



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Name of Project: Humboldt Wind LLC, Humboldt Wind Energy Project

Project Description: The proposed project consists of a maximum of 60 wind turbine generators (WTGs) and associated infrastructure with a nameplate generating capacity (theoretical maximum energy generation) of up to 155 MW. The project site represents an approximately 2,218-acre area study corridor within which the WTGs and associated infrastructure would be placed. The project boundaries have been defined based on a 1,000-foot-wide corridor centered on the representative locations of WTGs; a 200-foot-wide corridor centered on project roadways, the electrical collection line, and the generation transmission line (gen-tie); and a 500-foot-wide buffer around proposed staging areas, temporary impact areas, and the project substation. The exact footprint of individual WTGs within the project site would be determined during final engineering design but would generally be placed along Monument and Bear River ridges. Turbine heights could reach up to 600 feet tall, with a rotor diameter of 492 feet.

In addition to the wind turbines and transformers, the project includes ancillary facilities such as temporary staging areas, access roads, 34.5-kilovolt (kV) collection lines (referred to in this EIR as the "collection system"), operations and maintenance (O&M) facility, a substation, a modified utility switchyard, and a 115 kV gen-tie along Shively Ridge.

A portion of the gen-tie would cross the Eel River; this portion would be constructed underground. The project's point of interconnection with the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) transmission grid would be PG&E's Bridgeville Substation

The project would include the following components:

- ▶ up to 60 turbines (capable of generating 2–5 MW of electricity each) erected on tubular steel towers set on concrete foundations, as well as the associated turbine pads, temporary staging areas, and transformers;
- ▶ construction of access roads;
- ▶ an up to 25-mile, 115 kV gen-tie, including an underground crossing of the Eel River, following Shively Ridge and ultimately connecting to the existing PG&E transmission system;
- ▶ a project substation located on-site;
- ▶ an underground electrical collection system linking turbines to each other and to the project substation;
- ▶ an underground communication system (fiber optic cable) adjacent to the collection system;

- ▶ a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system between each turbine and the substation and between the project substation and the Bridgeville Substation to monitor and control project output and the transmission of energy into the system;
- ▶ an up to 5-acre O&M facility, including an operations building, a parking area, and an outdoor storage area with perimeter fencing;
- ▶ a 10-acre temporary staging area and a construction trailer and parking area located within the O&M facility;
- ▶ a component offloading location at Fields Landing;
- ▶ two temporary bypasses off U.S. 101 (Hookton Overpass and 12th Street Bypass) for transporting oversized loads;
- ▶ up to six permanent meteorological towers;
- ▶ three 5-acre, temporary staging areas distributed throughout the project site, one of which would include one temporary cement batch plant on Monument Ridge; and
- ▶ up to 17 miles of new 24-foot access roads.

Project Location: The project site is about 20 miles south of Eureka, roughly 12 miles southeast of the city of Fortuna, and 22 miles north of the community of Garberville, and is bisected by U.S. Highway 101. The town of Scotia is adjacent to the northern edge of the project site.

Assessor Parcel Numbers			
102-132-002-000	205-311-004-000	207-181-019-000	207-221-001-000
102-132-004-000	205-321-006-000	207-182-009-000	207-311-001-000
106-191-010-000	205-321-032-000	207-182-010-000	207-311-002-000
106-191-011-000	205-321-033-000	207-182-011-000	207-311-006-000
106-191-012-000	205-321-034-000	207-183-003-000	209-191-001-000
205-021-005-000	205-331-006-000	207-183-004-000	209-191-002-000
205-021-014-000	205-331-007-000	207-184-004-000	209-191-003-000
205-021-017-000	205-341-006-000	207-184-005-000	209-191-012-000
205-021-019-000	205-341-008-000	207-184-006-000	209-191-013-000
205-021-021-000	205-341-011-000	207-184-007-000	209-201-002-000
205-021-022-000	205-341-013-000	207-184-008-000	209-201-003-000
205-021-023-000	205-341-018-000	207-185-002-000	209-201-007-000
205-021-024-000	205-341-019-000	207-185-003-000	209-201-010-000
205-051-001-000	205-351-012-000	207-186-005-000	209-211-008-000
205-051-003-000	205-351-026-000	207-186-007-000	209-211-009-000
205-051-008-000	205-351-030-000	207-186-009-000	209-211-010-000
205-051-009-000	207-074-016-000	207-202-009-000	211-013-001-000
205-051-010-000	207-074-025-000	207-211-001-000	211-023-002-000
205-051-011-000	207-074-027-000	207-211-002-000	211-461-001-000
205-061-004-000	207-074-028-000	207-212-002-000	211-461-002-000
205-061-007-000	207-124-005-000	207-213-001-000	211-462-004-000
205-061-011-000	207-181-005-000	207-213-002-000	211-471-001-000
205-061-012-000	207-181-016-000	207-213-003-000	211-472-001-000

List of Significant Environmental Effects: The Draft EIR identifies significant impacts in the following California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental issue areas: aesthetics and visual resources, air quality; biological resources; cultural resources; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality, noise and vibration; and transportation and circulation, tribal cultural resources and wildfire. As described in the EIR many of these impacts can be fully mitigated but some cannot, and they would remain significant and unavoidable.

Lead Agency: Humboldt County Planning and Building Department

Direct Comments to: Humboldt Wind Project Planner

County of Humboldt

Planning and Building Department, Planning Division

3015 H Street, Eureka, CA 95501

CEQAResponses@co.humboldt.ca.us

If comments are provided via e-mail, please include the project title in the subject line, attach comments in Microsoft Word format, and include the commenter's U.S. Postal Service mailing address

Review Period: Comments on the DIER will be accepted between April 15, 2019 and June 5, 2019

Public Hearing: Humboldt County Planning Commission
To be scheduled, Humboldt County Courthouse

The Draft EIR will be available for review at the following locations during normal business hours and online at <https://humboldt.gov/2408/Humboldt-Wind-Energy-Project>.

Humboldt County Public Library - Rio Dell
Branch
715 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, CA 95562

Humboldt County Library – Eureka
1313 3rd Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Humboldt County Public Library - Ferndale
807 Main Street
Ferndale, CA 95536

Scotia Community Services District
400 Church Street
Scotia, CA 95565

The Multi-Generational Center

2280 Newburg Road
Fortuna, CA 95540

County of Humboldt

Planning and Building Department
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501