 7, of the California Constitution enables California counties to adopt and enforce ordinances and regulations to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizens. The state's renewable energy and GHS emissions reduction goals do not infringe upon the ability of individual counties to regulate land uses, including renewable energy facilities, in any manner that it deems necessary to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare.

The Shasta County Air Quality Management District's Regional Climate Action Plan referenced in Ms. Mudge's letter was considered as a draft plan by the Shasta County Air Pollution Control Board in 2012 but was never adopted; therefore, it is not possible for the proposed amendments to undermine this unadopted draft plan.

Ms. Mudge's letter does not contain facts or evidence which adequately support the claim that prohibiting the development of additional large wind energy systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County has the potential to result in significant adverse impacts on the environment. One point of fact in support of this conclusion is that the ability to develop various types of renewable energy facilities within the remaining 57 California counties would be unaffected by the proposed amendments to the Shasta County Zoning Plan. With respect to the future development of wind energy facilities, it is important to recognize a recent significant shift in California law. On September 23, 2021, Governor Newsom signed into law AB 525 which directs state agencies to develop a strategic plan for off-shore wind resources in California. This legislation requires the California Energy Commission to evaluate and quantify the maximum feasible capacity of off-shore wind on or before June 1, 2022 and to establish off-shore wind planning goals for 2030 and 2045, including mapping out near-term infrastructure improvements needed to accommodate off-shore wind energy facilities, in order to achieve the state's renewable energy goals. The importance of on-shore wind energy facilities in meeting the state's renewable

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energy goals will likely be significantly diminished due to the ability to develop off-shore wind energy facilities in the near future.

Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines contains the following questions that must be considered when determining whether a discretionary proposal has the potential to result in a significant adverse impact on the environment:

VI.b. Energy: Would the project conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

VIII.b. Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Based upon the evidence and analysis presented above, it can be seen with certainty that the proposed amendments would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency or with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. It can likewise be seen with certainty that the proposed amendments would not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. Therefore, the determination that the proposed ordinance is not subject to CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15060(c)(2) as specified in the proposed ordinance is valid and defensible.

**ALTERNATIVES:** The following alternatives are available:

1. Recommend that the Board approve Zone Amendment 22-0001 with revisions.
2. Continue the public hearing to request additional information.
3. Do not adopt the draft resolution, in which case the draft ordinance would not be considered by the Board of Supervisors.

**CONCLUSION:**

Staff is of the opinion that the proposed ordinance supports the public necessity, health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the citizens of Shasta County.



PAUL A. HELLMAN

Director of Resource Management

PAH/trh/All Districts

Copies: Project File

Attachments: Letter from Anne E. Mudge of Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP dated April 13, 2022  
Additional Public Comments  
Planning Commission Resolution No. 2022-003 (Resolution of Intention)  
Draft Resolution No. 2022-014  
Draft Strikeout Ordinance  
Draft Ordinance



**Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP**  
50 California Street, Suite 3200  
San Francisco, California 94111-4710  
P: 415.262.5100 F: 415.262.5199

Anne E. Mudge  
415.262.5107  
amudge@coxcastle.com

April 13, 2022

Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103,  
Redding, CA 96001

*Re: Proposed Amendments to Shasta County Zoning Code to Prohibit Large Wind Energy Systems*

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning Commission:

This firm represents ConnectGen LLC. ConnectGen LLC is a leading developer of renewable energy with projects throughout the United States. I am writing about the proposed amendments to Shasta County's zoning code (Zone Amendment 22-0001) which, if approved, would prohibit "private wind energy production systems not classified as small wind energy systems" (also referred to as "large wind energy systems") in almost all areas of unincorporated Shasta County. The Planning Commission is scheduled to hear this item at its April 14, 2022 regularly scheduled meeting.

**Poor Public Policy.** There are compelling policy reasons why Shasta County should not adopt the proposed zoning code amendments:

- Large wind energy systems can safely and compatibly be developed in Shasta County, including in areas of high fire risk.
- Shasta County 's professional planning staff recommended approval of both the Hatchett Ridge and Fountain Wind Project because they determined, based on substantial and highly credible evidence that, properly designed and mitigated, large wind energy systems are compatible with high fire risk lands and are not detrimental to health, safety, peace, morals, comfort and general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood or be detrimental or injurious to property or improvements in the neighborhood or to the general welfare of the County.
- No wildfires have resulted from the construction and operation of the Hatchett Ridge project, which has been operational for over 10 years. There is simply no basis to conclude that other wind projects will cause wildfires.
- Small wind energy systems do not supply electricity to the retail market and do appreciably reduce carbon emissions on regional or statewide scale
- Large wind energy systems are a critical part of how California plans to address climate change, which will help reduce wildfire risk.

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- Electricity produced from large wind energy systems displaces carbon emissions from fossil fuel power plants.
- Large wind energy systems create jobs and substantial tax benefits for Shasta County.
- Under the existing zoning code, the County can already carefully consider individual large wind energy systems on their merits through the conditional use permit process.

**Violation of CEQA.** In addition to these policy reasons, there are legal reasons the County should not proceed with the proposed amendments. Based on the current record, adoption of these zoning changes without environmental review would violate the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code section 21100 et seq. Unless a project is exempt, CEQA requires an agency to conduct an environmental review to determine whether a project may have a significant effect on the environment. *Muzzy Ranch Co. v. Solano County Airport Land Use Commission* (2007) 41 Cal. App. 4th 372 at 380-381.) A "[s]ignificant effect on the environment" means a substantial, or potentially substantial, *adverse change in the environment.*" Public Resources Code section 21068, italics added.) The Guidelines define "[s]ignificant effect on the environment" as "a substantial, or potentially substantial, *adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project including land [and] . . . flora . . .*" (Guidelines, § 15382, italics added.)

Draft Resolution 2022-013 claims that Zone Amendment 22-0001 is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15060(c)(2) since "it can be seen with certainty that this ordinance will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment." But this exemption -- known as the "common sense exemption" -- does not apply here for the reasons stated below. Before it can approve these amendments, the County is therefore required to prepare an environmental document in compliance with CEQA.<sup>1</sup>

In its entirety, CEQA Guidelines section 15061, subdivision (b)(3) provides: "(b) A project is exempt from CEQA if: [¶] . . . [¶] (3) The activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA."

The common sense exemption can be relied on only if a factual evaluation of the agency's proposed activity reveals that it applies. *Davidson Homes v. City of San Jose* (1997) 50 Cal. App. 4th 106 at 114. The agency invoking the exemption has the burden of demonstrating that it applies. *Id.* at p. 116. Further, it applies only when it is *undisputed* that a project will enhance rather than degrade existing environmental conditions. *CREED-21 v. City of San Diego* (215) 234 Cal. App. 4th 488, 512.

As recognized by the leading treatise on CEQA (see Kostka & Zischke, *Practice under the Environmental Quality Act*, CEB, section 5.112) certain projects ostensibly adopted to protect or

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<sup>1</sup> As a threshold matter, the proposed amendment of the zoning ordinance clearly constitutes a "project" subject to CEQA. The staff report makes no argument that the amendment is not a project and immediately addresses the second tier of analysis—whether the project is exempt from CEQA under the commonsense exemption.

## Regulation of Large Wind Energy Systems

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improve the environment can have collateral effects on the environment that preclude application of the exemption. As a result, agencies cannot simply assume that measures intended to protect the environment are entirely benign. For example, the court in *Dunn-Edwards Corp. v. Bay Area Air Quality Management District* (1992) 9 Cal. App. 4<sup>th</sup> 644 overturned amendments to air district regulations designed to reduce the amount of volatile organic carbons (VOCs) in paint and other architectural coatings for failure to comply with CEQA. Because there was evidence that the new regulations would require lower quality products that would result in a net increase in VOC emissions, an exemption under 14 Cal Code Regs §15061(b)(3) was held to be improper. See also *Muzzy Ranch Co. v. Shasta County Airport Land Use Commission*, *supra*, 41 Cal. App. 4<sup>th</sup> 372 at 380-381 (displacement of development pressure can be environmental impact, but common sense exemption applied to airport land use plan but chiefly because it kept preexisting designations in place); *Wildlife Alive v. Chickering* (1976) 18 Cal. 3d 190 (Fish and Game Commission action setting fishing and hunting seasons has potential for both beneficial and adverse effects on survival of certain species); *Building Code Action v. Energy Resources Conserv. & Dev. Comm'n* (1980) 102 CA 3d 577 (adoption of energy conservation regulations establishing double-glazing standards for new residential construction could have significant impact on air quality as result of increased glass production).

Here, the County's zoning code currently allows wind energy generation projects as a "public utility" in any zoning district with a conditional use permit. As in the *Dunn-Edwards* case and in stark contrast to the *Muzzy Ranch* case (which merely maintained existing zoning regulations and did not change them), the amendments here propose a prohibition on large scale wind energy in the vast majority of the unincorporated area of Shasta County where they are currently conditionally allowed. Draft Resolution 2022-013 defends the application of the common sense exemption on the ground that the prohibition would potentially reduce wildfire risk and reduce biological and other impacts *in the County*. However, the Resolution fails to address or acknowledge the indirect but very real adverse regional and statewide impacts of precluding the potential development of approximately 2012 MW of emissions-free wind energy in Shasta County.<sup>2</sup> Precluding the development of these wind energy projects could result in a lost opportunity to displace 2,143,241 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year, the equivalent of removing 461,802 gasoline powered passenger vehicles driven for one year<sup>3</sup> from the road as well as thwart the California Public Utility Commission's Adopted Plan for procurement of approximately 3500 MW of on-shore wind by 2025. This prohibition would also thwart the State of California's goals contained in SB 100 requiring renewable energy and zero-carbon resources to supply 100% of electric retail sales to end use customers by 2045. It would also undermine the state's goal of reducing GHG emissions by 40% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels under AB 32. A prohibition on all large wind energy systems in Shasta County would also undermine the Shasta County Air Quality Management District's Regional Climate Action Plan

<sup>2</sup> This figure is derived from the number of acres of private land in the unincorporated part of the County where wind speed would be commercial (above 6 m/s) based on California Energy Commission and National Renewable Energy Laboratories wind maps, then assuming 80 acres per MW.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator>

Regulation of Large Wind Energy Systems

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which reduce community GHG emissions to 49% below 2008 levels by 2035 (i.e. 291,340 MT CO<sub>2</sub>/yr.) This loss of clean electricity from large wind energy systems that could be produced in Shasta County could lead to higher levels of carbon emissions for a longer period, a diminished capacity to slow global warming and potentially higher risk of wildfires.

Furthermore, the conclusion that the prohibition would potentially reduce wildfire risk ignores the record from the Fountain Wind conditional use permit which demonstrated that project actually enhanced the fire safety in the area of the project. The record also demonstrated that any impacts to wildlife would be mitigated under CEQA and applicable state and federal laws.

Given these potential results, it is abundantly clear that it *cannot be seen with certainty* that there is *no possibility* that the proposed amendments to the zoning code may have a significant effect on the environment. To the contrary, the proposed amendments *quite possibly* may have an adverse impact on the state's ability to address climate change, fight wildfires and reduce carbon emissions, all of which could result in significant adverse impacts on the environment. As such, the common sense exemption does not apply and the County must prepare an environmental analysis in compliance with CEQA before approving such amendments.

**Inconsistent with the General Plan.** Approval of these amendments would also be in violation of state planning law requiring that the zoning code be consistent with the General Plan. Shasta County's General Plan recognizes that renewable energy, including wind energy, are important features in the County's energy future. An outright prohibition on large wind energy systems would be inconsistent with the stated importance of renewable energy, including wind energy in the County's General Plan:

“Renewable energy resources, coupled with strategies to encourage conservation, are important features in the Shasta County region's energy future. In 2002, the Governor signed the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), SB 1078. This standard requires an annual increase in renewable generation equivalent to at least 1 percent of electricity sales, with an aggregate goal of 20 percent by 2017. Currently renewable generation accounts for 11 percent of retail sales. California's Energy Action Plan has targeted a goal of 20 percent by 2010. 21 Achieving the RPS could displace 20,000 tons of nitrogen oxide (Nox) emissions from gas and coal-fired generation in the Western states over the 2004-2013 time frame. Also, the use of renewable resources can reduce carbon dioxide and greenhouse gas emissions associated with global climate change. Generation of electricity from renewable energy rather than by fossil fuels can reduce CO<sub>2</sub> and other green-house gas emissions associated with climate change. Model simulations in one instance indicate that achieving the RPS by 2010 could reduce annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by about 62 million tons by 2013. This is equivalent to estimated annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from more than 6 million automobiles. Geothermal energy provides the largest portion of renewable electricity in California where such generation is by systems 30 MW or smaller. Renewable energy (excluding small and large hydropower) provided four percent for the region's energy production in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) states. If renewable energy could be used to replace the estimated growth in gas-fired generation from 2004- 2017, the total amount of

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renewable energy by 2017 would reach about 38 percent. This would make renewable energy the largest source of electricity generation in California. Overall, existing renewable energy facilities utilize a small proportion of the technical potential for renewable energy in California.

Important renewable energy sources in Shasta County include solar, hydroelectricity, biomass, and cogeneration. There is also potential for development of wind, geothermal, and waste-to-energy as alternative sources of energy production. Technology improvements associated with renewable energy development will be a key to its rate of success. Renewable energy sources can be most effectively applied for space heating and cooling and for electrical generation. For the oil dependent transportation sector, renewable energy solutions involve developing marketable alternative fuel types as the cost of oil rises. Collectively, renewable energy offers a diverse and virtually inexhaustible resource, opportunities for developing new base industries, and all at substantially less environmental cost.

**Conclusion:** The proposal to prohibit all large wind energy systems in almost all of Shasta County based on the common sense exemption would violate CEQA, be poor public policy, and violate state planning and zoning laws requiring consistency with the General Plan. The County already has the ability to use its discretion to allow or disallow specific projects under the conditional use process. For all of the above reasons, we urge the Planning Commission to reject the proposed amendments.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anne E. Mudge". The signature is cursive and fluid.

Anne E. Mudge



## North State Climate Action

Dear Commissioners:

My organization, North State Climate Action (NSCA) is a group of volunteers in California's far North State region. Our mission is to **promote solutions addressing the climate crisis through education, collaboration, and action in our communities**. To avoid increasingly dire effects of climate change, including drought, deadly heat waves and worsening fires, we must cease reliance on fossil fuels as quickly as possible with carbon free energy such as wind power. Wind power has the advantages of limiting climate change, improving air quality, and also significantly reducing water demands that fossil fuel power creates. Additionally, wind power technology is still evolving, and future projects may be able to provide environmental mitigations not available today. Please consider the following comments as you evaluate Zone Amendment 22-0001. Ordinance changes proposed in the amendment prohibit all "large" wind power projects in the unincorporated county regardless of specific project details. Don't propose enactment of a blanket prohibition on a viable, clean and renewable power source in Shasta County.

Wild fire potential may be the most contentious issue for siting wind farms. We have arranged our comments to address fire concerns first. Then we discuss each of the impacts that were determined to be significant but unavoidable in the Fountain Wind project, as those issues will be similar in any future wind power proposal. We then discuss the general plan objectives addressed by staff in their report.

### **Wildfire**

The Fountain Wind EIR deemed fire risk less than significant with proposed mitigations. Similar or additional mitigation would be implemented for any new proposed project. Enhanced fire suppression techniques during construction, operation, and decommissioning could be considered for future proposals, such as:

- Greater fuel free buffer zones surrounding roads and towers;
- Enhanced maintenance for wind tower mechanical, electrical and fire suppression equipment;
- Enhanced maintenance of transmission lines including those off site;
- Burying transmission lines;
- Curtailment of turbines during extreme fire conditions;
- Additional removal of flammable debris along off-site roadsides. This was proposed in the Fountain Wind project, but the scope was apparently not considered adequate by the Supervisors;
- Changes in construction materials. In the Hatchet Mountain project, turbine nacelles were constructed of steel, instead of fiber glass, providing enhanced fire protection.

Also note that the access roads and site work in any wind farm project will provide fire breaks, aiding fire suppression, as noted in the Fountain Wind EIR and by Cal Fire.

The wind turbines at Hatchet Mountain have never experienced a fire, and they have been in operation for 12 years. It's estimated by a wind trade organization that a wind tower has only a [1/2000 to 1/15,000 chance of a fire per year](#). [This review](#) estimated chances of fire to be even lower. These estimates include data from many older towers without cutting edge technology such as automatic nacelle fire suppression.

A major concern expressed by the public, commissioners, and supervisors regarding the Fountain Wind project was the difficulty of aerial fire fighting near the turbines, and that's a valid issue. As indicated by Bret Gouvea with CAL FIRE at the October 26 Board of Supervisors meeting, although the difficulty of fire suppression adjacent to a wind tower is an important consideration, these types of decisions are part of the hazards considered in any fire fighting plan. Mr. Gouvea also noted that all firefighting situations are unique. CAL FIRE could have spoken against the Fountain Wind project as proposed, but did not do so. Additionally, the specific layout of wind towers in a project is important in any analysis of aerial firefighting potential. For example, a linear layout of towers similar to the Hatchet Mountain project would likely simplify aerial fire fighting.

With all the mitigation discussed above, the risk of destructive fires is substantially reduced. Not eliminated, which is impossible, but substantially reduced. In accordance with the EIR for Fountain Wind, fire impacts were reduced to less than significant with mitigation (as

noted, mitigation could be enhanced in future projects) and planning staff concurred with that analysis.

Evaluation of wind project benefits should take into account that the potential loss of life from wind power during its construction and operational life is significantly less than from fossil fuel power. [One source](#) indicates that the number of deaths from fossil fuel power generation (due to fuel extraction, transport, refining, construction, distribution and operation) is almost 150 times that of wind power. In accordance with that information, for a project similar to Fountain Wind there is a 50% chance of one death over a 40 year operation period, versus the potential of 69 deaths from fossil fuel power (primarily due to air pollution). Potential deaths from wild fires sparked by wind power would increase the chance of wind farm deaths to a degree, but it's very unlikely to be comparable to fossil fuel power mortality. It's clear that fossil fuel power kills.

Most of the County is in a high or very high potential fire area according to Figure FS-1 of the General Plan (currently outdated according to staff). All construction activities, well as human occupation in those areas, have the potential to ignite fires. That, however, has not led to considering a prohibition of construction of homes and other buildings anywhere in Shasta County. That risk is accepted. If that type of building can continue, why not wind farms with appropriate mitigations? Additionally, since figure FS-1 of the general plan is not current, and the county is working on updating it, these ordinance changes are premature. Also note that Figure FS-1, although outdated, contains limited areas not considered either high or very high fire risk.

#### Biological Resources.

There is no doubt that wind towers cause bird and bat mortality. Wind projects should be sited properly and be required to minimize bird and other wildlife losses. Impacts to biological resources were thoroughly discussed in the Fountain Wind EIR and any proposed wind farm project would require the same process. Note that climate change presents a much greater potential for individual and species loss than wind farms. [According to the United Nations](#) climate change may contribute to the extinction of 20–30 percent of all species. [According to the Audubon Society](#), "If climate change continues apace, hundreds of North American bird species' ranges will shrink by at least half by 2100."

Both the [Audubon Society](#) and the [American Bird Conservancy](#) support properly sited wind power. State and Federal departments of Fish and Wildlife made no comments on the final Fountain Wind EIR. Future wind projects could be further constrained to provide additional bird and bat protection, as well as other wildlife. Some promising methods for additional bird fatality reduction include [painting of towers, or even painting one blade of the turbine black](#), and [use of radar](#) to detect approaching flocks so turbines can be temporarily shut down. One

objection raised against Fountain Wind was the adequacy the post-construction bird mortality monitoring. That objection could be overcome by expanding such monitoring beyond the 3 years proposed in that project, perhaps for the life of a project. **Studies have also been performed using dogs** to better spot birds killed in tower collisions. Compensatory mitigation is another option to preserve bird populations. This mitigation could consist of earmarking land not on the wind farm proper as increased habitat for species of concern, or a project to minimize bird mortality from other causes, such as **power transmission that is not a part of the proposed project**. Lastly, Fountain Wind proposed that individual turbines could be removed if they were shown to cause unacceptable bird mortality. Such a condition could, and should, be included in any future wind farm proposal.

The issue of wildlife protection in wind projects also must be compared to wildlife impacts from fossil fuel power generation that wind can replace. **One study** estimated that fossil fuel power resulted in the loss of 10-15 times as many birds as wind power, on a per kilowatt-hour basis. This mortality data included older wind farms, which are more likely to cause bird kill than newer towers.

### **Aesthetics**

Aesthetics tends to be a bit subjective, so we are not going into this issue in detail. It should be noted, however, that wild fires exacerbated by climate change will continue to severely impact the beautiful view sheds of the county.

### **Cultural and Tribal Resources**

Similar to other comments above, it's not possible to discuss this issue in detail until there is a project to analyze. Any project in Shasta County could impinge on Native American concerns and cultural resources, but that is not a given, and any necessary mitigation must be site specific.

Additional mitigations regarding this issue were proposed for Fountain Wind after the Planning Commission hearing, including providing access to areas the tribes considered significant to their cultural and religious practices. That same approach, or others, could be investigated if relevant to a new project.

### **Air Pollution**

The EIR found that impacts from PM10 emissions were significant and unavoidable, but recommended that the Planning commission adopt a statement of overriding considerations to allow the project. Future proposed wind farms would likely have similar issues, but the scope of those issues would depend on the size, location, and other specifics of the project.

**Compliance with General Plan Objectives as noted in the staff report.**

Following are the General Plan Objectives that were discussed in the staff report and thoughts on how those objectives do not necessarily preclude the construction of wind farms in the county.

**Objective FS-1 Protect development from wild land and non-wild land 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.**

The county can fulfill this objective by requiring appropriate mitigations specific to each wind project. It's not possible to adequately analyze a project for fire danger, or even whether it is in a very high fire danger zone, until there is a project to consider and fire hazard zones have been updated by the county. Note the objective does not propose a blanket ban on all projects in high fire danger zones in the county, and the benefits of wind power should be considered in fulfilling this objective. And, as noted above, there is no current consideration of preventing development except for wind farms.

**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.**

The entire county is not a scenic highway. There are many potential wind project areas adequately distant from the County's designated scenic highways to eliminate wind towers from their view shed. Prohibiting wind farms in the entire County due to aesthetic considerations of scenic highways is overkill. The commission may consider prohibiting wind farms within a prescribed distance of scenic highways, but that determination should again be evaluated taking into account the benefits of wind power. As also noted above, if the risk of wildfires due to relentless temperature increases from climate change continues, the scenic resources along these highways are likely to **burn, eliminating a major portion of their scenic value.**

**Objective CO-3 To guide development in a pattern that will respect the natural resource values of County lands and their contributions to the County's economic base.**

Harvesting of the wind resources of the county, which will contribute substantially to the county's economy, while helping to reduce green house gases and minimize climate change exacerbated wildfires (which degrade the aesthetic resources of the county with acrid smoke and burned timberland), seems to be a good fit for this objective. The Fountain wind project

has economically benefited the county, as noted by former supervisor Moty at the 26 October 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting, and future wind projects could bring similar benefits.

**Objective CO-4 To guide development in a pattern that will minimize land use conflicts between adjacent land users.**

We can certainly see that placing wind towers at a location where they would dominate the landscape of adjacent property owners could create a conflict. But these potential conflicts must be weighed along with the potential benefits of a wind farm to everyone in the county.

In conclusion, power generated with wind energy benefits everyone in the county, including indigenous populations, due to its mitigation of climate change's deleterious effects, reduction of air pollution and decreased water use. Even if a proposed wind project has significant impacts, impacts and benefits should be considered on a site specific basis to assess whether its benefits override those impacts.

Please do not recommend a blanket prohibition on wind farms in the county.

Thank you for the work you do and the opportunity to comment on these proposed ordinance changes.

Ron Dykstra



**Shasta  
Environmental  
Alliance**

P.O. Box 993777 • Redding, CA 96099 • [ecoshasta.org](http://ecoshasta.org)

April 13, 2022

Paul Hellman, Director of Resource Management  
Shasta County Planning Commissioners  
1855 Placer Street  
Redding, CA 96001

**RE: REGULATION OF WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS**

Dear Mr. Hellman and Shasta County Planning Commissioners

This letter is in reference to the proposed ordinance regarding the regulation of wind energy systems and the draft ordinance that you will be considering on your meeting of April 12, 2022.

First, we want to commend the Planning Commission for your thoughtful consideration and eventual denial of the Fountain Wind Project despite considerable support from construction, real estate and business interests in Shasta County and beyond. Due to fire danger in steep and forested terrain, wildlife habitat issues and the concerns of the Pit River Tribe, we too did not support the project.

