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OSW comment

I am in agreement with the many astute comments and information that have been documented so far in opposition of the OSW. I couldn't provide anymore than what has been already. For the most part, we can all agree that we must provide a viable alternative to our reliance on fossil fuel that has led to the warming of the planet and the Ocean, political and economic views not withstanding.

Where we cease to agree is what is obviously to many of us, as the next historical commodification of our Ocean, the first being when the oil industry was allowed to install oil rigs off our coast. We continue to live with the repercussions of those decisions made by Government, leading up to the present day in which decisions are being made for us, not by us. I am the former Tribal Chair of the Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation, and was Tribal Representative in the CEC's OSW Tribal Working Group. I can appreciate the CEC's efforts to provide meaningful Tribal Consultation as they did. Because of that, I was afforded a preview of what the rest of the residents of the State will be informed of at some point. I have to say, I doubt very much that if more people of California knew what plans are being made to address their energy needs, and that it would lead to the utter destruction of the Ocean and it's creatures, and the land related to these OSW Floating platforms, that they would support the implementation of it.

We are being told that utilizing the wind power that occurs out in the ocean, 20 miles off our coast, is the answer. That this "free" source of energy is being wasted, that with just the right amount of wind turbines, as tall as the Golden Gate Bridge, strung along like a string of pearls, it will help meet the needs of some percentage of the households in California. That it will be good for California.

We know something must be done, there is now a sense of urgency being placed on this matter. This plan is a data driven answer for now, a lot of time and energy when into it. But it should not stop with this one, use the same amount of resources used to produce this plan towards the ones that have been provided by outside agencies, concerned individuals, not to mention the Native Communities that have raised objections, with their going answered. I would like to ask why the Ocean is once again, being sacrificed to meet of our needs?

Respectfully,

Mariza Sullivan, Tribal Representative, OSW Tribal Working Group Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation