**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

**BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP (BPG)**

**\*\*\*DRAFT MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 4, 2018\*\*\***

**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7PM** attheBackcountry Resource Center- Community Room, 39919 Ribbonwood Rd, Boulevard CA 91905 (modular behind old Fire Station)

**A. MEMBERS PRESENT: 1)** Robert Maupin; **3)** Kevin Keane; **4**) Donna Tisdale; 5**)** Michele Strand; **6)** Michael Coyne; **7)** Ronald Hynum. **MEMBERS** **ABSENT**: 2) Earl Goodnight (excused).

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**C. MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER 6TH MEETING:**

* ***M/S: Maupin/Coyne: Accept minutes/summary for Sept 6th as written: Passed: 6-0-0***

**D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:**

* Consultant Jim Whalen reported that SB237 passed and was signed by Governor Brown. It allows for direct access purchase of energy for non-residential customers. Only 400 MW was authorized for the entire state.
* San Diego County put out a Request for Proposals for their Climate Action Plan and which path to take.

**E. ACTION ITEMS (Agenda items may be taken out of order upon request):**

1. **PDS2018-VAR-18-008:**

* Applicant, Pintar Investment Company Residential LP requested an administrative variance for reduced setbacks at 2170 Dorothy Ave, Boulevard (APN 612-140-44-00).
* Applicant states the reduced setbacks would be similar to what exists in the neighborhood. Application is related to an enforcement action by the County.
* Project manager informed Chair Tisdale that aerial photos showed the addition in question had been in place since at least 2003.
* Chair Tisdale reported visiting the site and displayed photos she had taken showing similar close setbacks at other properties within the old Witcher’s Grove subdivision that was originally intended for weekend cabins.
* No opposition to the variance request was expressed.
* ***M/S: Hynum/Keane: Approve variance request for 2170 Dorothy: Passed: 6-0-0.***

1. **SHOULD THE GROUP REQUEST A HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA) BE CONDUCTED BY THE COUNTY FOR ADVERSE HEALTH IMPACTS RELATED TO INDUSTRIAL WIND TURBINES?**

* A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a decision-support tool utilized to promote sustainable and healthy communities. The foundation of a healthy community is strongest when built upon a decision-making process that balances environmental, social, and economic factors to promote the health and well-being of its members.
* HIA is a tool designed to investigate how a proposed program, project, policy, or plan may impact health and well-being and inform decision-makers of these potential outcomes before the decision is made.
* Discussion regarding the current complaints from turbine-impacted residents and new wind turbines proposed by Terra-Gen that will impact even more Boulevard area residents. It is critical to have a legitimate HIA conducted before decisions on new turbines are made.
* ***M/S: Maupin/Coyne: Authorize Chair to request a formal Health Impact Assessment to investigate adverse health impacts from industrial wind turbines: Passed: 6-0-0.***

1. **SHOULD THE GROUP AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SUBMIT COMMENTS ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL EIS FOR ENERGIA SIERRA JUAREZ WIND AND CROSS-BORDER LINE:**

* On September 26, 2018, the Office of Electricity issued the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Energia Sierra Juarez (ESJ) U.S. Transmission Line Project (DOE/EIS-0414-S1) to address two deficiencies: they must address distributed generation alternative closer to consumers and they must take a ‘hard look’ at potential impacts to Mexico.
* DOE prepared this Supplemental EIS in response to an August 29, 2017 Order by the Southern District of California (“the Court”). The U.S. ESJ transmission line continues to operate, transmitting electricity generated at the Mexican Wind Farm to the electric grid in California.
* Discussion on current situation and errors in SEIS reported by Chair Tisdale.
* ***M/S: Hynum/Strand: Authorize the Chair to submit comments on the Energia Sierra Juarez SEIS: Passed: 6-0-0***

**E. GROUP BUSINESS & PROJECT UPDATES –** ***DISCUSSION ONLY***

1. **ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:**

* Chair Tisdale distributed copies of a preliminary map showing the proposed corridors for new Terra-Gen wind turbine project planned for the Campo Reservation that will connect to the Torrey Wind project via the proposed Boulder Brush Gen-Tie.
* The corridors are very similar to the previous corridors for Invenergy’s Shu’luuk Wind project that was terminated by a vote of the Campo Band’s General Council, with the exception of a few minor changes.
* The Notice of Intent for the new Campo wind project is expected to be published sometime in October.

1. **REVITALIZATION REPORT by Tammy Daubach:**

* The Jacumba Fall Festival is on October 6th.
* Mt. Empire Disaster Preparedness Meeting is October 9th at 1:00 PM at the Campo Community Center.
* October 21st is Tzu-Chi’s Free Medical Outreach at Mt. Empire High School.
* The Backcountry Matrix Meeting has been cancelled for December 6th. There is no rescheduling at this time.
* If you know anyone who wants to be involved with the Mt. Empire School District, Boulevard needs representatives on the Mt. Empire School Foundation. Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month at 4:00 PM.
* Burgio Feed & Supply is having a pumpkin patch from 10AM-5PM on October 13, 20, and 27.

