

**DOCKETED**

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| <b>Docket Number:</b>   | 23-OPT-01  |
| <b>Project Title:</b>   | Fountain Wind Project                                |
| <b>TN #:</b>            | 255596   |
| <b>Document Title:</b>  | City of Shasta Lake Comments - Fountain Wind Project |
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*Comment Received From: City of Shasta Lake  
Submitted On: 4/9/2024  
Docket Number: 23-OPT-01*

## **Fountain Wind Project**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

April 2, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

California Energy Commission      [publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov)  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re:    Fountain Wind Project (Docket Number 23-OPT-01)

The City of Shasta Lake appreciates the opportunity to provide input regarding the denied Fountain Wind Project. Core principles of the City of Shasta Lake include respecting public comments and opinion and local control. To that end, the City of Shasta Lake supports the County of Shasta in its decision to deny permits related to the subject proposed project and strongly opposes the State of California's effort, exercised through the California Energy Commission (CEC), to circumvent local authority.

Situated uniquely in far northern California, Shasta County boasts abundant natural resources, including water, power, timber, and agricultural assets, which are frequently shared statewide. There are also several hundred thousand residents who call Shasta County their home and ultimately have a right to determine projects that will affect their quality of life. Shasta County has spent countless hours discussing the Fountain Wind Project, and through significant public input, both the Shasta County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors opted to reject the project. The City of Shasta Lake did not take a position on the Fountain Wind Project during these deliberations. However, the City of Shasta Lake provides these comments to support Shasta County, its public process, and the will of the Shasta County residents and businesses who did express their positions. We question what is the purpose of having a public process, to engage the community, and to do so in open forums if the outcome of that extensive and time-consuming process is simply overrun by an additional party? We believe the public process works, particularly when the level of engagement is so extensive that additional meetings, larger meeting forums, and marathon sessions are necessary to fully engage with the public. We encourage the State and CEC to respect the work that has already be completed.

The City of Shasta Lake supports the local decision-making process and feels this decision should be final. Through the local process, the County analyzed issues including environmental impacts, elevated fire risk in a high fire severity zone, cultural impacts, and compliance with local regulations. It is not the place of the State of California and California Energy Commission to bypass local decisions for projects that are to be decided through the process required by law at a local level.

While we understand the State of California and CEC have an interest in projects such as the Fountain Wind Project, the City of Shasta Lake voted 5-0 to support Shasta County and affirm local control and transparency fully. Therefore, Shasta County's denial of the Fountain Wind

Project should be upheld. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact City Manager, Jessaca Lugo at (530) 275-7411 or [jlugo@cityofshastalake.org](mailto:jlugo@cityofshastalake.org).

Very truly yours,

CITY OF SHASTA LAKE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janice Powell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JANICE POWELL  
Mayor

Cc: Shasta County Board of Supervisors  
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