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February 16, 2011

Iain Fisher, California Public Utilities Commission
Greg Thomsen, Bureau of Land Management
c/o Dudek
605 Third Street
Encinitas, CA 92024

Re: Proposed Tule Wind Power Project

Dear Bureau of Land Management and California Public Utilities Commission:

I have lived in San Diego County for over 43 years and have been involved in energy and transportation efficiency for 10 years. I urge you to certify the EIR/EIS for the Tule Wind Project. **This project will help improve air quality, reduce imported oil, and reduce the generation of green houses gases in the energy usage in the San Diego region.**

Electric cars and trucks are coming. From www.sdenergydata.com San Diego annually uses 35,000 GWh of petroleum fuels energy for on road transportation (54% of 64,000 GWh). 10 to 15 years from now 10 to 15% of the on road vehicles in San Diego could be electric. That means we will need an additional 3,500 GWh per year to charge those vehicles and 30% of that, or 1,050 GWh per year, is mandated to come from renewable energy such as wind.

Nissan is now in the process of delivering at least 1000 electric Leaf cars to drivers in San Diego County. Nissan is building a production plant in Tennessee capable of producing an estimated 100,000 electric cars per year. Other car manufacturers are also planning to offer electric cars. Additionally, as many as 12 different truck models are now in development to offer plug-in hybrid or plug-in electric trucks. **The initial growth of the plug-in electric vehicle (PEV) market is expected to be exponential. Using this project as an example, it takes at least six years for approvals and 12 to 18 months for construction to bring a renewable wind energy project on line. Any reduction in the wind project size now could result in shortfalls later that will be hard to meet to catch the PEV exponentially increasing demand.**

All these PEVs are switching energy consumption from petroleum to the electricity grid. This will happen faster than new wind energy farms can be brought on line. If we are going to commit to renewable energy, the time to do so is now. Solar is a partial answer along with other renewables. However, to keep this in prospective, **one wind turbine is the power equivalent of over 6000 solar panels.** One side benefit is that the timing of

the wind power production could fit nicely with the evening PEV charging, thus, making the grid easier to control and reducing the need for energy storage.

Wind is a unique local resource that can fulfill future clean energy requirements and keep energy dollars from paying for imported oil. We can't afford to delay bringing jobs, revenue, and responsible renewable energy sources to our communities.

The wind resource in McCain Valley is rare and valuable, and I feel confident that the mitigation measures proposed in the EIR will address the issues of concern. I ask you to keep the Tule Wind Project at its currently proposed size.

Through their work on many other projects across the country, Iberdrola Renewables has shown a strong track record of developing wind energy projects that minimize impacts to the surrounding community. More than five years of environmental studies at the Tule Wind Power Project area have shown low use by sensitive or endangered species. I understand that Iberdrola has a long history of working hard to site wind farms responsibly, and participates actively in studies to look at ways to reduce wind power's impact on wild life.

As a long time resident of San Diego County with grandchildren in San Diego County, these issues are important to me. I urge you to certify the EIR/EIS and allow the Tule Wind Project to proceed as proposed. The impacts to our community will be far greater if this does not move forward.

Sincerely,



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