

From: [CEQAResponses](#)
To: [Werner, Steve](#); [Ford, John](#); [Shortridge, Tricia](#); [Humboldt Wind](#); [Elizabeth Burks](#)
Subject: FW: Windmills on Monument
Date: Friday, June 14, 2019 2:42:39 PM

Thanks,

Tasheena Evenson

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Legal Office Assistant II

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-----Original Message-----

From: Jane Lapiner <janelapiner@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2019 10:46 AM
To: CEQAResponses <CEQAResponses@co.humboldt.ca.us>
Subject: Windmills on Monument

To whom it may concern, I am thoroughly distressed about the proposal to put approximately 60, 600 feet tall windmills on the Monument Ridge. The whole project is completely out of scale. I am not opposed to wind power in general, but this project makes no sense. The gains are minuscule compared to the potential disasters that will likely accrue from seeing it through to completion.

These windmills are known to spontaneously combust. In the age of global chaos and the fear of large scale fires, this location, (Humboldt County which experiences a drought every summer) should one of the windmills catch fire, would be catastrophic.

The nine hundred acres that will be clear cut in order to make way for the power lines, right of way and to enable repairs seems insane to me. Clearing that many trees, which sequester carbon, in order to make way for an enormous project that will only create 1/3 of 1% of California’s renewable energy does not make any sense. And the amount of fossil fuel that will be required to build the project (gigantic cement pads for each windmill and the 10,000 or so trips by huge trucks required to transport the components to the site, for example) outweighs the carbon sequestration gained by leaving things as they are.

Offshore from this project lies a triple junction of tectonic plates. We have small earthquakes regularly, and every so often we have gigantic ones. Even with the very large cement pads for each windmill it is likely, in my opinion, that an earthquake will come along against which these monsters could not survive. This is a threat that other large windmill projects, such as Tehachapi or Altamonte, do not face. Added to this is the fact that Humboldt County has very heavy rainfall in winter. A big earthquake after the ground is saturated is a scenario for very large, catastrophic



landslides, a danger to the creeks and the fish. On top of this, the road that has to be installed to accommodate the huge trucks which will bring the components in will be another potential for landslides.

Then there is the danger to migratory birds, raptures and bats. The rotors, being 250 feet long, are moving at somewhere around 200 miles an hour. It is said that the count of dead birds at other windmill projects is inadequate, and some of these species are endangered. If we want to save what's left of our planet and its' diversity then let's not put these species in harms way.

On the next Ridge over from this proposed site is a previously unentered (a high conservation value forest, or virgin or primary forest) which citizens of the Mattole are trying to protect, though the prospects are somewhat dubious as the logging company has begun cutting. But, if this forest survives, which I dearly hope it does, I can only image the impact on the entire organism which is the forest. It is said that people who live near these windmills suffer terrible health problems from the pulses emitted by the windmills. That means that all the components of this forest will suffer: the deer, the bear, the worms, the micro-organisms, the trees, their roots and on and on. Old growth Douglas fir forests are known to be the best at sequestering carbon. This is why the forest needs to be left in tact and the windmills need to stay away.

Much more study has to happen around this project. But the company (which seems to have interests in fossil fuel projects along side this so called environmental project: a bizarre fact in itself) is rushing to get the project going because they only have until December 30th or 31st to begin work in order to receive the large tax credit, which, according to Warren Buffet, is the only reason to embark on such a project as this. Clearly, Terra Gen does not have the health and welfare of Humboldt County citizens or environment in mind. In a way they will be robbing us of another of our natural resources, our wind, fo their profit

Please do not approve this project. As I have already said, the tiny gains to combatting climate change accrued from this project don't stand up to the very large gains received by leaving the beautiful, still bountiful Monument Ridge in tact.

Respectfully yours,
Jane Lapiner - Mattole resident for the past fifty years.

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(Cont.)