

From: John D. Kelley Architect [mailto:jdkaia@cox.net]

Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2008 12:57 PM

To: Opland, Jessica

Subject: Wind Power

Board of Supervisors,

Santa Barbara must be a leader in renewable energy. Please support the Lompoc Wind Energy Project.

Regards,

John D. Kelley Architect

1228 San Miguel Ave

Santa Barbara, Ca. 93109

(805) 963-1013

jdkaia@cox.net



September 29, 2008

Dear Chairman Jackson and Commissioners,

The Santa Barbara County Action Network (SB CAN) is a county-wide grassroots nonprofit that advocates on social justice and environmental issues, and works to preserve agricultural lands and create sustainable communities. We support the Lompoc Wind Energy Project for bringing an important source of renewable energy into our county. The project will not only power 50,000 homes with clean, renewable energy, but will also help to sustain and preserve agricultural lands by providing income from land leases to struggling farmers and ranchers.

However, since this is the first wind energy project in our county it is important that the project meet high environmental standards, as it will set the precedent for future wind energy projects.

Therefore, SB *CAN* highly recommends that the following modifications be added before approving the project:

1. **Monitoring** – Monitoring of the project should be extended from two to ten years. Two years is insufficient to fully evaluate the project's impact on bird and bat mortality levels. An extended period of monitoring will set a higher environmental standard for future wind energy projects and give us a more accurate accounting of its impact on bird and bat species.
2. **Curtailment** – If excessive mortality or collision rates are revealed during the monitoring process, the curtailment of the turbines responsible for these excessive rates must be required, rather than optional, if other mitigation measures are not successful in reducing those rates.
3. **Conservation Easement** – A conservation easement of at least 200 acres is a reasonable and environmentally sound approach to help mitigate the impacts of this project on biological resources and of loss of open space. Again, this will help set a high environmental standard for future wind projects in the county.

In conclusion, SB *CAN* board and staff are excited about this project, which will bring a much needed source of renewable energy into the county, which potentially could support many wind energy projects in the future. Because of this, it is extremely important that a high environmental standard be met for this first project, which will set the precedent for future generations. Therefore, we support this project and highly recommend that the three reasonable modifications listed above be made before approving this project.

Sincerely,

Deborah Brasket,
SB *CAN* Executive Director

DIRECTORS

Joann Marmolejo, *President*
Jon Williams, *V.P. South*
Vibiana Saavedra, *V.P. North*
Selma Rubin, *Treasurer*
Carol Mosely, *Secretary*
Emily Allen
BL Borovay
Jerry Connor
Margarita del Valle
Dick Flacks
Greg Helms
Gale McNeely
Rafaela Moreno
Robert Potter
David Pritchett
George Relles

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Deborah Brasket

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Olivia Uribe