

From: Tom Wheeler <tom@wildcalifornia.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2019 2:12 PM
To: CEQAResponses <CEQAResponses@co.humboldt.ca.us>
Subject: Comment on Humboldt Wind Energy Project

Dear,

Dear Planning Director Ford,

I am very concerned about the proposed wind project from Humboldt Wind, LLC. While climate change is a serious threat to Humboldt County, poorly sited and developed wind projects can cause drastic environmental impacts. As the DEIR makes clear, the project is likely to result in death of numerous special-status species, such as the marbled murrelet, and may cause population-level impacts to once-numerous species, such as the hoary bat.

In turn, the DEIR fails to take adequate measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for these significant impacts. The DEIR must be revised to incorporate additional mitigation measures to reduce impacts below a level of significance.

These include, among other things, proper siting of wind turbines to avoid impacts, operational curtailments during high-risk periods, and incorporation of deterrence technologies. These project changes are reasonable, having been adopted at other wind projects elsewhere in California and the United States, and would reduce impacts to wildlife. Furthermore, the County needs to insist on a robust and meaningful adaptive management program to continue to monitor and minimize impacts throughout the life of the project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

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Tom Wheeler
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