



# Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

*Planning for the Challenges Ahead*



**Richard J. Bruckner**  
Director

June 2, 2011

TO: Pat Modugno, Chair  
Esther L. Valadez, Vice Chair  
David W. Louie, Commissioner  
Harold V. Helsley, Commissioner  
Curt Pedersen, Commissioner

FROM: Susan Tae  
Section Head, North County Section

**SUBJECT: Additional Materials for Hearing  
Project No. R2010-01402-(5)  
Conditional Use Permit No. 201000136  
RPC Meeting: June 8, 2011  
Agenda Item: 5**

Please find attached one letter of support and two emails of opposition, for the above referenced project, that were received subsequent to hearing package submittal to the Regional Planning Commission.

SMT:AT

# California State Senate



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**SENATOR SHARON RUNNER**  
SEVENTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

May 27, 2011

Mr. Richard Bruckner, Director  
Los Angeles County Regional Planning  
320 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Bruckner:

I am writing regarding the 200MW wind generation project that NextEra Energy proposed for the Kings Canyon area of the Antelope Valley.

As you may know, I recently supported Senate Bill x1 2 (Simitian), which increased the Renewables Portfolio Standard to 33% renewables by 2020. I supported this legislation because I believe it will bring many benefits to the Antelope Valley, potentially creating new jobs for a region that has experienced a 17% unemployment rate in this depressed economy. As an added bonus, it will help the region increase its energy independence.

While I understand concerns have been raised by residents in the area regarding the placement of the temporary Meteorological (Met) Towers, it is important to keep in mind that the towers would merely provide data regarding wind conditions and biological surveys and would then be removed over the next 1-3 years. This is quantitative data that could be used to complete the Environmental Impact Report, a necessary step in assessing the project's viability.

When the Commission meets on June 8, I hope the members will continue to support the process of data collection. With more than 300 days of sunshine a year and an abundance of wind and open spaces, the Antelope Valley is the ideal place to pursue California's energy goal of decreasing our reliance on traditional sources of energy.

I am curious to know what the data will show about the viability of the proposed site for a wind generation project. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Runner".

**Sharon Runner**  
Senator, 17<sup>th</sup> District

Cc: Supervisor Mike Antonovich  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Honorable Members, Los Angeles County Planning Commission

## Thurtell, Adam

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**From:** Dave and/or Sandy [trubereans@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 30, 2011 9:58 AM  
**To:** ANTONOVICH, Michael, Iac; Thurtell, Adam; Colvin, Wesley; Curzi, Anthony; HICKLING, Norm, Iac; Imsand, Shirley; Curzi, Anthony  
**Subject:** June 8, 2011 Hearing - AGAINST #R2010-01402-(5); Rcup #201000136 Met Tower Permit Approval  
**Importance:** High

May 30, 2011

**URGENT, PLEASE READ ASAP!**

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich  
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
1113 W. Avenue M-4, Suite A  
Palmdale, CA 93551

RE: June 8, 2011 Hearing; #R2010-01402-(5); Rcup #201000136  
NextEra Met Tower Permit Approval Appeal

Dear Supervisor Antonovich and other Representatives,

We're writing to express our concern regarding the Permit Approval of NextEra's Met Tower proposed near SEA 58 (Portal Ridge) which we strongly oppose.

We understand this Met Tower is for temporary testing purposes and is not an environmental threat. We do, however, view it as a serious mistake if Los Angeles County continues with the Permit approval. This Met Tower is a strategic step toward the goal of developing miles of Wind Turbine Farms by out-of-state developers caring more about monetary gain than our environment. This development will set a precedence for future projects, which we believe will begin the blight for our entire area and likely spread over our County and State over time. We don't believe property owners will live with these 40+ story towers hovering over their homes, or watch them destroy our entire area, but will leave this Valley depressed in various ways. These projects are **not** the answer to energy efficiency because:

