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| Docket Number:   | 23-OPT-01   |
| Project Title:   | Fountain Wind Project   |
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| Document Title:  | Clark Bros Inc. Comments - Endorsement Letter for Fountain Wind Project |
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Comment Received From: Clark Bros Inc.

Submitted On: 12/5/2023 Docket Number: 23-OPT-01

## **Endorsement Letter for Fountain Wind Project**

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



California License No: 233848

December 4, 2023

California Energy Commission Attn: Drew Bohan, Executive Director 715 P St. Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Bohan and Members of the Commission:

We are writing this letter as an endorsement to the Fountain Wind Project.

Clark Bros Inc. is a heavy civil contractor, based locally in Fresno, CA, that has been performing renewable energy and public works projects, with a 65-year history in California. We are a medium sized firm, employing 400 people across California, on a wide variety of local projects that have an enormous impact on our local residents, most recently having completed the City of Mount Shasta Wastewater Treatment Plant within Shasta County and are currently finishing the Solano 4 Wind Project for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. We have strong partnerships with local vendors, businesses, trade unions, and municipalities, and feel that the core of our business is our connection to our local community.

We have extensive experience working with local agencies to achieve a meaningful success on local projects. Fountain Wind has a massive potential to achieve many local positive impacts. Economic benefits include local hiring of approximately 200 craftsmen, purchasing of locally mined aggregates and locally produced materials, rental of locally owned equipment, and more. As a full-service Engineering Contractor, we are committed to working with local and state authorities to construct the project in a way that minimizes the environmental impact to the site and surrounding communities. For example, for other wind projects in the state we have utilized an alternative delivery method for the wind turbine components, which in some instances have allowed us to reduce the project footprint by up to 80%, reducing tree and vegetation removal, reducing habitat impacts, and cutting construction carbon emissions. We are currently implementing this method on another local wind project, Gonzaga Wind, located within the Pacheco State Park. Our goal is to deliver wind projects for our clients in a way that meets or exceeds all of the desires of the local community and benefits the overall goals of reducing California's carbon footprint.

We ask the Commission to consider all of the direct and induced economic benefits associated with the Fountain Wind Project when evaluating the economic impact of the project in the

| Commission's analysis. We very much feel that the project will bring substantial economic benefit |
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| to the host County, as we've witnessed at our other wind farms throughout the state while also    |
| allowing California to continue to be a world leader in achieving a clean energy future.          |

Thank you again,

Karl Braun
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Wind Project Lead
Clark Bros. Inc.