We do have serious concerns about the draft ordinance you have before you for the following reasons:

**LARGE WIND ENERGY PROJECTS**

1. It is too broad, eliminating all of Shasta County from any large scale wind projects because of fire hazards ignores the many other sources of wildfires in Shasta County such as automobiles, both on and off highway; outdoor shooting ranges (BLM land near Keswick Dam has had many), gas powered equipment such as lawnmowers (Jones Fire 1999), and perhaps foremost are PG&E powerlines: arson is another common source of wildfires in Shasta County, including the recent Fawn Fire. The number of wildfires caused by wind farms is extremely small and much less than the threat of fire from the above stated reasons.
2. If wind farms are placed in terrain that is not steep nor heavily forested, aerial firefighting planes could still make fire drops. It would also be much easier to make a fire break.

3. These wind farm projects could be an important source of energy, jobs and taxable income for Shasta County and California.

#### SMALL SCALE WIND PROJECTS

This section is so limiting that it seems to have been written with the sole purpose of even preventing small scale wind energy from being developed in Shasta County, as if someone has a philosophical opposition to wind energy.

The primary problem with this section of the ordinance is that the height limit is 80 feet. This is way to small to catch higher winds that would make a wind turbine profitable. The Walmart Distribution Center south of Red Bluff near Gerber has a wind turbine that is 265 feet tall and provides 15 to 17% of the center's electricity needs. It has been in operation over 10 years and has not caused any fires to my knowledge. I have driven by this turbine many times and it does not detract from the aesthetics of the area.

Monterey County has allowed wind turbines in the Salinas Valley and a number of them have gone up in the area around Gonzales and Greenfield near Highway 101. The towers are up to 300 feet tall and are placed at the end of row crops in the area. While I enjoy the seeing the Coast Range as I drive up that highway, the wind turbines do not detract from the aesthetics. Plus, they give farming interests extra income from leasing out their land as they do to farmers across the United States. By passing this ordinance you could be denying farmers in the Fall River area the opportunity to supplement their farming income in the future.

With the new federal and state requirements mandating increased renewable energy sources, you would be limiting Shasta County from achieving many of these goals. While I'm sure the Shasta County Attorney's office has reviewed this ordinance for its legality, it seems like this is something that could motivate certain legislators to pass a statewide law banning extremely constrictive ordinances such as this one.

We urge you to reconsider this ordinance, it does not seem to have been thoroughly thought out and needs to be changed as noted above.

Sincerely,



David Ledger, President

**From:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**To:** [Paul Hellman](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Zone Amendment 22-0001 Comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022 8:01:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [Image001.png](#)

---

*Tracie Huff*

**Administrative Secretary I**  
**Planning Division**  
**Shasta County Resource Management**  
**1855 Placer Street STE 103**  
**Redding CA 96001**  
**(530) 225-5532 Phone**  
**(530) 245-6468 Fax**  
[resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us)



**From:** Doug Mandel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** April 12, 2022 9:08 PM  
**To:** SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)>  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 Comment

**⚠ EXTERNAL SENDER:** Do not follow links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Commissioners:

Power generated with wind energy benefits everyone in the county due to its mitigation of climate change's deleterious effects, reduction of air pollution and decreased water use. Even if a proposed wind project has significant impacts, impacts and benefits should be considered on a site-specific basis to assess whether its benefits override those impacts.

Please do not recommend a blanket prohibition on wind farms in the county.

Sincerely,

Doug Mandel

Redding, CA 96001

**From:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**To:** [Paul Hellman](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Zone Amendment 22-0001  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 7:54:44 AM

---

Tracie Huff  
Administrative Secretary I  
Planning Division  
Shasta County Resource Management  
1855 Placer Street STE 103  
Redding CA 96001  
(530) 225-5532 Phone  
(530) 245-6468 Fax  
[resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** MaryAnn M [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** April 13, 2022 5:13 PM  
**To:** SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)>  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001

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**Shasta County Planning Commissioners:** As a citizen of Shasta County since 2005, I am concerned that the proposed Zone Amendment 22-0001 regarding regulation of Wind Energy Systems County-Wide is overly broad and restrictive. There are large areas in Shasta County that are not in a high fire hazard zone. In these areas the most crucial objections to the Fountain Wind Project would have been moot. Also, mitigations for the impacts of wind farms are improving. We do need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, that have many negative impacts on the environment and our climate. Please do not commit the error of government over-reach in a County that is predominantly anti-Govenent already. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
MaryAnn McCrary  
5136 Bidwell Road  
Redding, CA. 96001



April 14, 2022

Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer Street, Suite 103  
Redding, CA 96001

Via electronic email

**Subject: Proposed Prohibition of Large Wind Energy Systems, Zone Amendment 22-0001)**

Dear Chair and Members,

Pattern Energy writes with significant concerns and opposition the proposed amendments to Shasta County's Zoning Code (Zone Amendment 22-0001), prohibiting wind energy systems in unincorporated Shasta County, where they are currently conditionally allowed.

As the owner of Hatchet Ridge Wind Project, Pattern Energy works to bring benefits to Shasta County. Hatchet Ridge Wind expects to generate more than \$30 million over the first 20 years of operations in tax payments benefiting the local region and schools.

The Hatchet Ridge Wind Community Benefits Program invests \$5 million in the local community through the Shasta County General Fund, the Burney-Fall River Education Foundation, and the Burney Regional Community Fund administered by the Community Foundation of the North State.

We want to continue to serve as stewards of the land as we work to provide reliable, low-cost power to Northern Californians, and we pledge to work with you on any future modifications to the project, including a possible repowering.

We understand Shasta County's independence and appreciation for the land and resources it provides to your local communities and hope to work with you in partnership toward a more reliable and affordable power grid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danielle", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Danielle Osborn Mills  
Senior Manager, External Affairs  
Pattern Energy



## California Wind Energy Association

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April 14, 2022

Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103  
Redding, CA 96001

*Via email*

### Re: Proposed Prohibition of Large Wind Energy Systems

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning Commission:

The California Wind Energy Association (CalWEA)<sup>1</sup> writes with alarm regarding the proposed amendments to Shasta County's zoning code (Zone Amendment 22-0001) that are before you today. If approved, these amendments would prohibit large wind energy systems in almost all areas of unincorporated Shasta County where they are currently conditionally allowed.

CalWEA urges the Planning Commission to reject the proposed amendments outright. At a minimum, the County must prepare an environmental analysis in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) before considering such amendments.

Wind energy will play a critical role in meeting California's climate change mitigation goals aimed at the root cause of the drought and wildfires that are wreaking havoc in California. A study performed for the California Energy Commission looking at means of achieving California's energy-decarbonization goal<sup>2</sup> shows that dramatic growth in wind energy will be required to achieve that goal most affordably while ensuring the reliability of the grid.<sup>3</sup> The California Public Utilities Commission's resource plan includes over 3,500 megawatts

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<sup>1</sup> CalWEA is a 20-year-old trade association representing wind energy and related companies focused on the California market, primarily including owners, operators and developers of wind energy projects located in California and in waters off the California coast.

<sup>2</sup> SB 100, signed into law in September 2018, establishes as state policy that zero-carbon resources are to supply 100% of California retail sales by December 31, 2045.

<sup>3</sup> California Energy Commission, "Deep Decarbonization in a High Renewables Future," at Figure 14. CEC-500-2018-012. June 2018. (Available at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/2018publications/CEC-500-2018-012/CEC-500-2018-012.pdf>.) This study shows that, absent a large amount of wind energy from within or outside of the state to balance solar resources, decarbonization will come at an added cost of nearly \$20 billion per year. Also see

April 14, 2022  
Page 2

(MW) of additional wind energy delivered to the Cal-ISO grid by 2025,<sup>4</sup> a 60 percent increase in the amount of wind energy generation currently operating in California. Realizing the state's clean energy goals, of which in-state wind energy is a critical component, will require counties to recognize, in their planning and permitting decisions, that wind energy projects must be part of the solution to the most pressing environmental problem of our time.

Shasta County's professional planning staff have previously found that two properly designed large wind energy projects are compatible with high-fire-risk lands and are not detrimental to health, safety, and general welfare of neighboring persons. The Hatchett Ridge wind project has been safely operating for over 10 years. At the same time, wind energy projects bring important economic benefits to local communities, including jobs and tax base.

For these reasons, CalWEA urges the Commission to reject the proposed amendments. At a minimum, as explained in a letter submitted to the Commission on this matter by Cox Castle & Nicholson LLP (dated April 13, 2022), the County must prepare environmental review documents in compliance with CEQA before considering this proposal. The collateral impacts on the environment from the proposed amendments could include failure to achieve California's climate change mitigation plans.

Sincerely,



Nancy Rader  
Executive Director

---

<sup>4</sup> California Public Utilities Commission Decision 22-02-004 at Table 5 (February 10, 2022).

**From:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**To:** [Paul Hellman](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Wind Farms  
**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2022 11:51:52 AM  
**Attachments:** [Image001.png](#)

---

*Tracie Huff*

**Administrative Secretary I**  
**Planning Division**  
**Shasta County Resource Management**  
**1855 Placer Street STE 103**  
**Redding CA 96001**  
**(530) 225-5532 Phone**  
**(530) 245-6468 Fax**  
[resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us)



**From:** Warren Swanson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** April 14, 2022 10:19 AM  
**To:** SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)>  
**Subject:** Wind Farms

**⚠ EXTERNAL SENDER:** Do not follow links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Planning Commissioners,

I'd like to make a comment on the proposal to ban all windmills from Shasta County. This is a deeply flawed and regressive idea. Shasta County has already received copious amounts of negative press around the country (New York Times, LA Times, SF Chronicle) about our fringe right wing groups. We don't need more articles painting us as a joke hick town (we are not).

Climate change is real and happening faster than predicted.  
We need all hands on deck to slow it down and wind power is  
one way to do that.

Please do the right thing and reject this ridiculous proposal.

Warren Swanson

3299 Woodbury Dr, Redding, CA 96002



**From:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**To:** [Paul Hellman](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Wind farms  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 10:01:50 AM

---

Tracie Huff  
Administrative Secretary I  
Planning Division  
Shasta County Resource Management  
1855 Placer Street STE 103  
Redding CA 96001  
(530) 225-5532 Phone  
(530) 245-6468 Fax  
[resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us)

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeen Wopat [REDACTED]  
Sent: April 12, 2022 9:36 AM  
To: SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)>  
Subject: Wind farms

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April 12, 2022

Greetings Shasta County Planning Commissioners,

We request that you NOT support a blanket wind farm prohibition! We prefer that you evaluate each wind farm proposal based on its individual merits.

We appreciate that a blanket prohibition would be perhaps handy from a legislative perspective and administratively save some public dollars, but it would in no way serve our greater need of addressing clean energy challenges as we continue to find our way in an ever-changing climate threat.

Sincerely,  
Michael and Linda Wopat  
Shasta County residents, homeowners,  
and voters

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Cc:** [Paul Hellman](#); [Lio Salazar](#); [NSCA Steer Comm](#)  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 Regulation of Wind Energy Systems County-Wide, Item R3, 14 April meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 7:08:27 PM

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Shasta County Planning Commissioners,

I believe that Shasta County should continue to consider future wind energy projects. I understand the concerns that have caused the County to dismiss recent wind power projects; however, each project should be evaluated separately. Appropriate mitigation measures should be required to reduce negative impacts. Wind power is a relatively clean energy that can help to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

It seems short-sighted to dismiss all large-scale wind energy projects in Shasta County. Please do not adopt Zone Amendment 22-0001.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Carole Crowe  
Redding, CA

## **Comments for Planning Commission regarding the prohibition of large wind energy systems within the unincorporated area of Shasta County**

I think it's a fantastic idea to prohibit large wind energy systems in Shasta County because these countryside monsters do catch fire on a regular basis. This is a real ongoing threat for all of Shasta County. At some point, it is likely that one of the Hatchet Ridge wind turbines will catch fire, so I hope fire crews will be able to minimize the damage.

People across the world send me videos of turbine fires several times a year. This link shows a recent one.

<https://www.facebook.com/richard.major1/videos/10110297277215878>

But besides the wildfire dangers from wind turbines and infrastructure, there are other very good reasons to forever ban these systems in Shasta County. This industry and our government agencies lie about nearly everything with these energy systems and it's at the expense of the public. Below is new factual information I have put together for Shasta County that I want to be part of the official record.

### **The Interior Department's New Bald Eagle Take Numbers**

America's green energy fraud has been going on for decades and as I have discovered, it never sleeps.

The Interior Department, with fraudulent research and has announced new imaginary bald eagle population estimates of about 317,000 bald eagles, New limits on the number of bald eagles that can be killed by industry each year have been increased to [15,832](#). The previous take limit, also created with fraudulent research, was set in 2016, at [4200 bald eagles](#) annually.

From [Federal Register](#) ...."Although some of the increase in the estimates of population size from 2009 to 2019 can be attributed to improvements in methods, the majority of the increase is likely due to population growth, estimated to be around 10 percent per year."

Improvements in "methods" really means, continue to ignore real world conditions dismiss the bald eagle habitat abandonment near wind farms like Hatchet Ridge and crank up the rigging for investors.

Not sure if the Interior Departments new eagle population estimates include Alaska or not but the population of [Alaska's bald eagles](#) is about 30,000. Alaska by leaps and bounds, has more bald eagles than any other state. Subtract that number from 316,708 and we are supposed to believe that on average, each of the lower 48 states has a population average of 5,971 bald eagles. In California the bald eagle population doesn't even come close and we might have 1/3 this number, but no more.

Here in Shasta County, CA, we easily have the highest density of bald eagles in the state and the total population including juveniles is about 150. Except for occasional migrants, many of California's 58 counties don't even have bald eagles. My Estimate is that there could be 1500 bald eagles living in CA.

As for Having 5791 bald eagles living in Ca, at some point it could be possible but the turbines killing them off in at Altamont and in the Delta region, would have to be destroyed. As for each of the lower 48 states having an average population of 5,971 bald eagles, it's not possible and in fact, the state of Alaska is the only state with this number of bald eagles.

The Interior Department has lied about the bald eagle population for 48 out of the 49 states with bald eagles. Keep in mind, they also produced a [fake study](#) that overestimated a golden eagle population in central CA by over 10 times.

## Green Energy's Hidden Eagle Slaughter

Recently an American wind energy company pleaded guilty to federal criminal charges after at least 150 eagles were killed since 2012. The company has agreed to spend as much as \$27 million on efforts to prevent more deaths.

The company has agreed to spend up to 27 million to prevent more deaths. What good is this? Except for shutting down turbines, there is no way to prevent eagle deaths from wind energy. This industry and the USFWS are very aware of this because wind turbines have been annihilating eagles for decades.

The truth is, these 150 dead eagles are only the tip of the iceberg and very likely represent less than 1% of this ongoing carnage. Back in 1997, when California was the only state with wind turbines in eagle habitat, the Denver Eagle Repository, reported wind turbines being one of their primary sources for their yearly 800 eagle carcasses. When compared to 1997, America now has 80 times more installed wind energy than it did back then 1997. Today, based upon Repository records released up to 2014, the Denver Repository now receives over 3000 eagle carcasses a year.

But with this green energy expansion came a new era of wind turbines. These new turbines invading eagle habitats, were also far more deadly. Early turbines had blade tip speeds that were 110-120 mph while tip speeds for new turbines have speeds twice as fast.

### Why doesn't the public know about any of this?

- 1) Wind energy mortality disclosures are not required, scientific research is not required and all wind industry mortality research being conducted, is being staged.
- 2) In 1997, the Clinton Administration created new laws so this ongoing slaughter could be conveniently considered, a business trade secret.
- 3) In 1997, The Freedom of information Act was changed to protect this industry.

4) In 1997, Interior Department personnel were silenced and their employment required non-disclosure agreements with very strict penalties.

5) In 1997, the Denver Eagle Repository was silenced and no longer allowed to discuss the origin of their eagle carcasses.

6) Leaseholders in partnership with wind energy developers are also required to sign very strict non-disclosure agreements. These leaseholders are never allowed to discuss species mortality taking place from the wind turbines on their property. They're also required to immediately dispose of carcasses. Even with post construction mortality research, access by leaseholders and wind energy employees has never been restricted during studies.

6.2.5 Disposal of Animal Carcasses. Owner agrees to take all reasonable measures to avoid attracting scavenging birds and other animals by ensuring all animal carcasses on the Property are immediately (to the extent permitted by applicable law) burned, buried, adequately and completely composted by covering with an adequate amount of earth or mulch, cooked or placed in enclosed containers with lids if such carcasses will be removed at a later time from the Property. Animal carcasses shall not be left in open fields or adjacent to buildings and shall not be left uncovered or exposed.

Since 1997, nobody involved with wind energy and its eagle carcasses, has been allowed to disclose the truth.

### **Dead Eagle numbers**

The Interior Department and USFWS claim that they keep no records for the origin of these eagle carcasses.

An Email I received from USFWS agent Jill Birchell in 2016, confirmed this government protocol of secrecy.

"Hi Jim,

I checked with our repository and learned that they don't keep detailed records of where the eagles they receive come from."

Up to the year 2014, the Repository did report eagle carcasses being received and processed. For 2014 they reported receiving 2309 eagle carcasses for dispersal to American Indians and noted others that had not been counted, which would likely bring totals to about 2400. Since 2014 the numbers of eagle carcasses being processed for the Native Americans is no longer being given out.

NATIONAL EAGLE REPOSITORY ANNUAL REPORT: 10/01/13 - 09/30/14						
REGION	WHOLE EAGLES AND EAGLE PARTS RECEIVED			WHOLE EAGLE ORDERS FILLED	EAGLE FEATHER & PARTS ORDERS FILLED	COMBINED FILLED ORDERS BY REGION
			REGION TOTAL	BALD/GOLDEN	BALD/GOLDEN	
1			239	135	376	511
2			65	479	1,113	1,592
3	<i>Iowa Region</i>		591	129	357	486
4			352	24	114	138
5			229	24	110	134
6			492	170	519	689
7			216	3	13	16
8			125	62	240	302
TOTAL			2,309	1,026	2,842	3,868
NEW REQUESTS RECEIVED						
	BALD EAGLES		1,176	<b>LAST REPOSITORY Report Published</b>		
	GOLDEN EAGLES		1,795			
	EITHER SPECIES		1,379			
	TOTAL		4,350			

NOTES: The incoming bird count is not complete as we are still evaluating birds received in September. The final total number of birds and bird parts received will probably be about 2,400. The total number of eagles and parts shipped, as well as the number of new requests received are complete as of 10/22/14. 2842 "parts" orders due to more eagles hit by turbines now being found more mutilated

But this eagle carcass story doesn't end with just Repository Eagles being processed for American Indians. There are many other carcasses because "clean" eagles are required for ceremonies; eagles that have died as a result of electrocution, vehicle collision, unlawful shooting or trapping, poisoning or from natural causes are unacceptable for ceremonial sacrifice.

In 2014 NBC did a story on the Denver Repository 2014. In this story about recycling eagles to American Indians, the repository reported that they had processed about 42,000 eagle carcasses. This Interior Department facility was opened in 1995.

<https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/protecting-eagles-in-life-and-death/1985909/>

In the interview discussing Wildlife Repository Specialist Dennis Wiist, this was revealed ... "But at last count, almost 42,000, he's touched nearly every eagle that's come through this facility."

Add another 8 years of receiving 2500-3000 eagles and about anyone past the eighth grade can come up with an estimate of over 60,000 eagle carcasses since 1995. It's hard to imagine and even harder to stomach, but over 60,000 eagle carcasses have secretly shipped to this repository, with no cause of death or origin given. When Shasta County approved the Hatchet Ridge wind project, this county became a part of this green fraud on America.

**If federal prosecutors really wanted prosecute green energy's eagle kills**

Even though the USFWS won't report the carcasses it would still be fairly easy to prove what's taking place with America's hidden eagle carnage through indirect means. Sort of like using cell phone tracking data to convict a murderer.

The prosecution of 150 eagles killed since 2012 is nothing to get excited about when nothing has been done about tens of thousands of other eagles killed by wind energy. America's silenced USFWS agents know exactly what's taking place because they process and arrange FedEx overnight shipping for nearly all the eagle carcasses shipped to the Denver Eagle Repository.

If federal prosecutors wanted the truth, a look into FedEx records would give investigators a very good idea what's taken place. From FedEx they would know the origin of shipments, they would see the proof of millions paid out by the US government for overnight shipping and the weight of crates would indicate the number of eagles per shipment. Surveillance on the Repository site in Denver would also clue investigators in on the number of Fed Ex shipments coming in per week.

Another way for prosecutors to get to the truth about green energy's eagle carnage, they could start interviewing leaseholders. I know of one case (have documents) where a dead bald eagle was found near a turbine and it was reported by someone that hadn't signed a lease. When agents arrived at the property, the eagle was nowhere to be seen because the leaseholder had already disposed of it.

At some point, if a Shasta County prosecutor wanted to do something similar with Hatchet Ridge, I could help them with a few other ideas.

### **Wind energy calculations that show 4-5 times less turbine energy actually being produced for the grid**

Recently I looked into Wind energy's contribution to an isolated energy grid in Nome, Alaska then compared it to Iowa's glowing Wind energy production numbers.

As I discovered, green energy calculations have very little to do with reality. But by using "Green" energy math methodology and with the help from our politicians, Iowa is able to make claims about producing almost [60%](#) of Iowa's electrical energy from wind.

It's not true, and an analysis of the grid in Nome, Alaska explains why.

---

11,660 megawatts

Iowa's wind generation capacity of **11,660 megawatts** in 2020 provided just shy of 60% of the state's electricity last year. IEC highlighted the need to reach 11,660 megawatts of wind capacity by 2022 to stay on track for a 2050 goal of 100% renewable energy in our publication Iowa's Road to 100% on April 27, 2021.

<https://www.iaenvironment.org/newsroom/energy-news>

[Iowa Nears 60% Wind Energy Generation Milestone - Iowa ...](#)

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This report from Alaska is extremely interesting because Nome Alaska has a completely isolated electrical grid. In order to survive, the people of Nome have to depend on diesel generators and an intermittent supply of wind energy. By the way, the winds around Nome are considered prime for wind power generation.

ACEP Technical Report

## **Nome Wind-Diesel System Overview**

---

Chris Pike and Nathan Green

DRAFT Report – November 1, 2017

A report for the Alaska Energy Authority as part of the Renewable Energy Fund Data Collection and Analysis Effort

### **Nome, Alaska**

Nome has two Wärtsilä 5.4 MW diesel generators, which alternate to supply power. A 3.6 MW Caterpillar generator is used during the off-peak summer hours when demand is low; a 1.8 MW Caterpillar generator is used to augment peak loads during winter afternoons. A 0.4 MW diesel generator is used as a black start unit in case of a black out and can support lower temporary peaking requirements.

Presently, NJUS operates one of the most efficient diesel powerhouses in Alaska, with an average kWh/gal of 15.8 for the period of July 2015 through June 2016, according to power cost equalization (PCE) records.

Initially the Nome wind project consisted of eighteen 50 kW Entegriy turbines. After the full value of the tax credits was realized by Banner Wind LLC, the company sold the Banner Wind project to NJUS along with the long-term lease for the land, effective January 2015. In 2013, two additional 900 kW wind turbines were installed by the utility, using millions in funds from the Alaska Renewable Energy Fund program and a contribution from the local fishing community development quota program, Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation.

Today all of Nome's smaller Entegriy turbines have been shut down due to grid inefficiency and high costs. The project lasted about 10 years but the two larger .9 MW turbines still remain.

Nome Joint Utility System (NJUS) Assistant Manager Ken Morton:

"The cost to maintain the smaller units has increased to the point that the cost of the diesel fuel they displace no longer pencils out."

"NJUS does not at this time have plans to replace the turbines or add additional ones. However, if grant funding becomes available for additional turbines, as well as funds for a battery system that would allow for greater reliance on wind energy, NJUS would pursue that."

In 2021 the Nome Joint Utility System allocated funds to have all their [original 18 turbines](#) to be taken down.

### **Iowa Wind**

So, what does all this have to do with Iowa?

Nome used real world numbers to determine the value and contribution from wind energy for their customers. A 2017 report (see image) said the [actual contribution](#) ("penetration") to Nome's grid in 2015, averaged out to a pitiful 6.3% (see image).

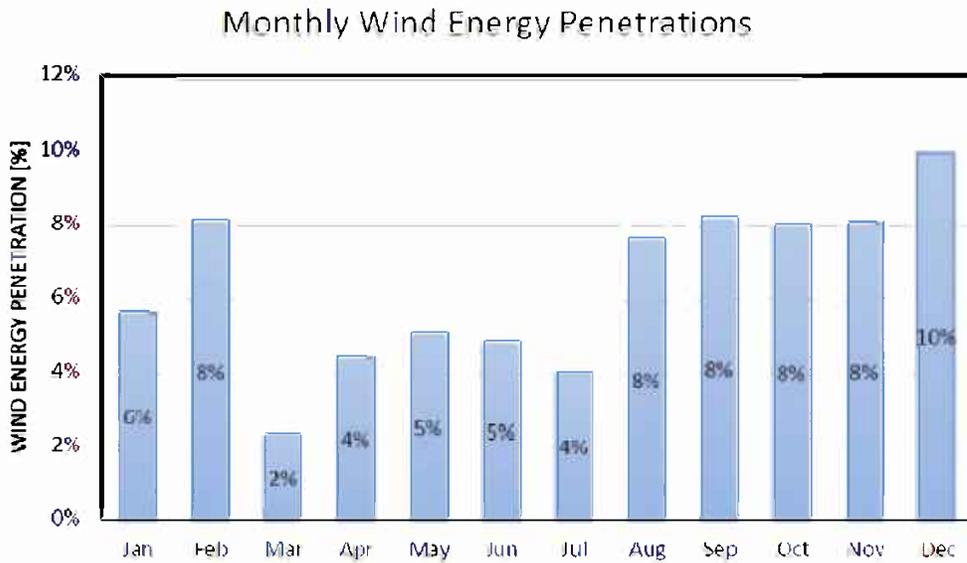


Figure 13. Wind energy penetration by month. To arrive at these figures, the total wind energy fed to the grid each month is divided by the total energy generation each month from all generation sources.

