Development of Statewide Guidelines for Reducing Wildlife Impacts from Wind Energy Development

Docket No. 06-OII-1

Statewide Avian Guidelines

COMMENTS OF HORIZON WIND ENERGY (HORIZON) ON DRAFT STAFF GUIDELINES DATED APRIL, 2007

Horizon Wind Energy would like to thank the Commission, the Department of Fish and Game and Staff for your dedication to the Guidelines for Reducing Impacts to Birds and Bats From Wind Energy Development (Guidelines). Horizon is in full support of the comments submitted by CEERT including comments by WEST. Horizon’s comments are not intended to repeat CEERT/WEST comments but to focus more on specific edits consistent with the Horizon’s understood intention of the specific comment as opposed to greater conceptual changes.

1. Line 294 and 920: replace “irresolvable problems” with “unacceptable risk”
2. Line 454: replace “possible” with “necessary”
3. Line 521: insert “relative to other projects” after “use”
4. Line 810: insert “(desktop effort)” after “gathering”
5. Line 811: insert “/or” after “and”
7. Line 1094: delete “fully”
8. Line 1197: delete “to seek permit coverage”
9. Line 1180: insert “significant” (see CEERT comment # 9 for more instances of this change)
10. Line 1359: insert “expressed” before “interest”
11. Line 1515: replace “Permanently mark” with “Mark with stakes”
12. Line 1568: replace “use helicopters” with “helicopter use may be the best way”
13. Line 2466: replace “is” with “may be”
14. Line 2471: insert lines 2744-2751 after paragraph from line 2464 to 2474 to keep consistency with the reasoning for imperfect information or alternatively, an excerpt from the paragraph titled “Background Fatality” at Line 2470.
15. Line 3525 and 3613: insert “as defined by CEQA” after “project”

Horizon looks forward to continued work with the Energy Commission and CDFG to ensure that these guidelines achieve the goal of protecting bird and bat species while promoting responsible wind development.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/
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Horizon Wind Energy