- Studies prove only 25% energy production efficiency with high percentages of Turbines broken.
- This results in government/taxpayer waste in a time of heavy deficits and a strained economy.
- There are few permanent jobs produced (NextEra said they would have only two jobs, once constructed).
- Edison's "above-ground" mega towers would transport power to cities far from the Antelope Valley, while increasing our rates. We've heard both NextEra and Element claim they will "try" to use "underground" lines in their Town Council presentations. We all know that is not feasible geographically nor economically. Check out the May 24, 2011 Chino Hills *CBS News* story of Edison's towers ruining neighborhoods transporting power from Tehachapi Wind Turbine Farms to their users (***and read citizens' comments***):  
<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2011/05/24/chino-hills-residents-fuming-over-200-foot-electrical-towers/>
- We observed from our home a dust storm for several hours on May 23 as we ate dinner (photos mailed under separate cover) located near the vicinity of 220<sup>th</sup> St. W. and Ave. C where land is cleared for farms or approved Solar Farms. Anyone east of this area will be covered with dust in every crevice of their home, unable to breath

clean air or step outside, similarly to brush fire smoke. If our Representatives allow the Wind Turbine Farms to be developed, this Valley will easily become a dust bowl due to clearing around each Turbine, roads, outdoor storage, Edison towers, etc.

- Let's not forget the fire dangers, cost to taxpayers for additional fire stations, San Andreas Earthquake Fault, erosion, environmental damage to plants and wildlife, property devaluation, health hazards of Wind Turbine Syndrome (flashing lights, shadow flicker, noise, vibration, headaches, stress)...and on and on.

Supervisor Antonovich and Representatives, please listen to the people of the land here and save this beautiful Valley of ours from devastation beyond repair. This Met Tower Permit should not continue to be Approved! Thank you for listening to our plea.

Sincerely,

David & Sandra McCrae (Kings Canyon)  
47211 - 212<sup>th</sup> St. W.  
Lancaster, CA 93536  
[trubereans@gmail.com](mailto:trubereans@gmail.com)

## Thurtell, Adam

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**From:** Hickling, Norm [NHickling@iacbos.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 01, 2011 2:21 PM  
**To:** Thurtell, Adam; Alexanian, Sorin; Vizcarra, Edel  
**Cc:** Bruckner, Richard  
**Subject:** FW: Request by NextEra Energy to the Fairmont Town Council

Please see note below from another concerned constituent. Please respond to them

Thanks and all the best

*Norm Hickling, Deputy to Supervisor Antonovich  
Antelope Valley Field Office  
1113 Ave M-4, Suite A  
Palmdale, Ca 93551  
661-726-3600*

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**From:** [Jeachuksk@aol.com](mailto:Jeachuksk@aol.com) [<mailto:Jeachuksk@aol.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2011 11:19 PM  
**To:** Hickling, Norm  
**Subject:** Request by NextEra Energy to the Fairmont Town Council

Dear Mr. Hickling: We received the subject e-mail on 5/27/11 3:26:35 PM from Dave Kerr of the Fairmont Town Council - as did you. He was forwarding an e-mail from [eric@ericshabsis.com](mailto:eric@ericshabsis.com) (actually forwarded 2). These e-mails were very revealing - regarding the Met Towers - **and request by NextEra to Fairmont Town Council.**

We have written to you and our supervisor Antonovich before regarding the Wind Towers proposed in the west of Antelope Valley - expressing our opposition for very valid reasons.

Now to think that NextEra is approaching the Fairmont Town Council - **asking for their support and asking them to send a letter in support for this Met Tower is open for criticism.** When, according to the information that we have been given, the FTC boundaries do not even include this area. The FTC south boundary is Lancaster Road - and the proposed Met Tower is south of that at 180th street west.

We (the Skelton's) have lived in this area for well over 50 years and were visiting the area before that. We have over the years tried to care for the area in which we live - small improvements such as developing springs for wildlife and one time provided an archeological dig for A. V. College - right by our barn. Yes the indians were in this area - and we have even taken people on tours to show the sights of the wonderful bed-rock motars in several canyons around the ranch. Besides the indian sites on our property I remember seeing sites on the Warnack property years ago. The Warnack property is where the proposed Met Tower would be located.

The residents in our area are being referred to as "the Kings Canyon folks" and we have formed a committee to discuss the Wind Turbines and other important issues - "Concerned Citizens of the West Antelope Valley - or CCWAV. Our area was not included within the Fairmont Town Council boundaries as their south boundary is Lancaster Road at this time.

Thank you for taking the time to look into this very important issue - we do appreciate your efforts on our behalf

Charles (Chuck) and Jean Skelton