**6.3 % yearly average**

These are grid numbers and calculations never disclosed from America's other 49 states. The primary reason, Nome's utility district is trying to survive as efficiently as possible while developers and utilities in the other states are busy soaking taxpayers.

**Nome Alaska 2015 electric profile**

- Wind 2.7 MW percentage of nameplate capacity 33%
- Diesel 5.4 MW percentage of nameplate capacity 66%
- Total 8.1 Wind energy's annual contribution to Nome grid 6.3%

With their baseload diesel generators compared to installed the wind energy nameplate capacity, Nome had an installed diesel to wind 2 to 1.

**Iowa's 2020 electric profile**

- Wind 11,322.5 MW percentage of nameplate capacity 50%
- Coal and other sources 11,147.9 MW percentage of nameplate capacity 50%
- Total nameplate capacity 22470.4 MW

[Iowa](#) has an installed capacity ratio of about 1 to 1 when their baseload energy sources are compared to installed nameplate wind capacity. Iowa does have a greater

percentage of installed wind capacity than Nome. But if we double Nome's wind energy capacity to equal Iowa's 50% wind mix, the annual contribution Nome's utility would still only achieve about a 12.6% contribution to their grid from wind.

When compared to Nome, Iowa has far more energy transmission losses for wind energy because consumers in Nome are located only 4.5 miles from their wind farm. But assuming all things being equal, including annual wind speeds, Using the same the wind mix/grid penetration calculations from Nome, means that all of Iowa's thousands of turbines, still only contribute about 12-13% of the Iowa's usable energy to the grid.

In a previous post, I said Iowa, grid requirements need constant [base loads](#) of 3000 – 4500 MW. These were old very conservative numbers taken from an Iowa energy site. Today's Iowa's average base load requirements from coal and sources besides wind, are very likely 6500-7000 MW or about 60,000,000 MWh per year.

These energy numbers for Iowa's grid are real and are nowhere to be seen with wind energy reporting. It sure appears that Iowa is using fraudulent wind energy estimates to collect an abundance of Production Tax Credits along with selling regular energy created in fossil fuel plants, as being green.

Iowa's true wind energy value to customers is likely being deliberately overstated between four and five times. The same holds true for every bit of the [EIA](#) wind energy data posted for CA and all other states as well.

In conclusion, this is truly a horrendous industry and the approval of Hatchet Ridge was a monumental mistake by Shasta County Supervisors. For the good of this county, let's hope that Hatchet Ridge is the last wind project to ever be approved in Shasta County.

Jim Wiegand - Lakehead CA

.

Additional supporting images shown below:

**Iowa Electric Profile (2020 - Including Non-Utility Generation)**

<b>ELECTRIC GENERATION IN IOWA BY PRIMARY ENERGY SOURCE</b>	<b>2020 NAMEPLATE CAPACITY (MW)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>PERCENT OF NAMEPLATE CAPACITY</b>	<b>2020 GENERATION (MWH)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>PERCENT OF GENERATION</b>
Coal	5,754.7	25.61%	14,146,835	23.72%
Wind	11,406.9	50.76%	34,182,302	57.32%
Nuclear	0.0	0.0%	2,904,863	4.87%
Natural Gas	4,215.0	18.76%	7,036,824	11.80%
Hydro	129.2	0.58%	1,025,215	1.72%
Other & Other Renewables	22.0	0.10%	207,440	0.35%
Petroleum	924.2	4.11%	111,111	0.19%
Solar	18.4	0.08%	22,082	0.04%
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,470.4</b>	<b>100.00%<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>59,636,672</b>	<b>100.00%<sup>3</sup></b>

Table 4. Electric power industry capacity by primary energy source, 1990 through 2020							
Iowa							
megawatts							
	Year 2020	Year 2019	Year 2018	Year 2017	Year 2016	Year 2015	
39	<b>Total electric industry</b>	<b>21,333.2</b>	<b>20,409.5</b>	<b>18,842.2</b>	<b>17,670.8</b>	<b>17,045.5</b>	<b>16,8</b>
40	Battery	1.4	1.1	1.1	.	.	
41	Coal	5,284.0	5,343.8	5,371.7	5,497.9	5,548.8	6,2
42	Hydroelectric	150.4	146.4	146.4	146.4	144.9	1
43	Natural gas	3,694.7	3,647.1	3,580.7	3,571.1	2,931.8	2,6
44	Natural gas - CC	1,816.2	1,829.0	1,779.8	1,772.6	1,121.1	1,1
45	Natural gas - GT	1,228.4	1,226.8	1,260.4	1,265.7	1,140.3	1,1
46	Natural gas - IC	106.5	96.4	97.2	91.4	92.4	
47	Natural gas - ST	543.6	494.9	443.3	441.4	578.0	3
48	Nuclear	.	601.4	601.4	601.4	601.4	6
49	Other	.	.	.	.	.	
50	Other biomass	20.6	20.6	21.4	21.4	21.4	
51	Petroleum	841.6	851.7	854.0	852.7	1,022.9	1,0
52	Petroleum - GT	204.1	205.3	201.5	202.1	385.9	4
53	Petroleum - IC	605.5	614.4	613.0	618.6	605.0	6
54	Petroleum - ST	32.0	32.0	39.5	32.0	32.0	
55	Solar	18.0	13.4	8.9	7.7	2.6	
56	Solar- PV	18.0	13.4	8.9	7.7	2.6	
57	Wind	11,322.6	9,784.0	8,256.6	6,972.2	6,771.7	6,1
Other biomass includes agricultural byproducts, landfill gas, biogenic municipal solid waste, other biomass (solid, liquid and gas) and sludge w Other gases includes blast furnace gas, and other manufactured and waste gases derived from fossil fuels. Other includes non-biogenic municipal solid waste, batteries, chemicals, hydrogen, pitch, purchased steam, sulfur, tire-derived fuels, waste 58 Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-860, Annual Electric Generator Report. 59							

## Fake numbers

1 Table 5. Electric power industry generation by primary energy source, 1990 through 2020						
2 Iowa						
3 megawatthours						
45	<b>Total electric industry</b>	<b>59,636,671</b>	<b>61,673,544</b>	<b>63,380,569</b>	<b>57,909,566</b>	<b>54,35</b>
46	Battery	-60	-94	0	.	
47	Coal	14,146,835	22,159,203	28,552,999	25,358,230	25,15
48	Hydroelectric	1,025,215	796,268	924,861	1,033,940	91
49	Natural gas	7,036,824	7,684,253	7,340,070	4,567,447	2,90
50	..Natural gas - CC	5,971,857	6,892,269	6,409,135	3,746,433	2,40
51	..Natural gas - GT	479,512	386,174	518,450	343,837	15
52	..Natural gas - IC	2,769	10,192	3,200	12,169	
53	..Natural gas - ST	582,687	395,617	409,286	465,008	34
54	Nuclear	2,904,863	5,235,716	4,895,399	5,213,509	4,70
55	Other	0	0	0	2,382	1
56	Other biomass	199,395	203,122	209,177	207,859	25
57	Petroleum	111,111	238,192	110,565	146,719	21
58	..Petroleum - GT	671	101,527	3,049	25,607	4
59	..Petroleum - IC	7,744	9,853	7,610	24,555	15
60	..Petroleum - OTH	24	67	300	0	
61	..Petroleum - ST	102,672	126,745	99,606	96,558	5
62	Solar	22,082	15,436	11,456	4,838	
63	..Solar- PV	22,082	15,436	11,456	4,838	
64	Wind	34,182,302	25,328,971	21,334,057	21,372,752	20,07
65	Wood	8,105	12,478	1,986	1,890	
Other biomass includes agricultural byproducts, landfill gas, biogenic municipal solid waste, other biomass (solid, liquid and gas) and Other gases includes blast furnace gas, and other manufactured and waste gases derived from fossil fuels. Other includes non-biogenic municipal solid waste, batteries, chemicals, hydrogen, pitch, purchased steam, sulfur, tire-derived fuels Note: Totals may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.						
66	Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-923, Power Plant Operations Report and predecessor forms.					



**From:** [Lon Alward](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** #2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 9:59:14 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)

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Please vote yes on resolution #2022-014



<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]--> **Lon Alward** | Loan Officer

NMLS 284494 | CA-DOC#284494 | ID NLO-20907

**Direct** 530.605.4870 **Cell** 530.515.1086

**Office** 530.244.6830 **Fax** 530.222.3270

2280 N. Bechelli Lane, Redding, CA 96002

[lon@uslendingcompany.com](mailto:lon@uslendingcompany.com)



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**From:** [Anita Brady](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Ordinance to eliminate wind farms in the county  
**Date:** Monday, May 9, 2022 8:41:14 PM

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You are **worried about wind farms** but OK a development that puts lives and property at risk ?

You have shown your true colors-- developers can buy **your influence, wind farms?** (not so much)

Shame on you all. Please submit your **resignations** immediately.

Regards

Anita Brady

**Born and bred** in Shasta County

**From:** [Catherine Camp](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed ban on wind farms  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 11:15:42 AM

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I strongly urge you to reject the proposed ban on wind farms throughout the unincorporated areas of the county. I can't imagine why this is a good idea. Any proposed wind farm will come before the county and can be considered on the specific merits. Wind energy in general is clean, cheap and renewable. The proposed preemptive ban has the feel of a political statement rather than a considered assessment of how the county confronts energy needs, climate challenges and economic challenges for families. Please vote no.

**DOUGLAS W. CRAIG, PSYD  
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST  
1650 OREGON ST., SUITE 110  
REDDING, CA 96001  
LICENSE No. PSY 9469**

May 11, 2022

Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103  
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Proposed Amendments to Shasta County Zoning Code to Prohibit Large Wind Energy Systems (Amendment 22-0001)

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning Commission:

Last month, UN Secretary-General António Guterres issued his most dire warning ever on the catastrophic transformations we are facing as we continue to rely on fossil fuels for our energy and transportation needs.

He said, "We are on a fast track to climate disaster. Major cities under water. Unprecedented heatwaves. Terrifying storms. Widespread water shortages. The extinction of a million species of plants and animals. This is not fiction or exaggeration. It is what science tells us will result from our current energy policies."

He continued, "We are on a pathway to global warming of more than double the 1.5°C limit agreed in Paris. Some Government and business leaders are saying one thing, but doing another. Simply put, they are lying. And the results will be catastrophic. This is a climate emergency.

"Climate scientists warn that we are already perilously close to tipping points that could lead to cascading and irreversible climate impacts. But, high-emitting Governments and corporations are not just turning a blind eye, they are adding fuel to the flames.

"They are choking our planet, based on their vested interests and historic investments in fossil fuels, when cheaper, renewable solutions provide green jobs, energy security and greater price stability.

"The science is clear: to keep the 1.5°C limit agreed in Paris within reach, we need to cut global emissions by 45 per cent this decade."

Guterres outlined the solution. He said, "First and foremost, we must triple the speed of the shift to renewable energy. That means moving investments and subsidies from fossil fuels to renewables — now. In most cases, renewables are already far cheaper. It means Governments ending the funding of coal, not just abroad, but at home.

"A shift to renewables will mend our broken global energy mix and offer hope to millions of people suffering climate impacts today. Climate promises and plans must be turned into reality and action, now. It is time to stop burning our planet and start investing in the abundant renewable energy all around us."

Here in Shasta County, we are facing the triple threat of excessive heat, devastating drought and disastrous wildfires. As we continue to emit heat-trapping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, we are stealing our children's future. We don't have to do this. It is not too late. We need to dramatically transition away from dirty fuels and toward renewable energy like wind and solar as quickly as possible.

Banning Large Wind Energy Systems in Shasta County is madness and incredibly irresponsible. Are we going to stand on the sidelines while other communities step up to do all they can to preserve a livable planet for future generations? Will history show that Shasta County shirked its duty, ignored the science and betrayed its moral obligation to care for others?

I beg of you to not amend Shasta County's code to prohibit large wind energy systems. This would be insane. Instead, send a message to our community that we will join with the rest of the world in bringing about the clean energy revolution that the world's biosphere desperately requires now.

Sincere regards,

*Douglas W. Craig*

Subject: Zone Amendment 22-0001, Regulation of Wind Energy Systems County-Wide (Zoning Text Amendment) - Agenda Item R5, on Planning Commission Agenda for May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Greetings Shasta County Planning Commissioners

I write you regarding resolution No. 2022-014, a resolution of the Shasta County Planning Commission recommending that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors approve Zone Amendment 22-0001, regulating small and large wind energy systems. I support the prohibition of large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County for the purpose of protecting and promoting the public health, safety, and general welfare of all the residents of Shasta County.

This resolution came about as a result of our “community active efforts” involving the stopping of the Fountain Wind Project. Most importantly for myself, the protections of tribal prayer grounds, village sites, sacred places, tribal burials and other vital tribal cultural sources. The Pit River Tribal Nation, with over 4,000 Tribal members, passed and presented their Resolution opposing such industrial wind developments- the Fountain Wind Project. Tribal Band Representatives and Tribal members who testified with insurmountable evidence at both public hearings, stating how offensive these developments were with no regard for the unavoidable negative impacts to tribal cultural sacred places, burial grounds, the ecology, the biology, the wildlife (including raptors, bats, birds etc.), the aesthetics, and etc. Also, the continued and growing threat of wildfires that would be an impediment to fighting them when caused by industrial scale wind energy systems. Equally important, is the information provided by the staff and Commissioner Kerns in their presentation on the number of wildfires in Shasta County in the most recent past. The CalFire wildfire assessment Map was also presented in which over 95% of the County was rated “High” or “Very High” Wildfire Severity Zones. The above statements alone provide enough for you the vote YES!

This Commission discussed the need for zoning changes in January of 2022 and then directed Mr. Hellman’s staff to put together the Resolution to present to the Supervisors for consideration. Resolution No. 2022-014 captures the items discussed and requested by the Commission. Mr. Hellman, provided all the necessary background, including CEQA law review, which supports the decision to implement the zoning changes listed within the proposed Zone Amendment 22-0001, enabling the protection of the communities across Shasta County most affected by these types of industrial developments. Various experts provided overwhelming testimony, during the recent public hearings, that industrial wind turbine developments in forested areas only introduce unnecessary wildfire risk where wildfires could not be fought effectively within/surrounding the turbine fields. These expert testimonies were provided by at least 6 wildfire pilots whose careers have thousands of hours of wildfire fighting experience. One of those experts attended the Supervisor’s public hearing for the Fountain Wind Appeal, while on a break from fighting the Dixie Fire, where he had also dropped retardant on the Fawn Fire- it was powerful testimony!

This Commission denied the Fountain Wind Project in order to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community members. It has already been proven, even stated by the Fire Safety Representative from Shasta County, and addressed to Supervisor Moty, that the preparation work and clearing for these industrial projects bring their own risk so it is as not as “clear cut” for fire safety through the environmental review process. As stated on numerous occasions, by various experts, these types of industrial developments. Therefore, please continue taking the hard look and protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of OUR WHOLE COMMUNITY!

I acknowledge your proactive efforts with these zoning amendments, just as has been done in other counties, which provide protections to the tribal cultural resources, environment, safety, protection, and general welfare of the community members. In the Big Bend area it is a fact that developers continue to test for wind resources, therefore, it is imperative that you pass this Resolution Zone Amendment now. It will only be a matter of time before the County receives the next special use permit for a mega-industrial wind development project in our forested areas. The Zone Amendment 22-0001 rightly seeks to ban industrial scale wind energy development in the unincorporated lands of Shasta County, it further accurately defines small scale wind energy systems in County Code and clearly defines how variations to allowed small wind energy systems would be considered by the County Planning Department. You know that the financial benefits do not outweigh the negative impacts and the risk to the lives of County residents. A “Yes” vote doesn’t ban clean energy, it just bans industrial size wind energy systems that pose a risk to our way of life and our lives themselves. Shasta County has provided well above their fair share of clean energy and can continue to do so through other clean technologies without the risk to life and property and our general welfare.

**Approve Resolution No. 2022-014, which supports the zone changes for Zone Amendment 22-001**, prohibiting additional large scale industrial wind developments within Shasta County. The approval of Resolution No. 2022-014 will support the communities targeted, even for their marginal wind resources, and stop the emotional and financial trauma brought to the community members who are threatened by these industrial developments. The approval will also remove the fear and threats of future desecration and the erasure of tribal cultural ceremonies and scared sites protections for the Pit River Tribe and other surrounding Tribes.

Sincerely,

Radley Davis, Concerned Resident  
Tribal Citizen of the Pit River Nation belonging to the Illmawi Band

**From:** [cdjmc7160](mailto:cdjmc7160)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** RS Zone Amendment 22-0001  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 1:56:20 PM

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I have been a resident of Montgomery Creek since Feb. 1, 1990.

First of all, I wish to thank the Planning Department and particularly the Planning Commission for your 5-0 vote denying the Use Permit for ConnectGen, and the many hours of checking all the pros and cons before coming to that decision. It was a wonderful victory for the "little guy"! And you all are to be commended for this.

I believe these large environmental projects target low income and sparsely populated areas, because they think there will be no opposition from these areas, possibly because of little education. Of course, they care nothing about the land or its residents, out only to make millions in profits. But, they found out with the Stop Fountain Wind group, there are some very intelligent educated residents in this area, that helped to beat this project. It took almost 3 years of diligent work for our Committee of 12 to present the downside of this project. We also thank you for helping protect this area from wildfires. This year wildland fires are predicted to be much worse.

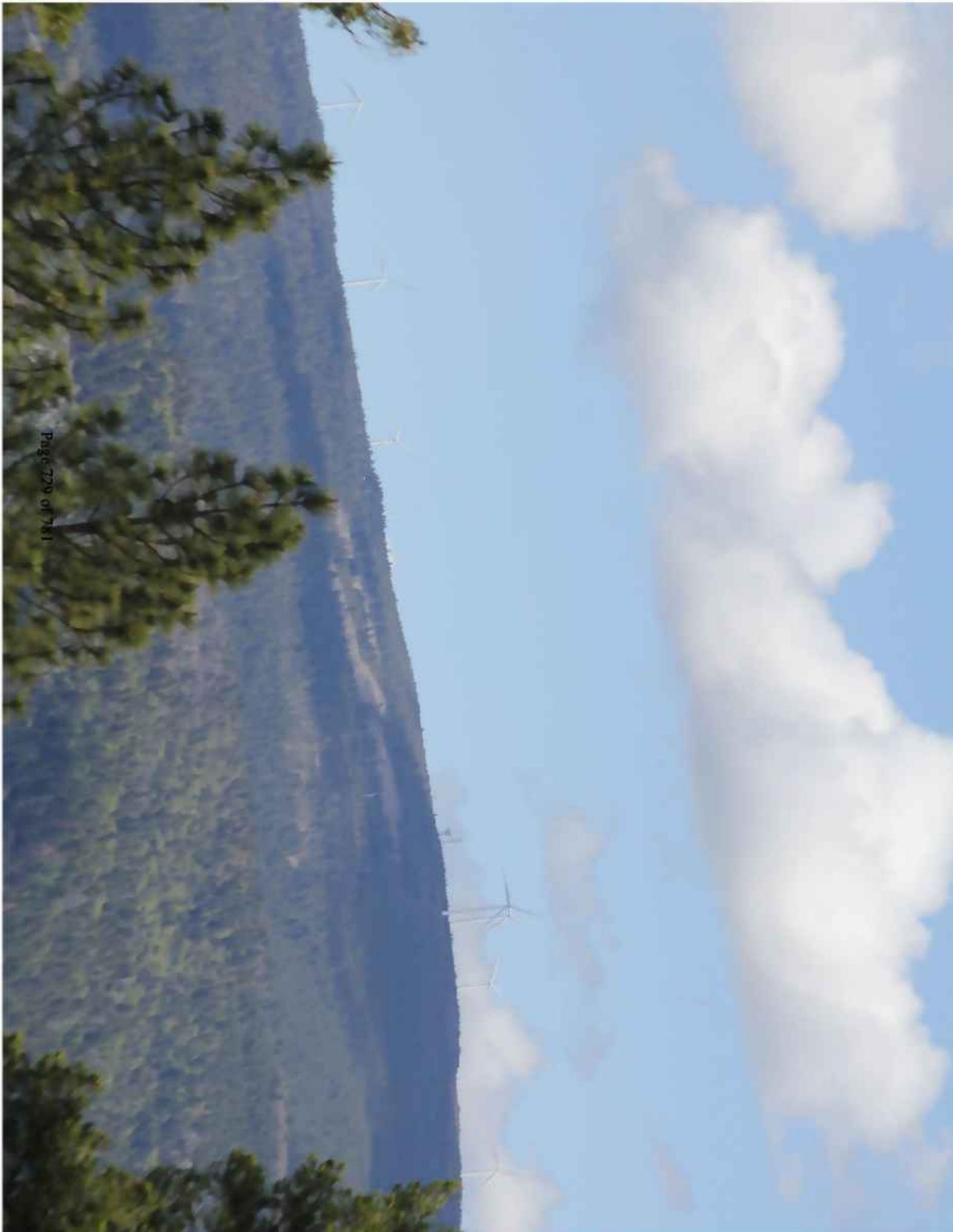
My husband and I were members of the Montgomery Creek Volunteer Fire Company 71 for 12 years; we had only been members of this Company for 6 months before the Fountain Fire came running through. I remember standing on the side of Highway 299E in Montgomery Creek watching the Fountain Fire coming up both sides of the highway, destroying everything in its path, and assisting those evacuating with nothing but their vehicle and the clothes on their back to the Montgomery Creek School parking lot. This fire went all the way over Hatchet Summit into the Burney area, which stunned many people.

I live on the side of a hill, and my view includes Hatchet Ridge Turbines, a photo of which I have attached. I would have seen all of the Fountain Wind Turbines from my home and they would also have been reflected off of a mirrored wall into my Living Room, making its value decrease and perhaps not sellable. In my 32 years here, I have had many people come here, for various reasons, and they always remark what a wonderful and great view I have. I call this my "little piece of Heaven"!

I would ask that you approve your Zoning Amendment to protect this area of wildland fire devastation; we thank you especially for the work you have done in these last few months to bring this Amendment forward, even though the Environmentalists are doing their best to get your Commission to not approve it.

I want to thank the commission for pursuing this amendment, regardless of opposition.

Sincerely, Joan DiMaio



**From:** [Diane Dobbins](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Wind farm future for Shasta County  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 10:16:00 AM

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Thank you - yes, I hit send too quickly.

I want to add my voice in support of wind farms for this county. We moved here 5 years ago and are constantly beset with strong winds. Whether that's just the way it is in the north state or it's climate change is aside from the fact that we do have winds on a regular basis. That said, I think it is short sighted not to approve wind farms to produce electricity and reduce the burden on shasta county residents. I do not buy into conspiracy theories that they are killing all our eagles or that they cause cancer. The science does not back this up.

So here's my voice in support of wind farms and hope the planning commission is smart and doesn't succumb to people who just don't want change

Sincerely,  
Diane Dobbins

Sent from my iPhone

> On May 10, 2022, at 8:11 AM, SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)> wrote:

>

> Good Morning,

>

> There doesn't appear to be a message or an attachment to this email. If you had one of those, you might want to try this email again.

>

> Tracie Huff

> Administrative Secretary I

> Planning Division

> Shasta County Resource Management

> 1855 Placer Street STE 103

> Redding CA 96001

> (530) 225-5532 Phone

> (530) 245-6468 Fax

> [resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:resourcemanagement@co.shasta.ca.us)

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Diane Dobbins <[diane.dobbins@gmail.com](mailto:diane.dobbins@gmail.com)>

> Sent: May 10, 2022 6:28 AM

> To: SCPlanning <[scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:scplanning@co.shasta.ca.us)>

> Subject: Wind farm future for Shasta County

>

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>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ron Dykstra](#)  
**To:** [Paul Hellman](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Zone Amendment 22-0001 (Wind Energy Systems Ordinance)  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 11:26:28 AM

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**EXTERNAL SENDER:** Do not follow links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you for trying to contact me even going the extra mile with an email. I'm beginning to think there is some incompatibility between my phone and the county phone system. Seems I only have trouble getting county calls. Maybe I'll have to go to TMobile to troubleshoot the problem. Anyway, thanks again. Below are the comments I had planned to present today.

"Mr. Chairman and commissioners.

