

**Docket Optical System - Developing Statewide Avian Guidelines docket number 06-OII-1**

**From:** Melissa Kelly <farmer.kelly@gmail.com>  
**To:** <docket@energy.state.ca.us>  
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Comment on Draft Statewide Guidelines for Reducing Impacts to  
 Birds and Bats from Wind Energy Development  
 [Publication No. CEC-700-2006-013-SD / Docket No. 06-OII-1]

Impacts to birds and bats from wind turbines can be significant. Such impacts can in turn be significant for agriculture. Development of guidelines is commendable and critical to reduce the numbers of birds and bats killed or injured by wind turbines. Comprehensive baseline pre-construction surveys as well as post construction monitoring are necessary to fully understand the impacts of establishing turbines as an energy source. Enforcement of the guidelines are as important a part of the effort. Substantial fines should be imposed for neglecting to establish baseline data, as well as for not following through on mitigating construction elements suggested by survey and monitoring data. Compliance with guidelines will save money and reduce impacts in the long run.

Respectfully,  
 Melissa Kelly  
 Science Chair  
 Santa Barbara Audubon Society

[www.santabarbara.com](http://www.santabarbara.com)

5679 Hollister Ave  
 Goleta, CA 93117  
 (805) 964-1468