

**From:** [CEQAResponses](#)  
**To:** [Werner, Steve](#); [Ford, John](#); [Shortridge, Tricia](#); [Humboldt Wind](#); [Elizabeth Burks](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Humboldt Wind Project Planner County of Humboldt  
**Date:** Friday, June 14, 2019 2:42:05 PM  
**Attachments:** image001.png

---

Thanks,



**Tasheena Evenson**  
[Planning and Building Department](#)  
 Code Enforcement  
 Legal Office Assistant II  
 Direct: 707.268.3733  
[tevenson1@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:tevenson1@co.humboldt.ca.us)

**From:** Dave Grant <mattolecraftsman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 14, 2019 10:39 AM  
**To:** Bohn, Rex <RBohn@co.humboldt.ca.us>; CEQAResponses <CEQAResponses@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bass, Virginia <VBass@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Wilson, Mike <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Fennell, Estelle <EFennell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Madrone, Steve <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Humboldt Wind Project Planner County of Humboldt

To whom it may concern,

I am strongly opposed to the industrial wind energy project slated for Bear River and Monument Ridges. I support the No Project Alternative.

This area is a known Marbled Murrelet flyway. These birds are considered globally endangered, mostly because the old growth trees where they nested have been cut down. Now with 500 foot diameter blades spinning between 200 and 300 mph at the tips their chance of survival is slim. Terra-Gen claims that only 10 will be killed over 30 years. I find that very hard to believe.

Besides the endangered Marbled Murrelet there will be several California State Fully Protected Species that are also in danger of being killed by these 600 foot tall killing machines. The Golden



Eagle, Bald Eagle, Brown Pelican, White-tailed kite, Peregrine Falcon, and soon to be released California Condor.

There is 33,213 acres of Spotted Owl habitat within .7 miles of this project. There is no protocol level surveys for Spotted Owls. My guess is that there is owl habitat on the private property where the turbines will be placed. It is in Terra-Gen's best interest to hire their own surveyors for these avian species. I believe it best for Humboldt County's wildlife if local biologists and bird and bat specialists were involved in the surveying and the specialists approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Stantec only surveyed intermittently for one year even though they were told to survey for two years by the CDFW.

Bear River and Monument Ridges are sacred areas to the Wiyot and Bear River tribes. Locals are concerned that the impact from huge concrete footings, under ground transmission lines and road construction will affect the water table that provides water for local residents.

There is no Timber Harvest Plan for the 25 mile x 50-100 foot wide Gen-Tie corridor. Cutting this path through the forest will create a fire danger from high voltage lines. Exposure to the earth will dry out the ground without the protection from the shade canopy. This also impacts the wildlife and will require constant maintenance of clearing the corridor and could present more fire possibilities.

Transporting the turbine components is much more complicated than just unloading at Fields Landing and putting them on a truck and driving down the 101. Overpasses must be avoided which will require new on and off ramps or modifying existing ramps to accommodate the huge loads. Are the bridges rated to carry this much weight? What happens when the turbines need to be repaired or worn parts replaced? How will these huge parts be transported then?

Any roadside and transmission line vegetation removal (including trees) should be held to the same standards as that identified in areas surrounding the turbine areas. Minimization measures to reduce impacts on bats, birds and wildlife during vegetation removal should be applied to the entire Proposed Project area to ensure a less than significant impact.

There has not been any seismic testing for the 600 foot turbines in a soil substrate that matches Bear River and Monument Ridges. I have spoken directly with Nathan Vajdos the Sr Director of Development and he has not been able to provide any information regarding seismic testing.

I believe the cradle to grave information is important to know. Terra-Gen can guesstimate the construction impacts but what about the manufacturing of the components. I think that is a valid point when considering the amount of CO2 produced or the quantity of fuel consumed or the amount of rare earth minerals mined that create radioactive waste.

These turbines will require constant monitoring and maintenance. What does that maintenance schedule entail? How often do the blades need to be cleaned? How often do the nacelles get serviced? How much oil is required to keep the moving parts lubricated? How much energy do the turbines require to operate? Will the Bear River Ridge still be open to the public or will this become land that is no longer accessible? What happens to the decommissioned parts once they have been replaced? The 225 foot blades are non-recyclable and are a huge environmental waste product. Are the blades carbon fiber or fiber glass?

This project has been fast tracked to get it installed before the Production Tax Credit for wind expires. Most of the work installing the turbines will be by imported professionals. Local jobs will be mostly truck driving which will require over 1,600,00 gallons of diesel fuel during the 18 months of construction.

Low frequency and infrasound waves are known to travel many kilometers depending on weather conditions. These waves cause health issues and are not something audible but the bodies of humans and animals are negatively impacted. Vibrio-Acoustic Disease is known to cause heart arrhythmia or even death.

The 600 foot spinning mechanisms will alter the weather and the movement of cool air and fog that regularly pass over the ridges and drop into the forest. This pattern movement of cool damp air is a crucial component for the health of Redwood, Doug Fir and other plant species.

These turbines need to meet FAA standards and that means they will have lights. It was said that the tallest trees on the Ridges are 145 feet. The tips of the blades will be 450 above the tallest trees with lights spinning round and round. A local citizen recently flew over this area and asked the pilot to fly 600 feet about the ridge. From there she said she could see everything in all directions. These turbines will be a visual blight to Humboldt County.

Our county is known for its Redwood trees, beautiful rivers, rural undeveloped areas, coastal zones, small communities and lack of large industry. Humboldt County is a treasure. By industrializing these ridges we will open the gateway to more industry. Humboldt County's beauty is known world wide. It is up to us to preserve our wild lands.

Sincerely,

Dave Grant  
Petrolia

--

dave.grant  
petrolia.ca

I187-1  
(Cont.)