My name is Ron Dykstra and I'm a long time Shasta County resident. I had hoped to deliver these comments in person, but am recovering from Covid, so I've sent them in by email.

I hope you all had a chance to look at my written comments, which I transmitted on Monday. I respect the fact that you are concerned about the health and welfare of Shasta County residents, that is as it should be. But as I stated in my comments, no harm will come to our county if you don't adopt the proposed resolution. Potential adverse impacts from wind farms such as wildfires obviously can't occur until a project is built, if they occur at all. And your ability to reject a project is not affected if you don't adopt this resolution. One of you mentioned in the April meeting that one reason for these proposed ordinance changes was that it is too difficult to pick and choose which sites would be suitable for wind projects. But it's not necessary for the commission to do this picking and choosing ahead of time. Let the project proponents pick what they deem to be a suitable site along with proposed project mitigations, and then let them convince you of the project's merits, or not. You have the power to reject any future wind farm proposals if you deem them unsuitable. And that's the course you should take, reject this proposed amendment and then you can examine any future proposals on their merits. Don't completely eliminate the possibility of future wind projects that could benefit from better siting, improved technology, and additional mitigations.

Please don't adopt this resolution.

Thank you"

On Thursday, May 12, 2022, 09:26:34 AM PDT, Paul Hellman <[phellman@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:phellman@co.shasta.ca.us)> wrote:

Ron,

After unsuccessfully attempting to return your call at (530) 262-0271 several times, I thought I would send you an e-mail instead. There are no remote participation options available for Planning Commission meetings. I provided your May 9<sup>th</sup> comment letter to the commissioners. If you would like to provide any additional written comments, please send them to me and I'll provide them to the commissioners if they are received prior to around noon.

Thanks,

**Paul Hellman, Director**

May 9 2022

Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103,  
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Proposed Amendment 22-0001 to Shasta County Zoning Code to Prohibit Large Wind Energy Systems, May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, Item R5

Dear Chair and members of the Planning Commission:

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, I transmitted comments regarding this issue for a group of which I am a member, North State Climate Action (NSCA). My comments today represent solely my views and may not reflect the opinions of NSCA.

My comments primarily address firefighting information you discussed at the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Other concerns were addressed in opposition comments transmitted for the April meeting. Fire fighting ability for any wind farm proposal should be analyzed on a site-specific basis, not on the assumption that any fire at any proposed county wind farm is un-fightable.

At the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, a commissioner stated incorrectly that wind towers “take out aerial attack.” CalFire’s Bret Gouvea addressed this issue at the Supervisor’s meeting last October (see the [recording of the meeting](#) at 8:19:39 to 8:28:00). Mr. Gouvea noted that the largest capacity aerial fire fighting equipment would not be usable close to wind towers such as at Fountain Wind, but other aerial fighting equipment would be. Mr. Gouvea stated “When you say a no fly zone, that’s a very broad term, I can’t agree to that.” And the configuration of wind towers in any project are critical to analyze fire fighting capabilities. In his comments Mr. Gouvea noted, as per the CalFire Tactical Air Unit, that “Obviously the placement and separation of those wind towers dictate the use of aircraft.” A future wind farm project would not be identical to Fountain Wind, and tower placement must be considered in assessing fire fighting ability, including aerial attack. If the Fountain Wind project had presented insurmountable fire fighting difficulties, it seems that Mr. Gouvea would have so stated. But he did not.

The commission should have been more precise in its framing of the firefighting issue. The commission characterized all of Shasta County as an “extreme” fire hazard zone. This is not how CalFire characterizes county fire danger. CalFire mostly regards the county as high and very high fire danger, not extreme. Also, approximately 12,000 acres in Shasta County are not designated either high or very high fire danger by the [CalFire Fire Hazard Severty Zones in SRA](#) map. This map does not provide fire hazard designations for those areas that are federal firefighting responsibility so this 12,000 acre value could be an underestimate. The [map that was shown at the April](#) meeting designates about 150,000 acres as less than a very high fire danger area, but does not further categorize those areas. As you know, the Fountain Wind project was in a very high fire danger zone in accordance with that map. Future wind projects may not be in that zone or even in a high fire hazard zone. [The County fire hazard map](#), although outdated, designated about 30,000 acres as moderate fire danger areas, and about 50,000 acres were unclassified. Over 300,000 acres were designated as high fire danger (as opposed to very high). I don’t know the property ownership or wind resources in areas designated as less than very high fire hazard, but the county will be prohibiting wind farms in lesser fire concern areas if the ordinance changes are implemented.

The commission displayed a map showing relatively recent fires in Shasta County. I don't understand the purpose of this graphic. We all know that the county has suffered from many severe fires in the recent past. But how is that relevant to vetting future wind farms for fire fighting ability near them? And future proposals would need an identical fire impact analysis as Fountain Wind, through CEQA.

The commission stated the issue of wind farms in Shasta County has been studied for the last 2-1/2 to three years, but is that the case? The commission has been primarily studying the Fountain Wind project, and that is not equivalent to studying wind projects in general in the county. The impacts of the Fountain Wind project are not necessarily relevant to a proposed future project. Site specific configuration, benefits, and impacts of future projects should be considered on a case by case basis.

The commission stated that everything about wind farms had been discussed, and no new information has been presented since the commission denied the Fountain Wind project in June. But a new proposed wind project, by its differing location and configuration, would necessarily include new information.

Lastly, a photograph of spent fiberglass turbine blades in a landfill was presented by the commission. I hate to see these blades not being recycled, but fiberglass is hardly a dangerous or hazardous waste that will result in groundwater or surface water contamination, or any other adverse outcome. Previously, formaldehyde had been used in turbine blade manufacture, but that is being phased out. Wind power is not yet a mature industry and land filling of spent turbine material is not a given. The reuse of spent fiber glass is now being studied and even implemented in certain cases. In addition, turbine blade manufacture using thermosetting resins is being studied. Thermoplastic resin blades would be recyclable, and also lighter and cheaper than fiberglass.

You should not recommend a county wide prohibition on wind farms, and you should analyze any future wind farm proposals considering their unique benefits and impacts. Shasta County can be a leader in supporting appropriate renewable wind projects. Before you make a decision on these ordinance changes, you must ask yourselves what is the harm done to the county if the changes are not adopted. The simple and correct answer is that there is no harm. If a project is proposed in the future, that is the time to examine its health, safety, and other environmental issues.

Please do not recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the proposed ordinance changes.

Thank you

Ron Dykstra

**From:** [Ginny Erickson](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Cc:** [Virginia Erickson](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Farm  
**Date:** Saturday, May 7, 2022 1:38:59 PM

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Please know that many of us approve of and have hopes that the wind farms will become a reality in Shasta County.

Virginia Erickson

**From:** [Daniel Fehr](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Farm Resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 10:52:23 AM

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May 10, 2022

Honorable Shasta County Planning Commissioners:

The purpose of this email is to vociferously oppose the pending resolution banning wind farms in unincorporated Shasta County, slated for consideration on May 12, 2022.

Support of this resolution represents the ultimate myopia, resulting in the limitation of an available renewable energy option. If humanity is to reverse this carbon-based climate crisis, Shasta County will require all available tools in our toolbox.

We implore the Planning Commission to oppose consideration of this asinine NIMBY and politically-motivated resolution.

Daniel & Susan Fehr  
1705 Verda Street  
Redding, California 86001

**From:** [Jon Ferguson](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 9:17:58 AM

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**Please vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014.**

**From:** [John Gable](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Industrial Wind Turbine Ban  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 8:52:47 PM

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I write this letter on behalf of all the residents of Moose Camp. First I would like to thank you for researching, deliberating and ultimately rejecting the Fountain Wind project. Second I commend you for proposing the ban on industrial size wind projects in the unincorporated areas of Shasta County. The obvious fire danger in the county along with the inability to fight wildfires from the air within and around turbine farms makes a ban the right thing to do. Los Angeles county banned industrial wind turbines in 2017 and San Bernardino county banned them in 2019. Wind energy production in California has barely increased in the past five years with very few new projects coming online. The future of industrial size turbine farms in California has moved from onshore to offshore. Shasta county should be proud of its ability to already provide enormous amounts of renewable energy to the county and clearly does not need to risk the lives of its residents by adding any more industrial size wind turbines. **Please vote yes on the large wind turbine ban.**

Sincerely,  
John Gable  
Moose Camp Board President

**From:** [Betty Harner](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Ban of Wind Farms  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 11:41:15 AM

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Shasta County Planning Commissioners:

What are the non-political justifications for banning wind farms in Shasta County? There are so many reasons for developing alternate sources of energy that we have to question this action.

All means of producing electricity seem to have drawbacks, from inconveniently unaesthetic (fields of oil pumps, acres of solar panels) to dangerous pollution (coal fired generators), and the windmills seem to be less offensive than these.

With the continuing drought our reliance on hydroelectric power may not be as assured as in the past, just when the higher temperatures we have been experiencing will mean an even greater need for electricity to power our air conditioners. Wind is one of the natural resources we have in Shasta County; it can provide energy with less pollution and, possibly, bring jobs to the area. Why not use it?

We ask that you consider the long-term effects of your actions today. Banning, or even just delaying the development of, energy production here may negatively affect all of us in the future.

Thank you,

Marion and Betty Harner

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Nancy Kirkland](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Vote YES on Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 5:30:12 PM

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Please recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the ordinance amending title 17, Zoning Plan to prohibit large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County.

As heard previously in public hearings for the Fountain Wind Project, pilot testimonies provided conclusive evidence that the turbine fields will prohibit aerial firefighting efforts.

Also, please consider that preparing the ground for turbines includes excavation, hauling components to the sites, much concrete is needed, roads will need to be put in for access, Miles of converter cables and stations would owe needed as well as thousands of gallons of diesel needed to set up and maintain them.

There are verified complaints about the nonstop noise that the turbines generate. Right now, half a million birds and bats are killed yearly by them. Some estimate that these deaths will increase to a million and a half deaths/year within 3 years. Also, consider that there the recycling of the rare-earth metals that are contained within the system have not been well studied. Unfortunately, while other components are recyclable, the blades themselves are not. These blades can reach 351 feet long and require large trucks to transport them. Currently, the life of a wind turbine is only 20 years.

The actual CO2 savings that these wind farms are designed to reduce are miniscule, due to the inherent nature of wind energy. There is a study by BENTEK (How Less Became More) which has found that ZERO scientific empirical proof provided by the wind industry to support their claims of consequential CO@ reduction. How much CO2 is generated by a half - two million pound concrete base for each turbine?

Turbines do not provide local jobs nor will they provide 'low cost' energy. Wind energy is much more expensive than anything we have now. Wind is 100% undependable as well. We can never depend on wind to blow consistently or within a certain range.

Energy sources should be abundant, reliable, and low-cost. Wind energy does not fit the need. Wind energy is our least sustainable form of energy-it depends on fossil fuel for construction, delivery, maintenance, and operation.

Please vote YES on Resolution No. 2022-014 on Thursday, May 12.

Thank you, Nancy Kirkland: a Shasta County resident

**From:** [Michael Knight](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:56:15 AM

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I strongly ask you to **vote Yes on Resolution No. 2022-014.**

We must do everything in our power ahead of time to reduce the danger of out-of-control wildfires and this area is ripe for one again. Having these huge towers up in this area is an invitation for disaster. Shasta county, not the corporation who owns the towers, will be the one who pays and suffers if wildfire occurs. Stay true to Shasta county residents and keep us safe. Money can be garnered in safer ways than selling us out.

Thank you.

Michael Knight  
Round Mountain, CA

[knighttoday@gmail.com](mailto:knighttoday@gmail.com)

**From:** [Michael Koterba](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Windmill Ban  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 7:21:04 AM

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**Dear Council Members**

To simply ban windmills strikes me as a knee-jerk reaction that reduces the likelihood we will ever have clean sustainable renewable energy at a reasonable cost. We already are losing our ability to produce hydroelectric energy as we have more frequent and multi annual years of drought and reservoirs remain at levels too low to provide consistent electrical power generation. Solar and wind are the only suitable local alternatives. So actions such as this simply mean we will depend on others for our power generation. So who will that be? Companies such as PGE who will simply charge what they want to ensure their stockholders make a profit at our expense. For a county that continuously bristles at outsiders dictating how we live I find actions such as this to be simply demonstrating that we actually haven't got the will to control locally what we really need to be sustainability independent.

**From:** [Barbara Lawson](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Developments  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 6:00:12 PM

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Dear Madam or Sirs,

Please, **vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014.**

**Thank you**

**B. A. Lawson**

**Shasta County Resident**

**From:** [Jennifer Levens](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind energy ban  
**Date:** Saturday, May 7, 2022 3:51:58 PM

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**To Whom It May Concern:**

Be advised that given the number of trees you are allowing to be destroyed for new housing, you are essentially smothering this area. Now you want to ban a clean source of energy to further the demise of all living things. For shame. For Shame.  
Jennifer Levens

**From:** [John Livingston](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Cc:** [Ron Dykstra](#)  
**Subject:** We should not ban large commercial wind farms  
**Date:** Monday, May 9, 2022 8:53:42 AM

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I have lived in Shasta County for over 55 years and am aghast at the actions of Shasta County Planning Commission and Supervisors. It is completely inappropriate for Shasta County to ban large scale wind farms completely. There is so much positive energy from wind farms and their ability to replace fossil fuels that we need to consider each project on a case by case basis. We would not ban pig farms outright even though they smell terrible and pollute the surface and groundwater. /we would do an analysis of each project and have community meetings and write an EIR and then decide. The Planning Commission should either throw out the proposed ordinance or modify it significantly to allow projects to be considered, analyzed and proper environmental analysis made before making a final decision.

Respectfully John Livingston Resident

## On the hope of a new year

by Amanda Gorman National Youth Poet.

May this be the day  
We come together.  
Mourning, we come to mend,  
Withered, we come to weather,  
Torn, we come to tend,  
Battered, we come to better.

Tethered by this year of yearning,  
We are learning  
That though we weren't ready for this,  
We have been readied by it.  
We steadily vow that no matter  
How we are weighed down,  
We must always pave a way forward.

*Excerpt from poem "New Day's Lyric."*

**From:** [Lisa MacDonald](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 5:13:42 PM

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**EXTERNAL SENDER:** Do not follow links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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Dear Planning Commission,

Please support the amendment to the zoning changes regarding large & small wind turbine developments. As a resident of Round Mountain and a member of the opposition to the Fountain Wind Project I ask you to vote YES on the resolution. I support the resolution not just because of my opposition to the project in my area but for all citizens of Shasta County that could be tremendously harmed by any such project.

Thank you.

Regards,

**Lisa MacDonald**  
**SUNSET REAL ESTATE**  
**2610 BECHELLI LN.**  
**STE# H**  
**REDDING CA 96002**

**530-941-9082 call/text**  
**530-221-9000 office**  
**SunsetRealEstate.com**

**CA DRE LIC #01400197**

**From:** [MaryAnn M](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Zoning Amendment 22-0001, Agenda Item R5  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 11:22:52 AM

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To: Shasta County Planning Commission  
1855 Placer St Suite 103,  
Redding, CA 96001

Comments on the proposed zoning ordinance Amendment 22-0001, Agenda Item R5, for the May 12, 2022 meeting of the Shasta County Planning Commission

In the staff report prepared for agenda item R5 the rationale supporting the proposed regulation of wind energy rests on fire safety issues and fire hazard maps of Shasta County unincorporated areas. The amendment then should apply to the high and very high fire hazard zones, not to the entire unincorporated area of Shasta County.

The scope switch from high and very high fire hazard zones to all of the unincorporated area of Shasta County was explained only by the relatively small portion of the unincorporated area that is considered to be a "moderate fire hazard area".

However, at the scale of the fire hazard maps, the small area of moderate fire hazard is in the neighborhood of 30,000 acres. Should this arbitrary choice to include the entire unincorporated area, dictate what can and cannot be done on those 30,000 acres?

It seems un-American to do so.

The amendment would serve appointed staff interests for expedience, perhaps. It would serve PG&E's interests to maintain their monopoly on energy, certainly.

As written, Amendment 22-0001 does not serve to allow a free market to solve energy and economic problems in Shasta County. The proposed ordinance amendment is an example of well-intentioned government workers substituting their paternalistic thinking for the principles that made our country great. This is government over-reach. And that is exactly how the future of Shasta County gets limited.

Sincerely,

MaryAnn McCrary

Redding resident & voter

DEPT OF RESOURCE MGMT  
RECEIVED

MAY 9 2022

To: Shasta County Planning Commissioners  
Mr. Paul Hellman, Director of Resource Management

ADMINISTRATION

From: Citizens in Opposition to the Fountain Wind Project (CIO FWP)

Subj: Zone Amendment 22-0001, Regulation of Wind Energy Systems County-Wide (Zoning Text Amendment) - Agenda Item R5, on Planning Commission Agenda for May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

We fully support Resolution No. 2022-014, a resolution of the Shasta County Planning Commission recommending that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors approve Zone Amendment 22-0001, regulating small and large wind energy systems. We fully support the prohibition of large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County for the purpose of protecting and promoting the public health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of Shasta County.

This Commission discussed the need for zoning changes in January of 2022 and then directed Mr. Hellman's staff to put together the Resolution to present to the Supervisors for consideration. Resolution No. 2022-014 captures the items discussed and requested by the Commission. Mr. Hellman, provided all the necessary background, including CEQA law review, which supports the decision to implement the zoning changes listed within the proposed Zone Amendment 22-0001, enabling the protection of the communities across Shasta County most affected by these types of industrial developments. In addition to Mr. Hellman's Resolution 2022-014, Commissioner Kerns provided overwhelming support, via his Shasta County wildfire map, where wildfires have engulfed large areas across Shasta County. Commissioner Chapin, with decades of forestry expertise, also stated he does not believe that these types of industrial developments should be built within the forested areas. He stated these are the highest wildfire prone areas which could destroy trees and take decades or a hundred years or more to fully recover. Various experts provided overwhelming testimony, during the recent public hearings, that industrial wind turbine developments in forested areas only introduce unnecessary wildfire risk where wildfires could not be fought effectively within/surrounding the turbine fields. These expert testimonies were provided by at least 6 wildfire pilots whose careers have thousands of hours of wildfire fighting experience. One of those experts attended the Supervisor's public hearing for the Fountain Wind Appeal, while on a break from fighting the Dixie Fire, where he had also dropped retardant on the Fawn Fire.

The CIO FWP submitted 2,386 signatures to reject the Fountain Wind Industrial Development. As a point of reference the 2,386 signatures include some of the Shasta County residents from 22 unincorporated communities and three incorporated communities. We also continue to stand with over 4,000 Pit River Tribe members who presented their Resolution opposing such industrial developments. You witnessed numerous members who testified at both public hearings, stating how offensive these developments were. The spiritual native cultural impacts can only be understood by the tribal members and never captured through the CEQA or political process. The approval of Resolution No. 2022-014 support Zone Amendment 22-0001 will remove the fear and threats of future destruction, desecration, and erasing of native cultural ceremonies and scared sites for the Pit River Tribe and other surrounding Tribes.

This Commission denied the Fountain Wind Project in order to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community members. It has already been proven, even stated by the Fire Safety Representative from Shasta County, and addressed to Supervisor Moty, that the

preparation work and clearing for these industrial projects bring their own risk so it is as not as “clear cut” for fire safety through the environmental review process. As stated on numerous occasions, by various experts, these types of industrial developments, within the highest wildfire rated and forested areas are not acceptable.

We truly appreciate and commend your proactive efforts with these zoning amendments, just as has been done in other counties, which provide protections to the native cultural resources, environment, safety, protection, and general welfare of the community members. We believe time is of the essence since community members within the Big Bend area have stated developers continue to test the wind resources. We believe it will only be a matter of time before the County receives the next special use permit for an industrial wind development in our forested areas.

We humbly request you approve Resolution No. 2022-014, which supports the zone changes for Zone Amendment 22-001, prohibiting additional large scale industrial wind developments within Shasta County. The approval of Resolution No. 2022-014 will support the communities targeted, even for their marginal wind resources, and stop the emotional and financial trauma brought to the community members who are threatened by these industrial developments. As Commission Kerns correctly stated we were under threat for our communities, religious and cultural freedoms, livelihood, and way of life for over 2 ½ years by the Fountain Wind Project please don’t allow that to happen to again other community members within Shasta County.

Sincerely,

Beth Messick-Lattin  
Chair, Citizens in Opposition  
to the Fountain Wind Project

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Subj: Resolution 2022-014 for Zone Amendments 22-0001, Agenda Item R5, for 12 May 2022

Dear Planning Commissioners,

We appreciate the effort Mr. Hellman, the Planning Department Staff and the Commission (especially Commissioner Kerns) have put into the Zone Amendment 22-0001 and ask that you “yes” on Resolution No. 2022-014. We concur with the research and statements provided in the staff report for the May 12<sup>th</sup> R5 agenda item. The Zone Amendment 22-0001 rightly seeks to ban industrial scale wind energy development in the unincorporated lands of Shasta County, it further accurately defines small scale wind energy systems in County Code and clearly defines how variations to allowed small wind energy systems would be considered by the County Planning Department.

This resolution was prompted by the information that came to light as a result of recent efforts involving the Fountain Wind project. Most importantly, the growing threat of wildfires in our area and the impediment to fighting them caused by industrial scale wind energy systems. Further evidence of the growing nature of the wildfire threat was also provided by staff and Commissioner Kerns in their presentation on the number of wildfires in Shasta County in the recent past. The most recent CalFire wildfire assessment Map was also presented in which over 95% of the County was rated “High” or “Very High” Wildfire Severity Zones. These facts along with the many other unavoidable environmental impacts of these types of developments to Native American culture and sacred sites, wildlife (including birds, bats, raptors, etc.), aesthetics, and many other impacted areas, are the reason the Fountain Wind project was denied and are the same reasons why this resolution should be adopted.

Some opponents to this Resolution have advocated that Shasta County residents should sacrifice the things they hold dear about Shasta County and put our lives at risk for the sake of meeting California’s Clean Energy goals. What these advocates don’t mention or seem to care about is that Shasta County already provides many times the clean energy it consumes through various other means including hydro, solar, biomass and wind. As County staff has correctly pointed out, California is currently advocating offshore wind energy development, not further onshore development, because offshore wind is much more consistent and abundant without the many issues related to onshore developments. If producing a given amount of clean energy is truly the goal, and it isn’t primarily about the money and making billion dollar corporations even richer, then those advocating for further wind energy development in highly fire prone Shasta County should instead be advocating and lobbying for the re-powering of existing antiquated wind energy systems in Highest Wind Resource areas such as Tehachapi, Altamont Pass, and other similar areas. There are thousands of wind turbines in those areas, and many of them are dilapidated or small and antiquated. We regularly drive through those areas and have seen 50 – 60 small turbines replaced by 5 – 6 large turbines and have read reports of similar revitalizations that produce several times the power of the old systems. The only reason it isn’t happening more often is because of the money, it’s not as profitable. Instead, companies like ConnectGen and others target areas like Shasta County because that’s where the profit is – NOT because it’s any cleaner or the wind resources are any better here, in fact Shasta County has marginal winds at best. They target areas like Shasta County because they can lease the lands cheaply, zoning regulations are generally poor or don’t address industrial wind energy systems and the Counties and the people are relatively poor and can be easily bought with community enhancement funds and tax revenue. Wind Energy advocates should work with State and National legislatures to incentivize repowering efforts and making it profitable for both owners and developers, instead of breaking virgin ground and exploiting other rural areas like Shasta County.

Ms. Mudge, the attorney who claimed the resolution needed to go through CEQA, stated that the ban would preclude 2,012 MW of potential wind energy, suggesting that it was a large part of the 3,500 MW additional clean energy California wanted to produce by 2025. Ms. Mudge states in a footnote (2) of her letter that she derived that very large number from considering ALL PRIVATE unincorporated lands within Shasta County that appear to have commercially viable wind speeds per the latest California Wind Energy maps. Her statement, along with the fact that wind energy data is still being collected within the County, is just further evidence that Industrial Wind Energy developers are still targeting Shasta County and that **action needs to be taken now** to save our County from becoming another Tehachapi or Altamont Pass. The unincorporated private lands she mentions that are of most interest to Wind Energy Developers is likely the various large tract owners like Shasta Cascade Timberlands and other timber companies. The 2,012 MW of wind energy she sites in Shasta County would be nearly 10-20 additional Hatchet Ridge or Fountain Wind size of developments. Such a plan would drastically change Shasta County and cause irreparable harm to the safety, peace, morals and general welfare of County residents forever. This is all the more reason why this resolution needs to be adopted now.

We believe this Commission can take this courageous positive step to responsibly provide the protections needed to support the health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the citizens of Shasta County for generations to come by approving Resolution No. 2022-014 and supporting the Zone Amendment 22-0001. We believe this commission has the expertise and experience needed to rightly approve this resolution. You have listened to extensive testimony regarding the impact industrial wind energy systems would have on our County, you know they pose an unacceptable risk to County residents, you know they are not the right kind of project for Shasta County. You know that the financial benefits do not outweigh the negative impacts and the risk to the lives of County residents. A "Yes" vote doesn't ban clean energy, it just bans industrial size wind energy systems that pose a risk to our way of life and our lives themselves. Shasta County has provided well above their fair share of clean energy and can continue to do so through other clean technologies without the risk to life and property and our general welfare.

There will never be another Commission within Shasta County who has more experience than you do right now concerning industrial wind projects. You know this is the right thing to do. Please vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014 and continue to work to advocate these Zone Amendment recommendations to the Supervisors for their approval. The time for positive change is now!

Best Regards,

Joseph and Maggie Osa

**From:** [Dana Silberstein](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** Wind Farms  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 8:50:23 AM

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I am writing in opposition to a ban on wind farms. With water and power being in such peril we can no longer afford to reject genuine solutions.

We must remain open to alternative energy sources while at the same time controlling their location and aesthetic.

As much as we would like to we cannot continue relying on resources that are dwindling.

Thank you,

Dana Silberstein

**From:** [asollid](#)  
**To:** [SCPlanning](#)  
**Subject:** vote yes on Resolution No. 2022-014  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:14:43 AM

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**From:** [Kelly Tanner](#)  
**To:** [Paul Hellman](#)  
**Subject:** Comments May 12 Planning Hearing Kelly Tanner  
**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:49:18 AM

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Director Hellman and Commissioners-

I want to write in support of the ordinance to ban industrial turbines in Shasta County and applaud your efforts to create planning that protects communities from the risk of wildfire. As you know, I have a Masters's Degree in Disaster and Emergency Management and wrote extensively on the Fountain Fire. While some disagree about my expertise on fire, others, such as Hellman, have called me an expert on this topic.

This ordinance is not unprecedented. Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties have passed similar ordinances. It's inappropriate that a lawyer who cannot even properly write a letter was able to use it at the last hour to stall this process simply to draw more opposition from outside groups and special interests.

This ordinance ensures the safety of this County. Why waste county money, time, and resources (or any applicants) when the end result is the same. This county is at very high risk for fire, and regardless of the project, you will put lives at risk and leave them with limited or no fire protection. This should not be acceptable in any community in Shasta County. Nor should the long drawn-out process of leaving citizens in fear of this for years.

I applaud your courage and example in leading as commissioners. Please do not let outside interest groups and foreign or out-of-state companies dictate your decision. The letter was a stall tactic. They have millions of dollars and can mobilize people easily to oppose this. Our local communities are completely unaware. Your ordinance, as written, still allows for turbines that are smaller scale and better for this County. Please pass the ordinance that you want and do not back down to these groups. Economically more industrial size projects like these will be counterproductive and unsafe, and the County will subsidize them with tax money and get none of the economic benefits developers promise these projects. Nor, will they receive the clean energy promised.

I do not have time to attach the document but please ask for it - I do have a document in my possession that the same environmental group in this County suggests this is not the type of project for this County but they have to do something rather than nothing. Remember the spotted owl.

Respectfully,  
Kelly Tanner

## May 11, 2022 comments for Shasta County Planning Commissioners,

The county is well aware of how I feel about wind energy. This is an industry that has time and again, deceived the citizens of Shasta County with fraudulent research, embellished energy projections and is still hiding behind nondisclosure agreements that conceal their ongoing slaughter to Shasta county's wildlife.

There is no reason to trust this industry, **no reason not to ban this industry in Shasta County** and in the future, no reason not to prosecute this industry. I would even help with investigations. As of May 2022, this industry has never provided a credible reason for any Shasta County commissioners to ever believe a thing they have to say.

Even so, I have resubmitted some of my thoughts with scientific facts once again in an attachment with these comments. My comments below are primarily to provide so insight into a group lurking in our midst called **North State Climate action**.

I am aware of their support of wind energy and a letter they have submitted to Shasta County.



Home Our Work |



## What is the work this group really does?

This group appears to be just one more lockstep Wind industry mouthpiece. They make proclamations about helping climate without providing a shred of scientific evidence for their support of wind energy. They do not reveal if they have any **conflicts of interest, no credentials are given and nothing is said about their donors**. They're also promoting wind energy's wildly fraudulent claims about their energy contribution to the grid.

And by the way I happen to have plenty of wildlife expertise, decades of field research and no conflicts of interest.

As far as I'm concerned, the work of this group is to use fatally flawed research, loaded with conflicts of interest to spread falsehoods that benefit both the group financially and wind energy interests. Lobbying their interests to Shasta County does not make their mission truthful and remember, they have provided no research of their own.

**Audubon (see images below)** and ABC birds both sold out to wind energy years ago and have been operating the same way for years. They receive wind energy related funding, have hundreds of millions in assets, yet will not conduct a bit of independent research regarding the hidden and horrific impacts from wind energy developments. With their silence they are also lying by omission. I could write pages about these groups and the discussions I've had with their leaders.

**North State Climate Plea**

To reduce our contributions to the heat, drought, and fires on the rise in the North State:

*We call on our civic and business leaders, as well as all community members, to do what they can to reduce the use of fossil fuels. Fossil fuel use is the main contributor to climate change, which in the North State we are experiencing as increasing heat, drought, and fire.*

City of Redding

- REU should vigorously pursue adding more clean energy into its mix. The city's energy is now 25% wind, but less than 1% solar.

**Not even close to being true**

Gavin Newsom, California's Governor, isn't ready to tell California residents the truth, but here's what's coming, lots more nuclear power.

## California's future.....

### *Postponing Diablo Canyon's closure could make sense — but the devil is in the details*

BY THE TRIBUNE EDITORIAL BOARD  
APRIL 22, 2022 10:45 AM



Calvin Newsum has shifted his position on Diablo Canyon, California's last nuclear power plant, and now plans to apply for federal funds to keep it open. JULIA KATZ/CALIFORNIA TRIBUNE NEWS

The reason, after 40 years of trying, the massive fraud and green lies about wind energy powering the future are coming to an end and without using Green's energy's fraudulent math and omissions, CA's fleet of turbines might be producing a pitiful net of only 2% for the grid.

Currently California is using nuclear power generated from Arizona, but our Faux green state doesn't like to broadcast this reality.

In the near future, California's growing energy needs will have to include more nuclear power and lots of it for electric cars. The Green math hucksters won't disclose this, but with each new electric car purchased, wind power's contribution to the grid just keeps on plummeting.

## Turbine Fires will happen

I don't see them all, but here is a new one sent to me from Garner, Iowa, April 22 2022.



**National Audubon settlement letter showing the day Audubon sold out to the Wind Industry. From this day forward, I encourage Shasta County Commissioners or Supervisors to look for find a single**

negative, meaningful or truthful statement about wind energy coming from this group.



1901 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20006-3  
(202) 861-2242  
(202) 861-4290 fax

November 2, 1999

Mr. Robert Gates, President  
Enron Wind Development Corporation  
13000 Jameson Road  
Tehachapi, California 93561

Dear Mr. Gates:

It is my understanding that Enron Wind Development Corporation, Tejon Ranch Company, and several other parties have reached an agreement concerning a proposed wind energy development project near Gorman, California. As you know, the National Audubon Society has opposed development of this site because of the potential impact it could have on California Condors.

According to the information we have been provided, Enron Wind Development has taken steps to permanently insure that the Gorman site will not be developed for wind energy, and has agreed with Tejon Ranch to develop another site in the area which does not pose a threat to condors.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your company for your leadership in working to resolve this very difficult issue. Your firm has a well-deserved reputation as an environmental leader in providing power through wind energy and your decision to seek an alternative to the Gorman site is to be applauded. Your agreement has set a new standard for prompt and responsible action to provide clean, renewable energy in a manner that does not pose a risk to the California Condor.

Given the agreements Enron Wind Development, Tejon Ranch and the other parties have reached, I'm writing to inform you about the steps the National Audubon Society will now take in this matter:

1. We will terminate our campaign to oppose the wind energy development project at the Gorman site.
2. We will inform members of the House of Representatives and Senate that legislation to deny the wind power production tax credit to the Gorman site through the addition of the Audubon amendment to the production tax credit is unnecessary and we do not recommend its passage. We will also inform them that Audubon supports reauthorization of the production tax credit legislation. This information will be communicated in a letter from me to each member; a draft

Mr. Robert Gates  
November 2, 1999  
Page 2

copy of the letter is attached. I will also send letters to the members on the attached list by the close of business November 3, 1999.

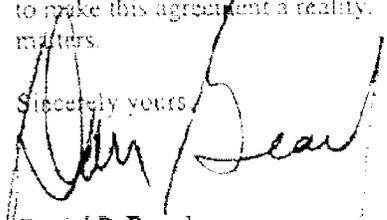
3. We will join you and the other parties in issuing the attached press release to inform the media and the public that the issues surrounding the proposed Gorman project have been resolved satisfactorily.

4. We will place the attached ads in congressional newspapers supporting the production tax credit legislation, assuming the funds to pay for these ads can be provided from other sources.

5. We will support your wind energy development project to be located at Section 21, Township 10 North, Range 15 West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined does not adversely affect recovery of the California Condor.

Once again, I want to thank you and your staff for their leadership in resolving this matter. I especially want to express my appreciation to Mr. Al Davies of your staff who worked very hard to make this agreement a reality. We look forward to working with you on this and other matters.

Sincerely yours,



Daniel P. Beard  
Senior Vice President -- Public Policy

  
Accepted and Approved

11/5/99  
Date

Shasta county should permanetly ban these projects. They are highly destructive, need fraud or nondisclosures agreements to survive, are a danger to rural residents, an incredible drain of tax dollars and provide very little benefit to society.

I would be happy to discuss any of this with North State Climate Action, in front of commissioners, but only if I am allowed to ask questions.

Jim Wiegand - Wildlife Biologist, Lakehead CA 530 2225338

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-014**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SHASTA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDING THAT THE SHASTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
APPROVE ZONE AMENDMENT 22-0001  
REGULATING SMALL AND LARGE WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS**

WHEREAS, the County of Shasta (County) has adopted a Zoning Plan identified as Title 17 (Zoning) of the Shasta County Code (SCC); and

WHEREAS, based on Planning Commission Resolution No. 2022-003, a resolution of intention to consider amendments to the Shasta County Zoning Plan to prohibit wind energy conversion systems other than small wind energy systems, County staff drafted an ordinance to define wind energy conversion systems not classified as small wind energy systems as large wind energy systems and to prohibit the development of such systems in the unincorporated area of Shasta County; and

WHEREAS, duly noticed public hearings were held on April 14, 2022, and May 12, 2022, at which time all interested persons were given an opportunity to comment and those comments were considered by the Planning Commission.

WHEREAS, the Shasta County Planning Commission has considered public comments and a report from the Planning Division.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Shasta County Planning Commission that:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
2. The Planning Commission has independently reviewed and considered the proposed zone amendment, together with all public comments and a report from the Planning Division.
3. Adoption of the ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15060(c)(2) since it can be seen with certainty that this ordinance will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.
4. The proposed Zone Amendment is consistent with the Shasta County General Plan on the basis that the ordinance prohibits a type of development that is incompatible in high risk fire hazard areas from locating in such areas (Objective FS-1), protects the natural scenery along scenic highways from new development which would diminish the aesthetic value of the scenic corridor (Objective SH-1), and guides development in a pattern that will respect the natural resource values of County lands and their contributions to the County's economic base and that will minimize land use conflicts between adjacent land uses (Objectives CO-3 & CO-4).
5. The Planning Commission recommends that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors introduce, waive the reading of, and enact an ordinance amending the Zoning Plan of the County of Shasta, identified as Zone Amendment 22-0001, by adding SCC Section 17.88.335 to define and prohibit large wind energy systems within the unincorporated area of Shasta County, amending SCC Section 17.88.035 to modify the definition of, and development regulations for, small wind energy systems, and amending SCC Section 17.88.100 to exclude large wind energy systems from being a permissible public utility with the approval of a use permit.

Resolution No. 2022-014

Page 2 of 2

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: CHAPIN, KERNS, WALGAMUTH, WALLNER

NOES: MACLEAN

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

RECUSE:



---

TIM MACLEAN, Chair  
Planning Commission  
County of Shasta, State of California

ATTEST:



---

PAUL A. HELLMAN, Secretary  
Planning Commission  
County of Shasta, State of California

**ORDINANCE NO. SCC 2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SHASTA  
REGULATING SMALL AND LARGE WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta ordains as follows:

**SECTION I.**

**Section 17.88.035, "Small wind energy systems," of the Shasta County Code is amended as follows:**

Small wind energy systems may be permitted with either an approved administrative permit or use permit, subject to the following requirements.

A. The following definitions govern this section:

"Small wind energy system" means a wind energy conversion system consisting of a wind turbine(s), a tower(s), and associated control or conversion electronics which will be used to reduce on-site consumption of utility electricity obtained via the electric grid or to enable on-site generation of electricity in lieu of connecting to the electric grid.

"Tower height" means the height above grade of the fixed position of the tower, excluding the wind turbine.

- B. One wind turbine may be permitted with an approved administrative permit. Two or more wind turbines may be permitted with an approved use permit.
- C. With an approved administrative permit, tower heights of not more than sixty-five feet shall be allowed on parcels between one and five acres, and tower heights of not more than eighty feet shall be allowed on parcels greater than five acres, provided that the application includes evidence that the proposed height does not exceed the height recommended by the manufacturer or distributor of the system. Tower heights in excess of the aforementioned limits may be permitted with an approved use permit.
- D. Setbacks for the system tower from the property line shall be no less than the height of the system, provided that it also complies with any applicable fire setback requirements including, but not limited to, Section 4290 of the Public Resources Code as it may be amended from time to time.
- E. Decibel levels for the system shall not exceed the noise standards established in the Noise Element of the General Plan, except during short-term events such as utility outages and severe wind storms.

- F. The system shall comply with all applicable Federal Aviation Administration requirements, including Subpart B (commencing with Section 77.11) of Part 77 of Title 14 of Code of Federal Regulations regarding installations close to airports, and the State Aeronautics Act (Part 1 [commencing with Section 21001] of Division 9 of the Public Utilities Code) as those requirements may be amended from time to time.
- G. The applicant shall provide information demonstrating that the system will be used to reduce on-site consumption of electricity obtained via the electric grid or to enable on-site generation of electricity in lieu of connecting to the electric grid. The application shall include evidence, unless the applicant does not plan to connect the system to the electric grid, that the electric utility service provider that serves the proposed site has been informed of the applicant's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned electricity generator.
- H. A small wind energy system shall not be allowed where otherwise prohibited by any of the following:
  - 1. A comprehensive land use plan and implementing regulations adopted by an airport land use commission pursuant to Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 21670) of Chapter 4 of Division 9 of Part 1 of the Public Utilities Code.
  - 2. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, Chapter 7.5 (commencing with Section 2621) of Division 2 of the Public Resources Code.
  - 3. The county to protect the scenic appearance of the scenic highway corridor pursuant to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 260) of Chapter 2 of Division 1 of Streets and Highways Code.
  - 4. The terms of a conservation easement entered into pursuant to the Open-space Easement Act of 1974, Chapter 6.6 (commencing with Section 51070) of Division 1 of Title 5 of the Government Code.
  - 5. The terms of an agricultural conservation easement entered into pursuant to the California Farmland Conservancy Program Act, Division 10.23 (commencing with Section 10200) of the Public Resources Code.
  - 6. The terms of a contract entered into pursuant to the Williamson Act, Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1 of Title 5 of the Government Code.
  - 7. The listing of the proposed site in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources pursuant to Section 5024.1 of the Public Resources Code.
- I. In the event a small wind energy system is proposed to be sited in an agricultural area that may have aircraft operating at low altitudes, the county may take reasonable steps,

concurrent with other notices issued pursuant to this subdivision, to notify aircraft pilots registered to operate in the county pursuant to Section 11921 of the Food and Agriculture Code as it may be amended from time to time.

## **SECTION II.**

**Section 17.88.100, "Public uses, public utilities, and high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects," of the Shasta County Code is amended as follows:**

- A. High voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects are permitted if a use permit is issued. Section 17.92.025 of this title governs those projects and sets forth various standards and requirements for applications, permit review, and related matters. In some cases, state and federal laws may regulate certain types or characteristics of these projects. This section shall be construed to provide the county with the maximum control consistent with such other laws.
- B. Public uses and public utilities, with the exception of large wind energy systems as defined in subsection 17.88.335.B. of this chapter, are permitted if a use permit is issued, except that public utility transmission lines, towers, distribution poles and lines, regardless of height, and gas pipelines, which are not associated with high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, are permitted uses.
- C. A use permit shall not be issued for a public use or utility or a high voltage electrical transmission and distribution project in a resource district unless findings are made that there is not a reasonable alternative site outside of a resource district, and the impacts from the project on the resource land have been reduced to the lowest reasonable level.
- D. Notwithstanding subsections A and B and C of this section and Section 17.94.040, minor additions or alterations to existing public utility facilities or high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, such as construction of small, unmanned buildings or addition of microwave dishes to an existing tower, are permitted uses, and shall not require amendment of a use permit.
- E. Notwithstanding subsections A and B and C of this section, small, new public utility facilities or small, new facilities associated with existing high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, such as unmanned telecommunication relay or booster stations, are permitted if an administrative permit is issued.

## **SECTION III.**

**Section 17.88.335, Large wind energy systems," is added to the Shasta County Code as follows:**

**17.88.335 Large wind energy systems.**

**A. Legislative Findings.**

The Board of Supervisors finds as follows:

1. California Government Code section 65850 authorizes the County of Shasta to adopt ordinances that regulate the use of buildings, structures, and land and the intensity of land uses.
2. Pursuant to Article XI, Section 7, of the California Constitution, the County of Shasta may adopt and enforce ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizens.
3. The adverse impacts of large wind energy systems, particularly with respect to wildfire, aerial firefighting, aesthetics, biological resources, and historical, cultural, and tribal resources, are of significant concern to many residents of Shasta County as evidenced by the numerous public comments received between 2019 and 2021 regarding the proposed Fountain Wind Project.
4. The vast majority of the unincorporated area of Shasta County is designated as being in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Large wind energy systems are incompatible in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.
5. Regulations are needed to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of residents from the adverse impacts of large wind energy systems.
6. The Board of Supervisors enacts this section to prohibit large wind energy systems in furtherance of the public necessity, health, safety, convenience, and general welfare.

**B. Definitions.**

The following definition governs this section:

“Large wind energy system” means a wind energy conversion system that is not defined as a small wind energy system pursuant to subsection 17.88.035.A. of this chapter.

**C. Prohibition.**

Large wind energy systems are prohibited in all zone districts of the unincorporated area of the County of Shasta and no permit or approval of any type shall be issued therefor.

**SECTION IV.**

The County finds that this ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15060(c)(2) since it can be seen with certainty that this ordinance will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

**SECTION V.**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or provisions be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

**SECTION VI.**

All former ordinances and resolutions, or parts thereof, conflicting or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby superseded by this ordinance. The adoption of this ordinance shall not in any manner affect any action or prosecution for violation of ordinances, which violations were committed prior to the effective date hereof, be construed as a waiver of any license, fee, or penalty required by or resulting from any such ordinance, or affect the validity of any bond (or cash deposit in lieu thereof) required to be posted, filed, or deposited pursuant to such ordinance.

**SECTION VII.**

This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect 30 days after its passage. The Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published as required by law.

Ordinance No. SCC 2022-\_\_\_\_\_

Page 6 of 6

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED** this XX day of XXXX, 2022, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta, State of California, by the following vote:

AYES: X  
NOES: X  
ABSENT: X  
ABSTAIN: X  
RECUSE: X

---

LES BAUGH, CHAIR  
Board of Supervisors  
County of Shasta  
State of California

ATTEST:

MATTHEW P. PONTES  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

**ORDINANCE NO. SCC 2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SHASTA  
REGULATING SMALL AND LARGE WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta ordains as follows:

**SECTION I.**

**Section 17.88.035, "Small wind energy systems," of the Shasta County Code is amended as follows:**

Small wind energy systems may be permitted with either an approved administrative permit or use permit, subject to the following requirements.

A. The following definitions govern this section:

"Small wind energy system" means a wind energy conversion system consisting of a wind turbine(s), a tower(s), and associated control or conversion electronics which will be used to reduce on-site consumption of utility electricity obtained via the electric grid or to enable on-site generation of electricity in lieu of connecting to the electric grid.

"Tower height" means the height above grade of the fixed position of the tower, excluding the wind turbine.

- B. One wind turbine may be permitted with an approved administrative permit. Two or more wind turbines may be permitted with an approved use permit.
- C. With an approved administrative permit, tower heights of not more than sixty-five feet shall be allowed on parcels between one and five acres, and tower heights of not more than eighty feet shall be allowed on parcels greater than five acres, provided that the application includes evidence that the proposed height does not exceed the height recommended by the manufacturer or distributor of the system. Tower heights in excess of the aforementioned limits may be permitted with an approved use permit.
- D. Setbacks for the system tower from the property line shall be no less than the height of the system, provided that it also complies with any applicable fire setback requirements including, but not limited to, Section 4290 of the Public Resources Code as it may be amended from time to time.
- E. Decibel levels for the system shall not exceed the noise standards established in the Noise Element of the General Plan, except during short-term events such as utility outages and severe wind storms.

- F. The system shall comply with all applicable Federal Aviation Administration requirements, including Subpart B (commencing with Section 77.11) of Part 77 of Title 14 of Code of Federal Regulations regarding installations close to airports, and the State Aeronautics Act (Part 1 [commencing with Section 21001] of Division 9 of the Public Utilities Code) as those requirements may be amended from time to time.
- G. The applicant shall provide information demonstrating that the system will be used to reduce on-site consumption of electricity obtained via the electric grid or to enable on-site generation of electricity in lieu of connecting to the electric grid. The application shall include evidence, unless the applicant does not plan to connect the system to the electric grid, that the electric utility service provider that serves the proposed site has been informed of the applicant's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned electricity generator.
- H. A small wind energy system shall not be allowed where otherwise prohibited by any of the following:
  - 1. A comprehensive land use plan and implementing regulations adopted by an airport land use commission pursuant to Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 21670) of Chapter 4 of Division 9 of Part 1 of the Public Utilities Code.
  - 2. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, Chapter 7.5 (commencing with Section 2621) of Division 2 of the Public Resources Code.
  - 3. The county to protect the scenic appearance of the scenic highway corridor pursuant to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 260) of Chapter 2 of Division 1 of Streets and Highways Code.
  - 4. The terms of a conservation easement entered into pursuant to the Open-space Easement Act of 1974, Chapter 6.6 (commencing with Section 51070) of Division 1 of Title 5 of the Government Code.
  - 5. The terms of an agricultural conservation easement entered into pursuant to the California Farmland Conservancy Program Act, Division 10.23 (commencing with Section 10200) of the Public Resources Code.
  - 6. The terms of a contract entered into pursuant to the Williamson Act, Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1 of Title 5 of the Government Code.
  - 7. The listing of the proposed site in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources pursuant to Section 5024.1 of the Public Resources Code.
- I. In the event a small wind energy system is proposed to be sited in an agricultural area that may have aircraft operating at low altitudes, the county may take reasonable steps,

concurrent with other notices issued pursuant to this subdivision, to notify aircraft pilots registered to operate in the county pursuant to Section 11921 of the Food and Agriculture Code as it may be amended from time to time.

## **SECTION II.**

**Section 17.88.100, "Public uses, public utilities, and high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects," of the Shasta County Code is amended as follows:**

- A. High voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects are permitted if a use permit is issued. Section 17.92.025 of this title governs those projects and sets forth various standards and requirements for applications, permit review, and related matters. In some cases, state and federal laws may regulate certain types or characteristics of these projects. This section shall be construed to provide the county with the maximum control consistent with such other laws.
- B. Public uses and public utilities, with the exception of large wind energy systems as defined in subsection 17.88.335.B. of this chapter, are permitted if a use permit is issued, except that public utility transmission lines, towers, distribution poles and lines, regardless of height, and gas pipelines, which are not associated with high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, are permitted uses.
- C. A use permit shall not be issued for a public use or utility or a high voltage electrical transmission and distribution project in a resource district unless findings are made that there is not a reasonable alternative site outside of a resource district, and the impacts from the project on the resource land have been reduced to the lowest reasonable level.
- D. Notwithstanding subsections A and B and C of this section and Section 17.94.040, minor additions or alterations to existing public utility facilities or high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, such as construction of small, unmanned buildings or addition of microwave dishes to an existing tower, are permitted uses, and shall not require amendment of a use permit.
- E. Notwithstanding subsections A and B and C of this section, small, new public utility facilities or small, new facilities associated with existing high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, such as unmanned telecommunication relay or booster stations, are permitted if an administrative permit is issued.

