

SHASTA COUNTY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Tim Garman, District 2

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Mr. Leonidas Payne, Project Manager

California Energy Commission Environmental Office, 715 P Street, MS-15 Sacramento, CA 95814 Leonidas.Payne@energy.ca.gov

Subject: Opposition to the Fountain Wind Project in Shasta County

Dear Mr. Payne and members of the California Energy Commission,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Fountain Wind Project in Shasta County, California. As a concerned resident of California, I believe strongly that the passing of AB 205 is an overreach of state power that infringes upon the rights of residents and legislators. This project poses significant environmental, social, and economic risks that must be carefully considered and addressed, as they already have been by Shasta County when the project was twice rejected.

While I am not opposed to green energy and wind power, I am opposed to this particular project. The location is poor. Yes, the wind is there to sustain the windmills, that same wind unfortunately sustains wildfires. The location is in a very forested area full of trees and a history of wildfires. In recent years Shasta County has seen some of the worst fires in history and we have had multiple deadly fires. Aerial firefighting would become impossible with towering windmills in the area, and if we can't attack the fire by air the chances of stopping a colossal wildfire before it reached the populated Burney Basin becomes next to impossible. If this project is approved, it is only a matter of time before another deadly fire happens again. We can't allow that to happen to our citizens. The location has a very significant native tribal history that should not be overlooked. Wildlife in the area including the newly introduced wolves should be taken into consideration, what about the habitat disruption that will occur with the project? Lastly, I believe this is State overreach of authority. Shasta County has declined this project twice due to the reasons stated above.

I urge the California Energy Commission to conduct a thorough and transparent review of the Fountain Wind Project, considering the potential consequences it may have on the community and environment. It is essential that all relevant stakeholders, including residents, are given the opportunity to voice their concerns and have their input considered during the decision-making process, especially considering that Shasta County has twice rejected this project already.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that the California Energy Commission will carefully evaluate the concerns and objections of the residents of Shasta County before making any decisions regarding the Fountain Wind Project.

Sincerely,

Tim Garman

or District 2 Supervisor County of Shasta