## **SECTION III.**

**Section 17.88.335, Large wind energy systems," is added to the Shasta County Code as follows:**

17.88.335 Large wind energy systems.

Ordinance No. SCC 2022- \_\_\_\_\_

Page 4 of 6

**A. Legislative Findings.**

The Board of Supervisors finds as follows:

1. California Government Code section 65850 authorizes the County of Shasta to adopt ordinances that regulate the use of buildings, structures, and land and the intensity of land uses.
2. Pursuant to Article XI, Section 7, of the California Constitution, the County of Shasta may adopt and enforce ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizens.
3. The adverse impacts of large wind energy systems, particularly with respect to wildfire, aerial firefighting, aesthetics, biological resources, and historical, cultural, and tribal resources, are of significant concern to many residents of Shasta County as evidenced by the numerous public comments received between 2019 and 2021 regarding the proposed Fountain Wind Project.
4. The vast majority of the unincorporated area of Shasta County is designated as being in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Large wind energy systems are incompatible in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.
5. Regulations are needed to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of residents from the adverse impacts of large wind energy systems.
6. The Board of Supervisors enacts this section to prohibit large wind energy systems in furtherance of the public necessity, health, safety, convenience, and general welfare.

**B. Definitions.**

The following definition governs this section:

“Large wind energy system” means a wind energy conversion system that is not defined as a small wind energy system pursuant to subsection 17.88.035.A. of this chapter.

**C. Prohibition.**

Large wind energy systems are prohibited in all zone districts of the unincorporated area of the County of Shasta and no permit or approval of any type shall be issued therefor.

Ordinance No. SCC 2022-\_\_\_\_\_

Page 5 of 6

**SECTION IV.**

The County finds that this ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15060(c)(2) since it can be seen with certainty that this ordinance will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

**SECTION V.**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or provisions be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

**SECTION VI.**

All former ordinances and resolutions, or parts thereof, conflicting or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby superseded by this ordinance. The adoption of this ordinance shall not in any manner affect any action or prosecution for violation of ordinances, which violations were committed prior to the effective date hereof, be construed as a waiver of any license, fee, or penalty required by or resulting from any such ordinance, or affect the validity of any bond (or cash deposit in lieu thereof) required to be posted, filed, or deposited pursuant to such ordinance.

**SECTION VII.**

This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect 30 days after its passage. The Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published as required by law.

Ordinance No. SCC 2022-\_\_\_\_\_

Page 6 of 6

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED** this XX day of XXXX, 2022, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta, State of California, by the following vote:

AYES: X  
NOES: X  
ABSENT: X  
ABSTAIN: X  
RECUSE: X

---

LES BAUGH, CHAIR  
Board of Supervisors  
County of Shasta  
State of California

ATTEST:

PATRICK J. MINTURN  
Acting Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

**STRIKEOUT VERSION OF ORDINANCE NO. SCC 2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SHASTA  
REGULATING SMALL AND LARGE WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta ordains as follows:

**SECTION I.**

**Section 17.88.035, "Small wind energy systems," of the Shasta County Code is amended as follows:**

Small wind energy systems may be permitted with either an approved administrative permit or use permit, subject to the following requirements. ~~Wind energy systems which do not meet the following requirements may be permitted with an approved use permit.~~

A. The following definitions govern this section:

"Small wind energy system" means a wind energy conversion system consisting of a wind turbine(s), a tower(s), and associated control or conversion electronics, ~~which has a rated capacity that does not exceed the allowable rated capacity under the Emerging Renewables Fund of the Renewables Investment Plan administered by the California Energy Commission, and which will be used primarily to reduce on-site consumption of utility electricity obtained via the electric grid or to enable on-site generation of electricity in lieu of connecting to the electric grid.~~

"Tower height" means the height above grade of the fixed position of the tower, excluding the wind turbine.

- B. One wind turbine may be permitted with an approved administrative permit. Two or more wind turbines may be permitted with an approved use permit.
- C. With an approved administrative permit, Ttower heights of not more than sixty-five feet shall be allowed on parcels between one and five acres, and tower heights of not more than eighty feet shall be allowed on parcels of greater than five acres or more, provided that the application includes evidence that the proposed height does not exceed the height recommended by the manufacturer or distributor of the system. Tower heights in excess of the aforementioned limits may be permitted with an approved use permit.
- D. Setbacks for the system tower from the property line shall be no less than the height of the system, provided that it also complies with any applicable fire setback requirements including, but not limited to, pursuant to Section 4290 of the Public Resources Code as it may be amended from time to time.

- E. Decibel levels for the system shall not exceed the noise standards established in the Noise Element of the General Plan, except during short-term events such as utility outages and severe wind storms.
- ~~F. The system's turbine must have been approved by the California Energy Commission as qualifying under the Emerging Renewables Fund of the Commissions' Renewables Investment Plan or certified by a national program recognized and approved by the Energy Commission.~~
- ~~G. The application shall include standard drawings and an engineering analysis of the system's tower, showing compliance with the Uniform Building Code or the California Building Standards Code and certification by a professional mechanical, structural, or civil engineer licensed by this state. However, a wet stamp shall not be required, provided that the application demonstrates that the system is designed to meet the most stringent wind requirements (Uniform Building Code wind exposure D), the requirement for the worst seismic class (Seismic 4), and the weakest soil class, with a soil strength of not more than one thousand pounds per square foot, or other relevant conditions normally required by the current Building Code as adopted by the county.~~
- F. The system shall comply with all applicable Federal Aviation Administration requirements, including Subpart B (commencing with Section 77.11) of Part 77 of Title 14 of Code of Federal Regulations regarding installations close to airports, and the State Aeronautics Act (Part 1 [commencing with Section 21001] of Division 9 of the Public Utilities Code) as those requirements may be amended from time to time.
- ~~G. The application shall include a line drawing of the electrical components of the system in sufficient detail to allow for a determination that the manner of installation conforms to the National Electric Code.~~
- G. The applicant shall provide information demonstrating that the system will be used primarily to reduce on-site consumption of electricity obtained via the electric grid or to enable on-site generation of electricity in lieu of connecting to the electric grid. The application shall include evidence, unless the applicant does not plan to connect the system to the electricity grid, that the electric utility service provider that serves the proposed site has been informed of the applicant's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned electricity generator.
- H. A small wind energy system shall not be allowed where otherwise prohibited by any of the following:
  - 1. A comprehensive land use plan and implementing regulations adopted by an airport land use commission pursuant to Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 21670) of Chapter 4 of Division 9 of Part 1 of the Public Utilities Code.
  - 2. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, Chapter 7.5 (commencing with Section 2621) of Division 2 of the Public Resources Code.

3. The county to protect the scenic appearance of the scenic highway corridor pursuant to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 260) of Chapter 2 of Division 1 of Streets and Highways Code.
  4. The terms of a conservation easement entered into pursuant to the Open-space Easement Act of 1974, Chapter 6.6 (commencing with Section 51070) of Division 1 of Title 5 of the Government Code.
  5. The terms of an agricultural conservation easement entered into pursuant to the California Farmland Conservancy Program Act, Division 10.23 (commencing with Section 10200) of the Public Resources Code.
  6. The terms of a contract entered into pursuant to the Williamson Act, Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1 of Title 5 of the Government Code.
  7. The listing of the proposed site in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources pursuant to Section 5024.1 of the Public Resources Code.
- I. In the event a small wind energy system is proposed to be sited in an agricultural area that may have aircraft operating at low altitudes, the county may take reasonable steps, concurrent with other notices issued pursuant to this subdivision, to notify aircraft pilots registered to operate in the county pursuant to Section 11921 of the Food and Agriculture Code as it may be amended from time to time.

## SECTION II.

**Section 17.88.100, "Public uses, public utilities, and high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects," of the Shasta County Code is amended as follows:**

- A. High voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects are permitted if a use permit is issued. Section 17.92.025 of this title governs those projects and sets forth various standards and requirements for applications, permit review, and related matters. In some cases, state and federal laws may regulate certain types or characteristics of these projects. This section shall be construed to provide the county with the maximum control consistent with such other laws.
- B. Public uses and public utilities, with the exception of large wind energy systems as defined in subsection 17.88.335.B. of this chapter, are permitted if a use permit is issued, except that public utility transmission lines, towers, distribution poles and lines, regardless of height, and gas pipelines, which are not associated with high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, are permitted uses.

- C. A use permit shall not be issued for a public use or utility or a high voltage electrical transmission and distribution project in a resource district unless findings are made that there is not a reasonable alternative site outside of a resource district, and the impacts from the project on the resource land have been reduced to the lowest reasonable level.
- D. Notwithstanding subsections A and B and C of this section and Section 17.94.040, minor additions or alterations to existing public utility facilities or high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, such as construction of small, unmanned buildings or addition of microwave dishes to an existing tower, are permitted uses, and shall not require amendment of a use permit.
- E. Notwithstanding subsections A and B and C of this section, small, new public utility facilities or small, new facilities associated with existing high voltage electrical transmission and distribution projects, such as unmanned telecommunication relay or booster stations, are permitted if an administrative permit is issued.

### **SECTION III.**

**Section 17.88.335, Large wind energy systems,” is added to the Shasta County Code as follows:**

**17.88.335 Large wind energy systems.**

#### **A. Legislative Findings.**

The Board of Supervisors finds as follows:

1. California Government Code section 65850 authorizes the County of Shasta to adopt ordinances that regulate the use of buildings, structures, and land and the intensity of land uses.
2. Pursuant to Article XI, Section 7, of the California Constitution, the County of Shasta may adopt and enforce ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizens.
3. The adverse impacts of large wind energy systems, particularly with respect to wildfire, aerial firefighting, aesthetics, biological resources, and historical, cultural, and tribal resources, are of significant concern to many residents of Shasta County as evidenced by the numerous public comments received between 2019 and 2021 regarding the proposed Fountain Wind Project.
4. The vast majority of the unincorporated area of Shasta County is designated as being in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Large wind energy systems are incompatible in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

5. Regulations are needed to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of residents from the adverse impacts of large wind energy systems.
6. The Board of Supervisors enacts this section to prohibit large wind energy systems in furtherance of the public necessity, health, safety, convenience, and general welfare.

**B. Definitions.**

The following definition governs this section:

“Large wind energy system” means a wind energy conversion system that is not defined as a small wind energy system pursuant to subsection 17.88.035.A. of this chapter.

**C. Prohibition.**

Large wind energy systems are prohibited in all zone districts of the unincorporated area of the County of Shasta and no permit or approval of any type shall be issued therefor.

**SECTION IV.**

The County finds that this ordinance is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15060(c)(2) since it can be seen with certainty that this ordinance will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

**SECTION V.**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or provisions be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

**SECTION VI.**

All former ordinances and resolutions, or parts thereof, conflicting or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby superseded by this ordinance. The adoption of this ordinance shall not in any manner affect any action or prosecution for violation of ordinances, which violations were committed prior to the effective date hereof, be construed as a waiver of any license, fee, or penalty required by or resulting from any such ordinance,

Ordinance No. SCC 2022-\_\_\_\_\_

Page 6 of 6

or affect the validity of any bond (or cash deposit in lieu thereof) required to be posted, filed, or deposited pursuant to such ordinance.

**SECTION VII.**

This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect 30 days after its passage. The Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published as required by law.

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED** this XX day of XXXX, 2022, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta, State of California, by the following vote:

AYES:	X
NOES:	X
ABSENT:	X
ABSTAIN:	X
RECUSE:	X

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LES BAUGH, CHAIR  
Board of Supervisors  
County of Shasta  
State of California

ATTEST:

PATRICK J. MINTURN  
Acting Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy



# Shasta County

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## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

PATRICK J. MINTURN  
ACTING COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1450 COURT ST., SUITE 308A  
REDDING, CALIFORNIA 96001-1673  
VOICE – (530) 225-5561  
(NORTH STATE) – (800) 479-8009  
FAX – 229-8238

June 28, 2022

### FLOOR ALERT

Assembly Bill 205 (Committee on Budget)  
Senate Bill 122 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review)  
As Amended June 26, 2022 – OPPOSE

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The County of Shasta opposes AB 205/SB 122, the Energy Trailer Bills. These bills would allow for a shift of local authority for siting of solar, wind, and certain battery backup projects to the California Energy Commission (CEC) and would, under the auspices of a Strategic Energy Reserve, delegate to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) blanket authority to bypass local permitting, including through the Coastal Act of 1976. These facilities can have enormous impacts on our communities, even when the benefits are spread to other parts of the state. Shasta County contains diverse natural resources, many, if not all, of which could be impacted by poorly sited large solar and wind projects. AB 205/SB 122 propose removing local jurisdictional oversight when approving these projects, not necessarily accounting for local impacts on residents and natural resources.

Counties work closely with energy developers to site facilities and appropriately balance the needs of the community. As such, we would support efforts to assist counties in expediting permitting but transitioning authority to the CEC and DWR is not the solution.

***The CEC permitting process for renewable energy and manufacturing contained in these bills misses the mark, is overly broad, usurps local control, excludes local governments from meaningful involvement in major development projects within their jurisdictions, and could result in even more litigation.***

While state must improve energy reliability both at the local level and for the larger grid, many of our communities have suffered a dramatic decline in energy reliability over the last several years.

We understand that the CEC permitting process is just one component of the trailer bill, however, its impact will be sweeping and long-lasting. AB 205/SB 122 bypasses the traditional local permitting process designed to ensure a project's impacts on local communities and residents will be minimized. AB 205/SB 122 also removes all local permitting for facilities cited through the Department of Water Resources for strategic energy reserves and exempts these projects from the California Coastal Act.

AB 205/SB 122 were crafted without the input, and over the objections of, local governments that are best positioned to balance competing interests. **The County of Shasta opposes this over-reach of state permitting and urgently requests your "No" vote on AB 205/SB 122.**

Sincerely,



Patrick J. Minturn  
Acting County Executive Officer

# **Item R 13:**

**Zone Amendment 22-0001**

**Regulation of Wind Energy Systems**

# Planning Commission

On January 13, 2022, by a 4-0 vote the Planning Commission adopted a resolution of intention to consider amendments to the Zoning Plan to regulate large wind energy systems.

# Planning Commission

On May 12, 2022, by a 4-1 vote the Planning Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve the proposed ordinance.

# Basis for Recommendation

- Adverse impacts of large wind energy systems with respect to wildfire, aerial firefighting, aesthetics, biological resources, and historical, cultural, and tribal resources are of significant concern to many residents.

# Basis for Recommendation

- The vast majority of the unincorporated area of the County is in the High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.
- Large wind energy systems are incompatible in these zones.

# Basis for Recommendation

- Regulations are needed to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of residents from the aforementioned impacts.



# Draft Ordinance

- Amends definition and regulations for “Small wind energy systems”
- Amends regulations for public utilities
- Adds section defining and prohibiting “Large wind energy systems”

# Assembly Bill (AB) 205

AB 205 was signed by the Governor on June 30, 2022 and took effect immediately.

# Assembly Bill (AB) 205

AB 205 transferred permitting authority for wind and solar energy facilities with a generating capacity of 50 MW or more from local jurisdictions to the California Energy Commission.

# Assembly Bill (AB) 205

Based upon preliminary review of AB 205, staff feel that the opportunity exists for revisions to be made to the proposed ordinance which reflect the County's role in the permitting process in a manner that will maximize the County's ability to influence the CEC's actions regarding proposed facilities.

# Staff Recommendation

In light of the approval of AB 205 subsequent to the Commission's recommendation, staff recommends that the Board conduct a public hearing and refer the proposed ordinance to the Planning Commission for further review.

# Alternatives

- Enact the ordinance
- Deny the ordinance
- Enact the ordinance and direct staff to place on a future agenda of the Board of Supervisors a resolution of intention to consider additional amendments to the Zoning Plan in light of AB 205

**From:** Ron Dykstra <dbdykstra@sbcglobal.net>  
**To:** Joe Chimenti; Mary Rickert; Patrick Jones; Les Baugh; Timothy Garman  
**CC:** Paul Hellman  
**Sent:** 7/11/2022 6:03:30 PM  
**Subject:** Board of Supervisors meeting, July 12th, Zone Amendment 22-0001, Item R13

**⚠ EXTERNAL SENDER:** Do not follow links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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I apologize if you have already received this. My email is giving me some problems.

Dear Supervisors:

First, I'd like to thank you for the thought you gave to the Fountain Wind Project. I disagreed with your decision, but I respect the fact that you had the welfare of your constituents in mind.

I urge you to not implement staff's recommendation regarding Zone Amendment 22-0001. Don't send the issue back to the Planning Commission. Instead, reject the proposed amendment outright and eliminate this unnecessary ban.

The Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission have all the authority they need to reject any future proposed wind farm under 50 megawatt capacity and that they consider to be deficient, without the proposed amendment. Don't take any action that could totally preclude any opportunity to generate clean, renewable, cheap energy for projects up to 50 megawatts, regardless of their potential benefits. Yes, the permitting of these projects takes up time and money for both County staff and the project proponents. However, in the future, this could be time and money well spent. And as a commissioner pointed out in the 12 May meeting, it is not the commissioners charge to make these decisions for a developer. I don't think it is the Board's responsibility either.

As you know, the Planning Commission voted 4-1 to send this amendment to you. Of the four yes votes from the 12 May meeting:

One commissioner stated "taking on projects one by one is a pretty reasonable request." He further stated he could support wind farms in a moderate fire zone. Yet he voted to approve the proposed Zone Amendment that bans any wind project anywhere in the County.

One commissioner stated "There are a few, but not very many" when assessing possible acceptable locations for wind power in the County. He also stated "If we pass this today, it doesn't mean we can't change it in the future." So this commissioner appears to be somewhat ambivalent about the necessity of a complete ban, in spite of his vote. To be totally transparent about his comments, he did comment that he believed forested areas are not the place for wind farms.

One commissioner stated "...if we approve...this zoning change... we're not...taking away any opportunities, any feasible opportunities, for wind farm development in Shasta County." But that's exactly what the zone amendment does. This commissioner did state that he thinks forested areas are not the place for wind farms, so I believe he made the comment at the beginning of this paragraph because he assumes there are no non-forested areas that would be suitable for wind farms. That's an assumption better left to verification when and if an actual proposal for a wind farm is developed.

One Commissioner stated that "...if you build wind farms, you're not going to be able to fight" referring to aerial fire fighting. In the 14 April Planning commission meeting, this commissioner stated "wind towers take out aerial attack." These statements are only partially true, at best. For Fountain Wind, aerial fire fighting could be implemented, but the largest air tanker, or VLAT, could not be used within the boundaries of the tower array. As noted in North State Climate Action's comments to you, the tower arrangement of a wind farm is critical to the assessment of the possible use of a VLAT. A linear tower arrangement, similar to the Hatchet Ridge Wind Farm could allow the use of a VLAT.

It appears that there is some ambivalence, some assumptions, and some misunderstanding of facts regarding this Zoning Amendment by the Commissioners.

Each potential wind project needs to be assessed on its benefits and its drawbacks no matter its location. I don't believe that projects in forested areas are out of the question. If the Planning Commissioners believe that is the case, then they will have the opportunity to reject such a project when it is proposed without this zoning amendment. Please reject proposed Zoning Amendment 22-0001.

Thank you,

Ron Dykstra.



# Shasta County

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## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

PATRICK J. MINTURN  
ACTING COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1450 COURT ST., SUITE 308A  
REDDING, CALIFORNIA 96001-1673  
VOICE – (530) 225-5561  
(NORTH STATE) – (800) 479-8009  
FAX – 229-8238

June 28, 2022

### FLOOR ALERT

**Assembly Bill 205 (Committee on Budget)**  
**Senate Bill 122 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review)**  
As Amended June 26, 2022 – **OPPOSE**

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The County of Shasta opposes AB 205/SB 122, the Energy Trailer Bills. These bills would allow for a shift of local authority for siting of solar, wind, and certain battery backup projects to the California Energy Commission (CEC) and would, under the auspices of a Strategic Energy Reserve, delegate to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) blanket authority to bypass local permitting, including through the Coastal Act of 1976. These facilities can have enormous impacts on our communities, even when the benefits are spread to other parts of the state. Shasta County contains diverse natural resources, many, if not all, of which could be impacted by poorly sited large solar and wind projects. AB 205/SB 122 propose removing local jurisdictional oversight when approving these projects, not necessarily accounting for local impacts on residents and natural resources.

Counties work closely with energy developers to site facilities and appropriately balance the needs of the community. As such, we would support efforts to assist counties in expediting permitting but transitioning authority to the CEC and DWR is not the solution.

**The CEC permitting process for renewable energy and manufacturing contained in these bills misses the mark, is overly broad, usurps local control, excludes local governments from meaningful involvement in major development projects within their jurisdictions, and could result in even more litigation.**

While state must improve energy reliability both at the local level and for the larger grid, many of our communities have suffered a dramatic decline in energy reliability over the last several years.

We understand that the CEC permitting process is just one component of the trailer bill, however, its impact will be sweeping and long-lasting. AB 205/SB 122 bypasses the traditional local permitting process designed to ensure a project's impacts on local communities and residents will be minimized. AB 205/SB 122 also removes all local permitting for facilities cited through the Department of Water Resources for strategic energy reserves and exempts these projects from the California Coastal Act.

AB 205/SB 122 were crafted without the input, and over the objections of, local governments that are best positioned to balance competing interests. **The County of Shasta opposes this over-reach of state permitting and urgently requests your "No" vote on AB 205/SB 122.**

Sincerely,



Patrick J. Minurn  
Acting County Executive Officer

July 10, 2022

Shasta County Board of Supervisors [shastacountybos@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:shastacountybos@co.shasta.ca.us)

<shastacountybos@co.shasta.ca.us>

Joe Chimenti- District 1; Tim Garman – District 2; Mary Rickert – District 3; Patrick Jones – District 4; and Les Baugh – District 5

Subj: Zone Amendment 22-0001 – Proposed ordinance amending the Shasta County Zoning Plan, Title 17 of the Shasta County Code. To regulation small and large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County.

I fully support the proposed ordinance amendment- Zone Amendment 22-0001, regulating small and large wind energy systems. Vote YES!

The Planning Commission discussed the need for zoning changes in January of 2022 and then directed Mr. Hellman's staff to put together the Resolution to present to the Supervisors for consideration. The staff captured the items discussed and requested by the Commission. Mr. Hellman, provided all the necessary background, including CEQA law review, which supports the decision to implement the zoning changes listed within the proposed Zone Amendment 22-0001, enabling the protection of the communities across Shasta County most affected by these types of industrial developments. In addition, Commissioner Kerns provided overwhelming support, via his Shasta County wildfire map, where wildfires have engulfed large areas across Shasta County. Commissioner Chapin, with decades of forestry expertise, also stated he does not believe that these types of industrial developments should be built within the forested areas. He stated these are the highest wildfire prone areas which could destroy trees and take decades or a hundred years or more to fully recover. Various experts provided overwhelming testimony, during the recent public hearings, that industrial wind turbine developments in forested areas only introduce unnecessary wildfire risk where wildfires could not be fought effectively within/surrounding the turbine fields. These expert testimonies were provided by at least 6 wildfire pilots whose careers have thousands of hours of wildfire fighting experience. One of those experts attended the Supervisor's public hearing for the Fountain Wind Appeal, while on a break from fighting the Dixie Fire, where he had also dropped retardant on the Fawn Fire.

The expert testimony from Pit River Tribal Cultural Resource Representatives and many of their tribal citizenry provided deep knowledge and understandings of the importance of protecting sacred places. The Pit River Tribe, with over 4000 citizens, who presented their Tribal Resolution opposing such industrial wind developments, such as the recent Fountain Wind Project. We all witnessed numerous tribal members who testified at both public hearings, stating how offensive these developments were, especially to the cultural and spiritual impacts these mega industrial farms cause and can only be fully understood by the tribal members themselves and would never be captured through the CEQA or the political process. The Commissioners performed their duty and too the hard look into the Fountain Wind Project and informed the Board of Supervisors correctly- denying the Fountain Wind Project in order to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community members. That decision

promoted our whole community and we ALL felt included at that time. Keep in mind it has already been proven, even stated by the Fire Safety Representative from Shasta County, and addressed to Supervisor Moty, that the preparation work and clearing for these industrial projects bring their own risk so it is as not as “clear cut” for fire safety through the environmental review process. As stated on numerous occasions, by various experts, these types of industrial developments, within the highest wildfire rated and forested areas are not acceptable. For that reason alone, I ask you to approval Zone Amendment 22-0001, but also it will remove the fear and threats of future destruction, desecration, and erasing of native cultural ceremonies and scared sites for the Pit River Tribe and other surrounding Tribes.

And remember that the CIO (Citizens In Opposition) FWP (Fountain Wind Project) submitted 2,386 signatures and expert testimony to reject the Fountain Wind Industrial Development. As a point of reference, the 2,386 signatures include some of the Shasta County residents from 22 unincorporated communities and three incorporated communities.

Many of us see the state has voted and that the governor signed on June 30, 2022 Assembly Bill 205 which amends the Warren-Alquist Act<sup>[1]</sup>, and to grant the California Energy Commission (CEC) exclusive authority over siting and approving certain types of clean energy facilities until June 30, 2029. It also states that AB 205 removes authority from local cities and counties but that local governments may participate in the process but they will no longer have primary land use authority over the application. I certainly disagree with requirement. In the governors letter announcing the new law he does say “I am directing the California Energy Commission, the California Air Resources Board, and the Department of Water Resources to work with stakeholders to ensure full and substantial engagement with relevant state, local and regional agencies in the implementation of this act, including the development of guidelines required by Public Resources Code section 25791 (c) and Water Code section 80710(j), to ensure clean energy resources are prioritized over fossil fuels.” Therefore, Shasta County Board of Supervisors I join you in our efforts as a “stakeholder” in negotiating with the CEC regarding AB 205 in the further protections to the native cultural resources, the environment, safety, protection, and general welfare of the community members.

Zone Amendment 22-0001 does not abolish all wind energy project, which is statements being promoted by environmental groups, but Shasta County Board of Supervisors, Commissioner’s and county staff have already taken the responsible hard look at the recent proposed Fountain Wind Project and the devastation it could have caused in OUR HOMELANDS and this particular project was not a fit in this area. **Therefore, I request you approve Zone Amendment 22-0001.**

Respectfully,

**Radley Davis**, Concerned Shasta County Citizen

Pit River Tribal Citizen – Illmawi Band

**From:** John Sitka </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ec391ba2d9c448238a4eff4a8fc085bf-John Sitka>  
**To:** Adam Fieseler; Paul Hellman; Lio Salazar  
**Sent:** 7/6/2022 4:21:41 PM  
**Subject:** Recent Correspondence to the Board regarding Zone Amendment 22-0001  
**Attachments:** Zone Amendment 22-0001; industrial wind energy amendment; No to Large Wind Mill Farms; Zone Amendment 22-0001; Zoning amendment 22-0001; Zone Amendment 22-0001

Good afternoon,

The Board of Supervisors received this correspondence during the past week in regards to Zone Amendment 22-0001. We're forwarding these emails to the Planning Division for your records.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

**John Sitka, Agency Staff Services Analyst-Confidential**



**SHASTA COUNTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**  
1450 Court Street, Suite 3088  
Redding, CA 96001  
Phone: (530) 225-5550  
Fax: (530) 229-8238

**From:** Michael Knight <knighttoday@gmail.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/6/2022 6:26:37 AM  
**Subject:** industrial wind energy amendment

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I am writing in support of this amendment to prohibit future development of industrial sized wind energy in Shasta county. Lets us band together and protect the resources that make up our home. and keep outside interests from taking over our resources.

Thank you.

Michael Knight  
of  
***Round Mountain, CA***

[knighttoday@gmail.com](mailto:knighttoday@gmail.com)

**From:** Crickett Paul <crickett52@gmail.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/5/2022 5:36:01 PM  
**Subject:** No to Large Wind Mill Farms

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I have followed the boards service regarding The Fountain Wind Project and I completely agree with the upcoming prohibition for large scale industrial wind development.

PLEASE vote to ratify: **Zone Amendment 22-0001, which prohibits large scale industrial wind energy developments within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County.**

Thank you very much for doing what is right for Shasta County residents.

Laura K. Paull  
Stephen R. Paull  
Round Mountain, Ca.

**From:** John Gable <themooseboard@gmail.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/6/2022 3:44:17 PM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001

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I write this letter on behalf of all the residents of Moose Camp. First I would like to thank you for researching, deliberating and ultimately rejecting the Fountain Wind project. Second I commend you for proposing the ban on industrial size wind projects in the unincorporated areas of Shasta County. The obvious fire danger in the county along with the inability to fight wildfires from the air within and around turbine farms makes a ban the right thing to do. Los Angeles county banned industrial wind turbines in 2017 and San Bernardino county banned them in 2019. Wind energy production in California has barely increased in the past five years with very few new projects coming online. The future of industrial size turbine farms in California has moved from onshore to offshore. Shasta county should be proud of its ability to already provide enormous amounts of renewable energy to the county and clearly does not need to risk the lives of its residents by adding any more industrial size wind turbines. **All the members of Moose Camp ask you to please vote yes on Zone Amendment 22-0001.**

Sincerely,  
John Gable  
Moose Camp Board President

**From:** Dean Gustafson <dean.gustafson@att.net>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/5/2022 12:26:21 PM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001

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Honorable Shasta County Board of Supervisors:

I am writing to inform you of my wholehearted support for Zone Amendment 22-0001. The area in eastern Shasta county is no place for commercial wind development. It scars the beauty of this land and is a hazard to wildlife. Please vote to support the beauty and future of our land, and not in the interest of commercial developers for profit.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Gustafson

**From:** Lon Alward <lon@uslendingcompany.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/5/2022 10:16:58 AM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001

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When this amendment comes up before the board on July 12<sup>th</sup>. I would hope that you take the side of the people and vote to approve the zone amendment. Thank you for taking the time to read this.



**Lon Alward | Loan Officer**

NMLS 284494 | CA-DOC284494 | ID MLO-20907

**Direct 530.605.4870 Cell 530.515.1086**

**Office 530.244.6830 Fax 530.222.3270**

2280 N. Bechelli Lane, Redding, CA 96002

[lon@uslendingcompany.com](mailto:lon@uslendingcompany.com)



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**From:** Jess Lattin <jess.lattin@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/5/2022 10:20:19 AM  
**Subject:** Zoning amendment 22-0001

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I am writing this letter in support of the zoning amendment which comes before you on July 12, 2022. Please vote to approve this amendment 22-0001.

Thank You, Jess Lattin

**From:** John Sitka </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ec391ba2d9c448238a4eff4a8fc085bf-John Sitka>  
**To:** Paul Hellman; Adam Fieseler; Lio Salazar  
**CC:** Clerk of the Board Mailbox  
**Sent:** 7/11/2022 5:08:09 PM  
**Subject:** Recent Correspondence to the Board regarding Zone Amendment 22-0001  
**Attachments:** Zone Amendment 22-0001; BOS regarding Wind Ordinance for 7\_12\_22 Meeting; Zone Amendment 22-0001; Zone Amendment 22-0001 Support LTR; Support for resolution 2022-014; Zone Amendment 22-0001 Please support; Support of Zone Amendment 22-0001

Good afternoon,

The Board of Supervisors received this correspondence during the past few days in regards to Zone Amendment 22-0001. We're forwarding these emails to Resource Management for your records.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

**John Sitka, Agency Staff Services Analyst-Confidential**



**SHASTA COUNTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**  
1450 Court Street, Suite 308B  
Redding, CA 96001  
Phone: (530) 225-5550  
Fax: (530) 229-8238

**From:** Kelly Tanner <kwillett2@hotmail.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS; Clerk of the Board Mailbox; Les Baugh; Joe Chimenti; Mary Rickert; Patrick Jones  
**Sent:** 7/11/2022 1:52:59 PM  
**Subject:** BOS regarding Wind Ordinance for 7/12/22 Meeting

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Dear Shasta County Board of Supervisors-

I planned on addressing you in person at the meeting tomorrow however, my son woke up with a 103 fever and stomach issues and tested positive for COVID this afternoon.

***I strongly encourage you to PASS the land planning ordinance the commissioners had the Land Planning Department write regarding industrial wind turbines.***

As you know from the Fountain Wind Project and the language of the planning commission, the intent of the commissioners was to help reduce the risk of wildfire in a County which is one of the highest risk in the Country. Many experts, including myself, aerial firefighters, the pilot's association and others outlined the grave risk to firefighting if the project went through. The ordinance is intended to enable residents to be protected by aerial firefighting and not denied the same protection others get, wherever the project may be located in the County, not just Eastern Shasta County, though it is obvious there were multiple projects lined up in Eastern Shasta County. These projects will also strongly affect fire insurance and property value throughout the entire County. It also was to save applicants money and the communities from worrying about these risks while enduring years of anguish. I planned to speak before AB 205 passed, but it is even more important now. Don't sideline this just because of this new legislation. It did not prohibit the ordinance and may be challenged in Court. ***You don't want to have to start from scratch if that occurs to write another ordinance like this that protects the entire county.***

I am aware of AB205, which is a huge overstep by the state and takes all power out of the control of the County in planning for many projects, not just wind turbines. Though the law has already gone into effect, I strongly urge you to vote in ***favor of passing the ordinance. Then, perhaps if felt necessary, direct the land planning commission to make other policies in case the state chooses to ignore the ordinance for double protection.*** If AB 205 is taken to court or challenged and paused the legislation, your ordinance would protect this county from applicants who may quickly apply while they can.

Smaller turbines that are specific to a facility seem appropriate, like the Walmart Facility in Red Bluff the industrial turbines in our forests and communities at such a scale are disastrous.

I have mentioned in the past, not to insinuate any of you have a desire to profit from these projects or kill people, but from my knowledge of Emergency Management, in which I have a Masters Degree and wrote my thesis on the Fountain Fire here in Shasta County, the ***biggest disasters happen from poor land planning decisions and land usage.*** This is within your power and your duty to protect the citizens you serve. I am grateful for those of you who understood the seriousness of the issue and how we need to be proactive in doing all we can to prevent a fire and make sure firefighting is not diminished in capacity when you denied Fountain Wind's objection to the Planning Commission's decision.

This issue should be left to the County, and continuing to pass the ordinance, as well as taking other precautionary measures, sends a message to the state and other counties that these are ***local issues.*** That there is not a uniform process that is a one size fits all for every electrical infrastructure project, especially turbine projects throughout a state that is so large and diverse

geographically. Counties and localities know their communities and the risks much better than those in Sacramento, whose job is to ensure ill planned timelines are carried out without understanding the consequences.

In fact, the County should join with others to sue the state since the language of the law seems to indicate the state simply could also redo **TANC**. The legislation is not just about turbines. If not, any company could file a project, perhaps Fountain Wind again, and then the County will have to wait through California's process before doing anything else. The companies will not offer the County the things they offer when proposing a project instead these offers will go to the state and will adversely affect the County more so than it already does.

I encourage you to **PASS** the ordinance AND take other protective measures to guarantee this remains in the County's jurisdiction where it should be. It is a sound policy that Los Angeles and San Bernardino County had passed prior to Shasta County. When these projects are decided by the State, where are they going to be placed in the counties of the people who have all the power and ability to sway projects or in counties where there is little to no representation. We know how politics work.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,  
Kelly Tanner

**From:** Rick Stephens <rickrail@rocketmail.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/10/2022 5:05:22 PM  
**Subject:** Support for resolution 2022-014

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To the members of the board.

I'd like to voice my and my wife's **SUPPORT** for for resolution 2022-014 changing the zoning laws in the county WE do not need industrialization in unincorporated Shasta County.  
No matter if it is a "Green Energy" Wind park or Biomass processing facility or something else.

SAVE RURAL Shasta County.

Thank You for your common sense on the Fountain Wind Project.

Again,  
Thank You

Rick and Pam Stephens  
Round Mountain

**From:** Terry Hus <plane4b@gmail.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/9/2022 10:44:10 AM  
**Subject:** Support of Zone Amendment 22-0001

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Please approve Zone Amendment 22-0001 as per my input below. My input is written from personal experience and research during Special Use Permit applications and hearings in the Zoning Board of Appeals for Alta Wind Project II here in DeWitt County, Illinois.

Wind turbine and solar generating projects are taking advantage of poor foreign workers to obtain necessary rare minerals to make the parts using fossil fuel energy to manufacture, transport, construct, and operate on large sections of prime agricultural areas. Then, when upgraded or decommissioned, fiberglass parts and these minerals are filling our landfills. The electricity generated per acre removed from production is minimal compared to other generation methods. Additionally, the intermittent nature of these so-called green energy sources challenges power grid stability. This in turn requires fossil fueled emergency/peaking backup generation to maintain the grid. Blackouts and brownouts come at the worst possible times - summer and winter. This need is exacerbated by the ongoing manufacture of electric powered vehicles. Additionally, impact on local bird and bat populations is not being reported accurately. Wind turbine projects must not be constructed and operated in flyways and important birding areas. Impact on non-participating residents includes noise, shadow flicker, field drainage, and construction activities affecting traffic and contamination of vehicles. Alternate, reliable and efficient generation sources must be pursued immediately.

Wind companies are not forth-coming with information during hearings on their permits, even when informed during the process. They intentionally withhold information, use biased engineering and ecological firms to prepare scripted reports. They do not properly complete permit applications. In some cases, they do not pay taxes that were promised to help improve the affected organizations. They make promises not kept to local residents. This is all done to ensure they obtain the vast monetary subsidies from the government.

Terry Husted  
Clinton, Illinois

**From:** Anne Marie Woodward <annemarie.woodwardmd@gmail.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/9/2022 8:37:51 PM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 Please support

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To Whom It May Concern:

My family has been a land owner of the Buffum Homestead, in Shasta County, since 1899. We all wrote numerous thoughtful and detailed emails in opposition of the wind turbines. This did not pass!!!

I ask that you support **Zone Amendment 22-0001 to prevent us from having to do this over and over again.**

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Woodward M.D.

**From:** Radley Davis <radleydavis09@gmail.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS; Lio Salazar  
**Sent:** 7/10/2022 8:56:35 PM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 Support LTR  
**Attachments:** BOS Zone Amendment 22-0001 Support Letter 7.10.2022.pdf

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---

Hello Shasta County Board of Supervisors & Lio (staff)

Please see attached letter for your consideration of this upcoming BOS mtg.

Thank you

Radley Davis

July 10, 2022

Shasta County Board of Supervisors [shastacountybos@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:shastacountybos@co.shasta.ca.us)  
<shastacountybos@co.shasta.ca.us>

Joe Chimenti- District 1; Tim Garman – District 2; Mary Rickert – District 3; Patrick Jones – District 4; and Les Baugh – District 5

Subj: Zone Amendment 22-0001 – Proposed ordinance amending the Shasta County Zoning Plan, Title 17 of the Shasta County Code. To regulation small and large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County.

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Many of us see the state has voted and that the governor signed on June 30, 2022 Assembly Bill 205 which amends the Warren-Alquist Act<sup>[1]</sup>, and to grant the California Energy Commission (CEC) exclusive authority over siting and approving certain types of clean energy facilities until June 30, 2029. It also states that AB 205 removes authority from local cities and counties but that local governments may participate in the process but they will no longer have primary land use authority over the application. I certainly disagree with requirement. In the governors letter announcing the new law he does say “I am directing the California Energy Commission, the California Air Resources Board, and the Department of Water Resources to work with stakeholders to ensure full and substantial engagement with relevant state, local and regional agencies in the implementation of this act, including the development of guidelines required by Public Resources Code section 25791 (c) and Water Code section 80710(j), to ensure clean energy resources are prioritized over fossil fuels.” Therefore, Shasta County Board of Supervisors I join you in our efforts as a “stakeholder” in negotiating with the CEC regarding AB 205 in the further protections to the native cultural resources, the environment, safety, protection, and general welfare of the community members.

Zone Amendment 22-0001 does not abolish all wind energy project, which is statements being promoted by environmental groups, but Shasta County Board of Supervisors, Commissioner’s and county staff have already taken the responsible hard look at the recent proposed Fountain Wind Project and the devastation it could have caused in OUR HOMELANDS and this particular project was not a fit in this area. **Therefore, I request you approve Zone Amendment 22-0001.**

Respectfully,

***Radley Davis***, Concerned Shasta County Citizen

Pit River Tribal Citizen – Illmawi Band

**From:** Natalie Forrest-Perez <thpo@pitrivertribe.org>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**CC:** Leland Rhoades  
**Sent:** 7/11/2022 3:24:44 PM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001  
**Attachments:** Zone Amendment 22-0001 .pdf

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Greetings,  
Please see attached letter sent on behalf of Leland Rhoads, Itsatawi Band Elder of the Pit River Nation.

Sincerely,  
Natalie Forrest-Perez  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Pit River Tribe  
36970 Park Ave  
Burney, CA. 96013  
Office: (530) 335-5421 Ext. 2040  
Cell: (530) 353-1942



PRT Heritage Department  
Until further notice our office remains closed to the public at this time.  
Communications by email or phone preferred.  
M – F, 8AM – 5 PM

Re: Zone Amendment 22-0001 – Proposed ordinance amending the Shasta County Zoning Plan, Title 17 of the Shasta County Code. To regulation small and large wind energy systems within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County.

Via email: [shastacountybos@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:shastacountybos@co.shasta.ca.us)

Dear Shasta County Board of Supervisors; Joe Chimenti – District 1, Tim Garman – District 2, Mary Rickert – District 3, Patrick Jones – District 4, and Les Baugh – District 5,

I fully support the proposed ordinance amendment- Zone Amendment 22-0001, regulating small and large wind energy systems. Vote YES! The Planning Commission discussed the need for zoning changes in January of 2022 and then directed Mr. Hellman’s staff to put together the Resolution to present to the Supervisors for consideration. The staff captured the items discussed and requested by the Commission. Mr. Hellman, provided all the necessary background, including CEQA law review, which supports the decision to implement the zoning changes listed within the proposed Zone Amendment 22-0001, enabling the protection of the communities across Shasta County most affected by these types of industrial developments.

In addition to Mr. Hellman and Commissioner Kerns provided overwhelming support, via his Shasta County wildfire map, where wildfires have engulfed large areas across Shasta County. Commissioner Chapin, with decades of forestry expertise, also stated he does not believe that these types of industrial developments should be built within the forested areas. He stated these are the highest wildfire prone areas which could destroy trees and take decades or a hundred years or more to fully recover. Various experts provided overwhelming testimony, during the recent public hearings, that industrial wind turbine developments in forested areas only introduce unnecessary wildfire risk where wildfires could not be fought effectively within/surrounding the turbine fields. These expert testimonies were provided by at least 6 wildfire pilots whose careers have thousands of hours of wildfire fighting experience. One of those experts attended the Supervisor’s public hearing for the Fountain Wind Appeal, while on a break from fighting the Dixie Fire, where he had also dropped retardant on the Fawn Fire.

The Pit River Tribe, with over 4000 citizens, who presented their Tribal Resolution opposing such industrial wind developments. We all witnessed numerous tribal members who testified at both public hearings, stating how offensive these developments were, especially to the cultural and spiritual impacts these mega industrial farms cause and can only be fully understood by the tribal members themselves and never captured through the CEQA or the political process. The approval of this Zone Amendment 22-0001 will remove the fear and threats of future destruction, desecration, and erasing of native cultural ceremonies and sacred sites for the Pit River Tribe and other surrounding Tribes. And remember the CIO (Citizens In Opposition) FWP (Fountain Wind Project) submitted 2,386 signatures to reject the Fountain Wind Industrial Development. As a point of reference the 2,386 signatures include some of the Shasta County residents from 22 unincorporated communities and three incorporated communities.

You and Planning Commission denied the Fountain Wind Project in order to protect and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the community members. It has already been proven, even stated by the Fire Safety Representative from Shasta County, and addressed to

Supervisor Moty, that the preparation work and clearing for these industrial projects bring their own risk so it is as not as “clear cut” for fire safety through the environmental review process. As stated on numerous occasions, by various experts, these types of industrial developments, within the highest wildfire rated and forested areas are not acceptable.

We truly appreciate and commend your proactive efforts with these zoning amendments, just as has been done in other counties, which provide protections to the native cultural resources, environment, safety, protection, and general welfare of the community members. We believe time is of the essence since community members within the Big Bend area have stated developers continue to test the wind resources. I/we know it will only be a matter of time before the County receives the next special use permit for an industrial wind development in our forested areas and this is one exceptional reason to consider this Amendment proposal.

Therefore, Shasta County Board of Supervisors, you’ve already taken the hard look at the recent proposed Fountain Wind Project and the devastation it could have caused, I request you approve Zone Amendment 22-0001.

Sincerely,  
Leland Rhoads, Itsatawi Band Elder of the Pit River Nation

**From:** cdjmd7160 <cdjmd7160@frontier.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/11/2022 9:34:56 AM  
**Subject:** Zone Amendment 22-0001

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Board of Supervisors:

I fully support adopting this Zone Amendment. I was a member of the Steering Committee for Stop Fountain Wind, defeating the Use Permit for this project, after almost 3 years.

I was a member of the Montgomery Creek Volunteer Fire Co. 71 when the Fountain Fire blew through this area, so I saw first hand what a fire roaring up Hiway 299E looked like from the ground. A couple of our firefighters took an engine up to Hillcrest, and saved that small community as the fire roared above them overhead. Later in August with the fire still going, I watched from my home a helicopter drop water on the Crane Ranch down in the Cove, after dipping it from the Pit River, thereby protecting our property.

Unfortunately, many firefighters from out of the area, did not know there were any houses in some of these areas, and when they were approached to have someone local point these residences out to them, they just got up and walked away. So, it became the responsibility of local homeowners to do what they could to save their residences.

We ran into a CDF engine, after going home every couple of days to run a generator at our home to save our foodstuffs, and we took them back to our home and left them there on our deck so they could view the fire from Fenders Ferry Road all the way to Bunchgrass, on Hatchet Summit.

Hatchet Ridge should never have been installed in this area. It is my understanding that Patterson Energy is not profiting from this project. But I can see 13 turbines and towers from this project from my residence. And, with Fountain Wind, I would have seen all those installed. And my property was listed with "a view that would knock your socks off"! So, Fountain Wind would have made my property with those aesthetics, not sellable.

I realize this new commission the State has set up for these types of projects, only takes any voice or control out of local governments hands, and they will have no vote re: these in the future. So much for socialistic government choices in this State.

The Planning Dept. could have presented this amendment to you earlier, now months later, our County has allowed the State to take control of some of these situations.

Thank you for what you do, and I would urge you to adopt this Zone Amendment.

Sincerely,

Joan M. DiMaio, Montgomery Creek, CA

**From:** Jim@JimWiegand.com  
**To:** SCPlanning; Shasta County BOS  
**CC:** Joe Chimenti; Mary Rickert; Timothy Garman; Patrick Jones; Les Baugh; Paul Hellman  
**Sent:** 7/11/2022 10:06:41 AM  
**Subject:** 7/12/22 Comments regarding Wind energy systems in Shasta County  
**Attachments:** Supervisors have a duty to protect Shasta County.pdf

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## **Supervisors have a duty to protect Shasta County**

AB205 has given the California Energy Commission exclusive jurisdiction over the approval of wind energy projects. The California Energy Commission also has a major conflict with this exclusive jurisdiction because they have looked to other way, rubberstamped and even have even funded nonscientific wind energy research for decades. Simply put, the California Energy Commission the Department of Fish and Wildlife have been allowing this industry to hide more than 95% of their mortality to species.

(4) A description of the potential impacts of the project on the environment and on public health and safety, including on the surrounding community, and project design measures proposed to mitigate those potential impacts. The description shall include the applicable local air district's attainment status under the federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 7401 et seq.).

(5) A description of all local, state, regional, and federal laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards that would otherwise apply to the facility in the absence of the commission's exclusive jurisdiction pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 25794.1, and an analysis of the project's compliance with those local, state, regional, and federal laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards.

As a result, every community with a wind project has been cheated during the mitigation process and lied to about the impacts to expect from these turbines.

**In order to protect the people and future of Shasta County, Supervisors should require credible scientific research, conducted in good faith for all wind projects and require full mortality disclosures for the life of the project. Sadly, there has been only one credible study conducted in CA and it was published in 1985. All others have been fatally flawed and rigged with methodologies that have allowed mortality impacts to be hidden.**

Green energy routinely rigs their mortality research and hides carcasses. This practice has been going on for decades.

Below is one example of hundreds that I could produce illustrating this industry's pattern of fraudulent research. **West Inc.** conducted this research. West Inc. has been cited in EIR disclosures and they put together the pitiful raptor surveys for the Fountain Wind project.

# 2011 Post-Construction Monitoring Study Criterion Wind Project Garrett County, Maryland

## April 2011 – November 2011



“The monitoring study period was from April 5 to November 15, 2011. Search plots were established around all 28 turbines in the project and the carcass search schedule was for daily searches at all turbines (weather and safety permitting).”

**Table 3. Total number and species composition of bird and bat casualties discovered at the CWP.**

Species	Fatalities during Scheduled Searches		Incidental Fatalities at Search Plots		Other Incidentals		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
European starling	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
gray catbird	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
Lincoln's sparrow	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
northern parula	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
northern waterthrush	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
palm warbler	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
Philadelphia vireo	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
red-breasted nuthatch	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
rose-breasted grosbeak	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
ruffed grouse	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
savannah sparrow	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
scarlet tanager	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
slate-colored junco	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
Tennessee warbler	1	0.4	1	5.0	0	0	2	0.8
unidentified warbler	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
winter wren	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
yellow-bellied flycatcher	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
American redstart	0	0	1	5.0	0	0	1	0.4
turkey vulture	0	0	1	5.0	0	0	1	0.4
<b>Overall Birds</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Bats</b>								
eastern red bat	231	34.8	13	31.0	0	0	244	34.6
hoary bat	216	32.5	20	47.6	0	0	236	33.4
silver-haired bat	96	14.5	7	16.7	0	0	103	14.6
tricolored bat	47	7.1	0	0	0	0	47	6.7
big brown bat	37	5.6	1	2.4	0	0	38	5.4
little brown bat	30	4.5	1	2.4	0	0	31	4.4
unidentified bat	5	0.8	0	0	0	0	5	0.7
Seminole bat	1	0.2	0	0	0	0	1	0.1
unidentified myotis	1	0.2	0	0	0	0	1	0.1
<b>Overall Bats</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>100</b>

This study was rigged to hide mortality but it was not rigged enough. Even with their tiny search areas, the fatality numbers were staggering. Search areas were actually more than 30 times too small for these 2.5 MW turbines.

This was basically a 7-month study with 190 daily searches of 28 - 2.5MW turbines. In the 7 months (2011) with daily searches they found or reported 262 bird carcasses and 706 bat carcasses with their contrived search areas. Primary search areas were near tower bases, an area where the least number of carcasses would have been found. Even with green energy's bogus research, it can be proven that most carcasses will land beyond the length of a turbine blades due to impact inertia. The blade length of these Maryland turbines were 50 meters.

Hidden very deep in the study, is the fact that researchers only searched areas of approximately 56% of a 50-meter radius around the turbines.

Oddly this study reported 2 only raptors fatalities, which lends even more credibility to the fact that carcasses were being hidden. In addition, an eyewitness with hunting rights to the land reported to me that he twice witnessed Hispanic people, that were not researchers, **running around in just the designated search areas** and throwing carcasses into a bucket.

In my evaluation of one 7-month wind industry study, I believe many thousands of bat and bird fatalities were concealed in a Post construction study at the Criterion Wind project. My estimated mortality from just 28 - 2.5 MW is nearly 33,000, a death rate of 111 birds/MW and 357 bats per/MW or nearly 468 birds and bats killed per MW per year.

**This study is one of the many reasons why I add a multiple of at least 20 times to Wind energy's false mortality disclosures.**

The California Energy commission may have jurisdiction over future wind projects but research fraud and mitigation fraud are still not legal in California.

Jim Wiegand

Lakehead, CA

**From:** Tony Yiamkis <dazygolden@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS  
**Sent:** 7/8/2022 9:21:09 AM  
**Subject:** 22-0001 Wind Energy Amendment

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Dear Shasta County Supervisors,

We, the residents of Shasta County and members of the Pit River Tribe have worked very hard to bring the numerous negative impacts of these industrial developments forward to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors with a successful denial of the Fountain Wind Project. The Planning Commission and County Staff have now taken the extra steps to propose zone amendments which provide additional protections to the residents who would be most affected by these Projects.

Despite recent State of CA legislation please approve the above county amendment to prohibit future large scale wind energy systems.

Best Regards,

Tony Yiamkis  
Shasta County Resident, and elected Cultural Representative Pit River Tribe-Illmawi Band.

**From:** Christina Pierce <plantlover063@gmail.com>  
**To:** Clerk of the Board Mailbox  
**Sent:** 6/3/2022 9:00:23 AM  
**Subject:** Air power

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Please do not impose a ban on air powered energy production. Each opportunity should be examined on a case by case basis.

We need all the clean energy sources we can find.

Christina Pierce

**From:** Kelly Tanner <kwillett2@hotmail.com>  
**To:** Shasta County BOS; Clerk of the Board Mailbox; Les Baugh; Joe Chimenti; Mary Rickert; Patrick Jones  
**Sent:** 7/11/2022 1:52:59 PM  
**Subject:** BOS regarding Wind Ordinance for 7/12/22 Meeting

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Dear Shasta County Board of Supervisors-

I planned on addressing you in person at the meeting tomorrow however, my son woke up with a 103 fever and stomach issues and tested positive for COVID this afternoon.

***I strongly encourage you to PASS the land planning ordinance the commissioners had the Land Planning Department write regarding industrial wind turbines.***

As you know from the Fountain Wind Project and the language of the planning commission, the intent of the commissioners was to help reduce the risk of wildfire in a County which is one of the highest risk in the Country. Many experts, including myself, aerial firefighters, the pilot's association and others outlined the grave risk to firefighting if the project went through. The ordinance is intended to enable residents to be protected by aerial firefighting and not denied the same protection others get, wherever the project may be located in the County, not just Eastern Shasta County, though it is obvious there were multiple projects lined up in Eastern Shasta County. These projects will also strongly affect fire insurance and property value throughout the entire County. It also was to save applicants money and the communities from worrying about these risks while enduring years of anguish. I planned to speak before AB 205 passed, but it is even more important now. Don't sideline this just because of this new legislation. It did not prohibit the ordinance and may be challenged in Court. ***You don't want to have to start from scratch if that occurs to write another ordinance like this that protects the entire county.***

I am aware of AB205, which is a huge overstep by the state and takes all power out of the control of the County in planning for many projects, not just wind turbines. Though the law has already gone into effect, I strongly urge you to vote in ***favor of passing the ordinance. Then, perhaps if felt necessary, direct the land planning commission to make other policies in case the state chooses to ignore the ordinance for double protection.*** If AB 205 is taken to court or challenged and paused the legislation, your ordinance would protect this county from applicants who may quickly apply while they can.

Smaller turbines that are specific to a facility seem appropriate, like the Walmart Facility in Red Bluff the industrial turbines in our forests and communities at such a scale are disastrous.

I have mentioned in the past, not to insinuate any of you have a desire to profit from these projects or kill people, but from my knowledge of Emergency Management, in which I have a Masters Degree and wrote my thesis on the Fountain Fire here in Shasta County, the ***biggest disasters happen from poor land planning decisions and land usage.*** This is within your power and your duty to protect the citizens you serve. I am grateful for those of you who understood the seriousness of the issue and how we need to be proactive in doing all we can to prevent a fire and make sure firefighting is not diminished in capacity when you denied Fountain Wind's objection to the Planning Commission's decision.

This issue should be left to the County, and continuing to pass the ordinance, as well as taking other precautionary measures, sends a message to the state and other counties that these are

**local issues.** That there is not a uniform process that is a one size fits all for every electrical infrastructure project, especially turbine projects throughout a state that is so large and diverse geographically. Counties and localities know their communities and the risks much better than those in Sacramento, whose job is to ensure ill planned timelines are carried out without understanding the consequences.

In fact, the County should join with others to sue the state since the language of the law seems to indicate the state simply could also redo **TANC**. The legislation is not just about turbines. If not, any company could file a project, perhaps Fountain Wind again, and then the County will have to wait through California's process before doing anything else. The companies will not offer the County the things they offer when proposing a project instead these offers will go to the state and will adversely affect the County more so than it already does.

I encourage you to **PASS** the ordinance AND take other protective measures to guarantee this remains in the County's jurisdiction where it should be. It is a sound policy that Los Angeles and San Bernardino County had passed prior to Shasta County. When these projects are decided by the State, where are they going to be placed in the counties of the people who have all the power and ability to sway projects or in counties where there is little to no representation. We know how politics work.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,  
Kelly Tanner

**From:** Maggie Osa <mosabear1@gmail.com>  
**To:** Mary Rickert; Joe Chimenti; Patrick Jones; Les Baugh; Timothy Garman  
**CC:** Paul Hellman; mosabear1@gmail.com; Shasta County BOS; sleepycreek2@gmail.com  
**Sent:** 7/6/2022 10:25:49 PM  
**Subject:** BOS Zone Amendment 22-0001 JMOSA July 4.22  
**Attachments:** BOS Zone Amendment 22-0001 JMOSA July 4.22 .pdf

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Dear Chairman Baugh and Supervisors,

We pray this email finds you well.

Our comments regarding the Zone Amendments 22-0001, for July 12<sup>th</sup> agenda, are attached for your consideration.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the meeting since I will be in San Diego and Joe may be taking care of an elderly parent. Please don't take our absence as disinterest since we have been on this journey from the start and as you know close to our hearts. We are hoping for the best outcome with a yes vote on the zone amendments.

We are very grateful for all the hard work the Planning Commission and County Staff has put into the Resolution to provide these updates to the zoning code.

Best Regards,  
Joe and Maggie Osa

July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Subj: Zone Amendments 22-0001, Agenda Item for 12 July 2022

Dear Shasta County Board of Supervisors,

We sincerely appreciate the efforts from the Planning Commission, Mr. Hellman and Staff, to bring forth the Zone Amendment 22-0001 and ask that you vote "YES" to approve it. The Zone Amendment 22-0001 rightly seeks to prohibit industrial scale wind energy developments in the unincorporated lands of Shasta County. These zone amendments will provide clear guidance for potential developers and county residents where permits can or cannot be granted saving time and money for the County staff, Planning Commission, Supervisors, and developers.

These zone amendments are long overdue and were prompted by the information that came to light from recent efforts involving the Fountain Wind project, including the growing threat of wildfires within the County and the impediment to fighting them caused by industrial scale wind energy systems. Further evidence of the growing nature of the wildfire threat was also provided by staff and Commissioner Kerns in their information regarding the number of wildfires in Shasta County in the recent past. The most recent CalFire wildfire assessment Map was also presented in which over 95% of the County was rated "High" or "Very High" Wildfire Severity Zones. These facts, along with the many other unavoidable environmental impacts to Native American culture and sacred sites, wildlife (including birds, bats, raptors, etc.), aesthetics, and many other impacted areas, are the reason the Fountain Wind project was denied and are the same reasons why these zone amendments should be adopted.

Some opponents to this Resolution have advocated that Shasta County residents should sacrifice the things they hold dear about Shasta County and put our lives at risk for the sake of meeting California's Clean Energy goals. What these advocates don't mention or seem to care about, is that Shasta County already provides many times the clean energy it consumes through various other means including hydro, solar, biomass and wind. As County staff has correctly pointed out, California is currently advocating offshore wind energy development, not further onshore development, because offshore wind is much more consistent and abundant without the many issues related to onshore developments. In addition, clean energy technology advancements are moving forward everyday without the mass destruction caused by large scale industrial wind energy efforts. Recent events, including blackouts and electrical grid instability, have also shown that it is not simply a matter of more solar or wind projects but predominantly about developing massive battery storage capabilities needed to capture the intermittent wind/solar energy. What we really need is more predictable and stable energy production such as cleaned natural gas, hydro, nuclear, geothermal and biomass to name a few. Increased emphasis on further conservation efforts/incentives would also pay dividends without the profiteering and waste of large-scale wind energy systems particularly in forested areas.

With clean energy as the goal advocates should work to further advance wind energy repowering efforts in the Highest Wind Resource areas such as Tehachapi, Altamont Pass, Palm Springs, and other similar areas instead of unnecessarily breaking new ground and causing further environmental destruction that primarily benefits the multi-billion Big Wind Industry. Several thousand dilapidated, small, and antiquated wind turbines could be repowered in their existing footprint without further destructive impacts to our area with some of the highest wildfire threat areas within the state. We regularly drive through those existing turbine fields and have seen 50 – 60 small turbines replaced by 5 – 6 large turbines. Without coordinated oversight and control by the CPUC reconditioning/repowering efforts within these wind resource lease areas are left poorly managed and costly, so developers seek other virgin areas like Shasta County. Companies like

ConnectGen and others will continue to target Shasta County because that's where the profit is – NOT because it's any cleaner or the wind resources are any better here, in fact Shasta County has marginal winds at best with the best location already occupied by Hatchet Ridge. They target areas like Shasta County because they can lease the lands cheaply, zoning regulations are generally poor or don't address large scales industrial wind energy systems with the Counties, as ours does not, and the people are relatively poor and can be easily bought with community enhancement funds and tax revenue. Wind Energy advocates should work with State and National legislatures to incentivize repowering efforts, making it profitable for both owners and developers, instead of breaking virgin ground and exploiting rural areas like Shasta County.

Ms. Mudge, the attorney for ConnectGen who claimed the Planning Commission's Resolution No. 2022-014 needed to go through CEQA, stated that the ban would preclude 2,012 MW of potential wind energy, and suggested that it was a large part of the 3,500 MW additional clean energy California wanted to produce by 2025. Ms. Mudge states in a footnote (2) of her letter that she derived that very large number from considering ALL PRIVATE unincorporated lands within Shasta County that appear to have commercially viable wind speeds per the latest California Wind Energy maps. Her statement, along with the fact that wind energy data is still being collected within the County, is just further evidence that Industrial Wind Energy developers are still targeting Shasta County and that **action needs to be taken now** to save our County from becoming another Tehachapi or Altamont Pass. The unincorporated private lands she mentions that are of most interest to Wind Energy Developers are likely the various large tracts owned by companies such as Shasta Cascade Timberlands, Southern Pacific Industries, and other timber companies. The 2,012 MW of wind energy she sites in Shasta County would be nearly 10-20 additional Hatchet Ridge or Fountain Wind size (approximately 212 MW) developments. Such a plan would drastically change Shasta County and cause irreparable harm to the safety, peace, morals, and general welfare of County residents forever.

The timber company representatives have stated that they need the revenue from wind energy developments to keep their cost down and to expand their business base but neither the Pit River Tribe, nor the residents surrounding these timberlands, or any of the residents of our Shasta County should be asked to sacrifice their freedoms, safety or way of life for the financial benefit of the timber or Big Wind industry. The residents who live in the various areas likely to be targeted for development have worked hard to live on and/or purchase their homes/properties and should be left in peace. The Fountain Wind Project clearly showed that the risk to our lives and the destruction of sacred tribal resources is much too great a price to pay for these types of industrial developments within the unincorporated areas of Shasta County. Considering the recently passed AB205 this may be your **last chance** to have a say in, if and where, these types of developments occur within Shasta County. All of the various issues mentioned including the new legislation are all the more reasons why these zone amendments need to be adopted **now**.

You've already taken courageous and positive steps to responsibly provide the protections needed to support the health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the citizens of Shasta County for generations to come when you denied the Fountain Wind Project last year. Putting the protection of our communities over the financial benefits, presented by ConnectGen, was the right decision and very commendable. We understand you received tremendous political pressure and thank you again for standing firm. We graciously ask that you stand firm once again and unanimously approve Zone Amendment 22-0001. The Planning Commission members and staff agree these zoning amendments are needed. You've recently heard firsthand extensive testimony regarding the impacts industrial wind energy systems would have on our County, you know they pose an unacceptable risk to County residents, you know they are not the right kind of project for Shasta County. You know that the financial benefits do not outweigh the negative impacts and the risk to the lives of County residents. A "Yes" vote doesn't ban clean energy, it just bans large scale industrial size wind

energy systems that pose a risk to our way of life and our lives themselves. Shasta County has provided well above their fair share of clean energy and can continue to do so through other clean technologies without the risk to life and property and our general welfare.

Your recent involvement with Fountain Wind has given you unique experience/knowledge regarding the appropriateness of industrial wind projects in Shasta County. Please do not let any other residents go through the trauma and financial hardship of fighting another proposed large scale industrial wind development as many of us endured for over 2 ½ years. Please vote yes on Zone Amendment 22-0001 to approve the updates to the County code to prohibit large scale industrial wind developments in all the unincorporated areas of Shasta County.

Best Regards,

Joseph and Maggie Osa

**From:** Michael Koterba <mikekoterba@gmail.com>  
**To:** Clerk of the Board Mailbox  
**Sent:** 6/1/2022 6:59:51 AM  
**Subject:** Don't Ban Windfarms

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Dear County Supervisors

As a resident of Shasta County I am opposed to an outright ban on wind farms anywhere in the county. Our electricity is largely dependent on fossil fuels, provided by a company whose equipment causes a number of wildfires, whose cost we are also paying for. What little hydropower we have is threatened by droughts and reduced every time we can't meet reductions in water use so we pay even more for spot market purchases of electricity. All the above simply increase in price every time theirs any news of a potential shortfall anywhere in the country. Until we develop alternatives to fossil fuels we will be paying top dollar for our electric power consumption which is becoming increasingly unaffordable for many. Your approach to banning county wide is just what the power companies want to hear. It means fat profits for them and little incentive to develop cleaner production processes. Therefore I am asking you to reconsider your current plans.

Michael Koterba  
4617 Castle Ct, Redding, CA 96001

**From:** Mary Williams </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS /CN=C25A6AA77561484186F93F8E6AD47BA8-MARY WILLIA>  
**To:** Stefany Blankenship; Clerk of the Board Mailbox  
**Sent:** 7/11/2022 8:24:27 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Board of Supervisors Meeting, July 12, Item R13, large wind power projects  
**Attachments:** Wind-farms-Supervisors\_meeting.pdf

Please print copies and bring to the BOS meeting to make available to the public upon request. Maybe 10?

Mary Williams  
Deputy CEO  
County of Shasta

**From:** Paul Hellman <phellman@co.shasta.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 8, 2022 9:30 AM  
**To:** Pat Mintum CEO <pjmintum@co.shasta.ca.us>; Rubin Cruse <rcruse@co.shasta.ca.us>; Eric Magrini <emagrini@co.shasta.ca.us>; Mary Williams <mewilliams@co.shasta.ca.us>  
**Subject:** FW: Board of Supervisors Meeting, July 12, Item R13, large wind power projects

FYI

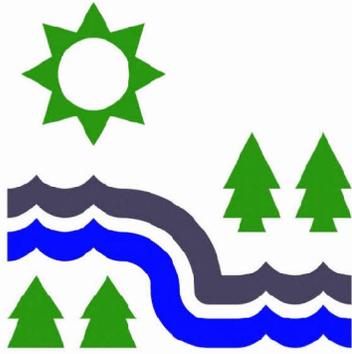
**From:** Ron Dykstra <[dbdykstra@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dbdykstra@sbcglobal.net)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 8, 2022 9:00 AM  
**To:** Mary Rickert <[mricket@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:mricket@co.shasta.ca.us)>; Joe Chimenti <[jchimenti@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:jchimenti@co.shasta.ca.us)>; Les Baugh <[lbaugh@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:lbaugh@co.shasta.ca.us)>; Timothy Garman <[tgaman@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:tgaman@co.shasta.ca.us)>; Patrick Jones <[pjones@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:pjones@co.shasta.ca.us)>  
**Cc:** Paul Hellman <[phellman@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:phellman@co.shasta.ca.us)>; NSCA Steer Comm <[nscasteercom@googlegroups.com](mailto:nscasteercom@googlegroups.com)>  
**Subject:** Board of Supervisors Meeting, July 12, Item R13, large wind power projects

 **EXTERNAL SENDER:** Do not follow links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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Dear Supervisors: Attached are the comments of North State Climate Action (NSCA) regarding the subject item. NSCA opposes a countywide prohibition on large wind power projects. We understand the County may no longer have jurisdiction for wind or solar projects in excess of 50 megawatts in accordance with AB 205. We also understand staff is requesting that you refer this item back to the planning commission. Regardless of any action taken by you at the board meeting, our comments here are relevant to any wind projects less than 50 megawatts.

Ron Dykstra



## North State Climate Action

July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

To: Shasta County Board of Supervisors

Re: Zone Amendment 22-0001, Item R13, Board meeting of July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Supervisors:

**North State Climate Action** is a volunteer organization in California's far north state. We are in the process of obtaining 501(c)(3) status. Our mission is **to promote solutions addressing the climate crisis through education, collaboration, and action in our communities**. We must all take action to avoid increasingly adverse effects of climate change in the north state and elsewhere, including worsening drought and deadly wild fires and heat waves (see [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)). We must transition away from fossil fuel energy production, which generates the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide, and switch to carbon free energy such as wind.

Wind power is a viable renewable energy source and proposed projects in the county must be judged on a case-by-case basis, including taking into account their location and configuration. In addition, wind power technology is evolving, and future projects may provide additional mitigations not available today. Please don't enact a blanket prohibition on wind farms in Shasta County. There is no downside to the rejection of these proposed zoning changes, as you and the Planning Commission retain the authority to reject any future wind farm proposal without them. Yes, reviewing projects takes staff time, but that is true of any proposed County project.

There are numerous upsides in retaining your ability to consider new wind projects. Wind power's advantages over fossil fuel power include:

- **Substantially reduced carbon dioxide discharge**, limiting climate change.
- Reduced air pollution and mortality (see [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)).
- **Reduced water pollution**.
- Reduced water use (**fossil fuel power uses 41% of all the water distributed in the US**).

- Energy independence.(see [here](#) and [here](#)).
- [Increased energy security](#).
- [Cheaper power](#).
- Improved economy (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

Directly below is a summary of our discussion of the five issues that are likely to be of the most concern in any new project as well as County General Plan objectives. As you know, CEQA also requires analysis of these issues, among others. Below the summary we discuss the issues in more detail.

- **Fire concerns**—Fires at wind farms and firefighting near them are a valid concern. But with proper mitigations, fire danger may be reduced to a degree such that the benefits of wind power outweigh their risks of wildfires.
- **Biological resources**—Damage to biological resources should be kept in perspective, and compared to wildlife damages from fossil fuel power. For example, fossil fuel power may kill [10-15 times more birds](#) than wind power per kilowatt hour generated.
- **Aesthetics**—Many would consider nearby wind turbines to be unsightly, but project location could mitigate that concern. More relevant, if climate change continues unabated, [wildfires will continue to worsen](#), thus potentially destroying vast swaths of beautiful forest in the county, creating long term aesthetically displeasing vistas and months of ugly and unhealthy smoke filled skies.
- **Cultural and Tribal Resources**—The County is home to these resources that deserve protection. But it is not a given that a future wind project will have significant impacts on these resources, or that impacts can't be mitigated.
- **Air pollution**—PM10 pollution from wind tower construction may be significant but wind power results in [less impacts from other air pollutants](#). And PM10 pollution is primarily limited in duration to the construction phase of wind farms.
- **County General Plan Objectives**—We discuss the general plan objectives addressed by staff in their report to the Planning Commission for the April 14, 2022 meeting. We show how properly sited and configured wind farms can be compatible with these objectives.

Wild fire potential may be the most contentious issue for siting wind farms in the County. We have arranged the following detailed comments to first address wildfire concerns.

## POTENTIAL WIND FARM IMPACTS

**Wildfire**-Enhanced fire suppression techniques in addition to those considered for the Fountain Wind project during construction, operation, and decommissioning could be considered for future proposals, such as:

- Greater fuel free buffer zones surrounding site roads and towers.
- Enhanced maintenance for wind tower mechanical, electrical and fire suppression equipment.
- Enhanced maintenance of transmission lines including those off site.
- Burying transmission lines.
- Curtailment of turbine operations during extreme fire conditions.

- Additional removal of flammable debris along off-site roadsides.
- Changes in construction materials. In the Hatchet Mountain project, turbine nacelles were constructed of steel, instead of fiber glass, providing enhanced fire protection.
- Enhanced onsite fire suppression equipment.

Also note that the access roads and site work in any wind farm project will provide fire breaks and fire fighting access, aiding fire suppression, as noted in the [Fountain Wind EIR](#) and by CalFire at the October 26, 2021 Supervisor's meeting (see the [recording of the meeting](#) at 8:19 to 8:28),

The wind turbines at Hatchet Mountain have never experienced a fire, and they have been in operation for 12 years. One estimate by a wind trade organization indicated that a wind tower has only a [1/2000 to 1/15,000 chance of a fire per year](#). [This review](#) estimated chances of turbine fires to be even lower. These estimates include data from many older towers, some likely without cutting edge technology such as automatic nacelle fire suppression and steel nacelles.

A major concern expressed by the public, commissioners, and supervisors regarding wind farms was aerial fire fighting difficulty near turbines. As indicated by Bret Gouvea of CalFire at the October 26, 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting (see the [recording of the meeting](#) at 8:19 to 8:28), although fire suppression difficulty adjacent to wind towers is an important issue, these types of considerations are part of the hazards considered in any fire fighting plan. Mr. Gouvea also noted that all firefighting situations are unique, and that the Fountain Wind project did not result in an aerial firefighting no fly zone as some have contended (although the largest aerial fire fighting equipment would not have been available within the boundaries of that specific project). The specific wind tower layout of a project is critical in assessing aerial firefighting capability. For example, a mostly linear layout of towers similar to the Hatchet Mountain project would simplify aerial fire fighting and allow the use of larger aerial equipment. Also note that CalFire could have opposed the Fountain Wind project, but did not.

Evaluation of wind projects should take into account that potential fatalities from wind power during its construction and operation are significantly less than from fossil fuel power. [One source](#) indicates that the number of deaths from power generation with natural gas generators, the safest fossil fuel power, is 70 times that of wind power per kilowatt hour generated (primarily due to air pollution). As an example, for a 100 megawatt project, similar to the size of the Hatchet Ridge wind farm, there is only a chance of less than one death over a 40 year project life, versus the potential of 35 deaths from fossil fuel power over that same time period. Potential deaths from wild fires due to wind power could increase wind farm caused fatalities, but those potential fatalities are unlikely to be comparable to fossil fuel power mortality. It's clear that wind power saves lives compared to fossil fuel power.

Approximately 12,000 acres in Shasta County are not designated either high or very high fire danger by the [CalFire Fire Hazard Severity Zones in SRA](#) map. This map does not provide fire hazard designations for those areas that are federal firefighting responsibility so this 12,000 acre value could be an underestimate. [The map that was shown at the April 14<sup>th</sup>](#) Planning Commission meeting designates about 150,000 acres as less than a very high fire danger area, but does not further categorize those areas. As you know, the Fountain Wind project was in a very high fire danger zone. Future wind projects may not be in that zone or even in a high fire hazard zone. [The County fire hazard map](#), although outdated, designated about 30,000 acres as moderate fire danger areas, and about 50,000 acres were unclassified. Over 300,000 acres were designated as high fire danger (as opposed to very high).