1. **FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORT by Tammy Daubach:**

* Halloween Trick-or-Treat event at Backcountry Resource Center will be on October 28th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM.
* October 20th is Jacumba’s Community Clean-up Day. Tire recycling will be available.
* SDG&E held a meeting about the Power Shut-Offs. They have added a lot of options for getting information. If you don’t have a Smartphone or TV or newspaper subscription, it will be difficult to get a hold of the information. When the weather conditions are right for restoration, the wind must be less than 40 mph and they must have at least 4 hours of daylight to perform line inspections. Water companies, schools, and tribes are the critical groups. Southwest and Sunrise Powerlinks are of higher quality than the normal lines and will probably never be shut off. Over 100,000 steel poles will be installed in San Diego County. The completion date is in 2040. The engineer for SDGE said that wind energy was dirty and unreliable.

1. **REPORT ON SEPTEMBER 19TH INFORMAL MEETING WITH TERRA-GEN**:

* Chair Tisdale reported on the meeting with her, Terra-Gen’s Ken Wagner (project lead), Randy Hoyle (Chief of Development) and Craig Pospisil (head of wind group), and local residents Jeff Morrison and Mark Ostrander. Ostrander also represents non-profit Jacumba-Boulevard Revitalization Alliance.
* She stated that she had typed up the questions and responses from that meeting but forgot to make copies.
* Issues and concerns were raised and discussed including impacts already generated by Kumeyaay Wind and Tule Wind: disproportionate adverse impacts; noise and vibrations, shadow flicker (Pam Guy’s video displayed), property values, request for property value guarantee agreements, road improvements, flooding and erosion of Tule Creek and need for all weather access paved road and bridge across Tule Creek; the County’s requirements for previous developers and residents to build that bridge; Tule Wind’s interference with previously good cell coverage; previous professional measurements documenting low-frequency, infrasound, and electromagnetic interference (EMI) at homes impacted by Kumeyaay and Ocotillo Wind turbines; project mitigation benefiting distant communities at Boulevard’s expense; and community needs in the event the project overcomes opposition and likely litigation and moves forward.
* In response to repeated questions and known facts, Terra-Gen reps confirmed that their new wind project planned for the Campo Reservation (currently unnamed) and their Torrey Wind project will use a single CAISO Grid Queue number with a total capacity of 400 MW, and the Boulder Brush Gen-Tie will connect the new Campo wind turbines to the Sunrise Powerlink using the Torrey Wind substation/switchyard.
* All turbines will be the same approximately 4 MW for Torrey Wind and Campo wind which totals about 100 turbines overall.
* Tisdale and Ostrander informed Terra-Gen reps that all three projects were considered “connected actions” under federal law (NEPA) and “whole of the project” actions under California law (CEQA) and they were required to conduct joint federal state review (NEPA/CEQA)as one project. Terra-Gen reps disagreed with that position.
* Tisdale promised to provide Terra-Gen with copies of the previous noise measurement report and Terra-Gen promised to provide Tisdale with their CAISO Grid Queue number and a copy of the current grid queue document that she had not been able to access on CAISO’s website.
* Terra-Gen also promised to provide Tisdale with a copy of the Notice of Intent for their Campo wind project when it comes out sometime in October, including map of turbine locations and total acreage.
* In response to request, Terra-Gen reps also agreed to reach-out to neighbors and to visit to see site firsthand. They admitted they had not yet visited the actual project site.

1. **60 MW 420 ACRE BOULEVARD SOLAR MUP12-010TE PDS2012-3300-12-00 @ 796 Tierra Del Sol Road; MUP extended to February 2019:**

* No news to report.

1. **74 MW RUGGED SOLAR: PDS2017-MUP-12-007W1 MAJOR USE PERMIT MODIFICATION-NEW PROJECT DESCRIPTON: MUP extended to February 2019:**

* Jim Whalen reported that they are looking at water use for the project that is less than Soitec’s estimated water use.

1. **100MW BOULEVARD ENERGY STORAGE FACILITY; PDS 2017-ZAP-17-006; MINOR USE PERMIT FOR 2 ACRE PROJECT LOCATED ON APN’S# 612-09-059; 612-09-019; 612-09-017, NEAR BOULEVARD SUBSTATION: MUP extended to February 2019:**

* No news to report.

1. **LIVE OAK SPRINGS AG CLEARING; PDS2017-AD-17-028: REDUCED ACERAGE:**

* No news to report other than many trees have been planted and more clearing has taken place on what appears to be the project site west of Live Oak Springs Road and south of Old Hwy 80.
* Changes are visible from westbound Old Hwy 80 and northbound Tierra Del Sol Road.
* Paul Isham repeated his reports of both his wells going dry and that his complaints to the County have been unproductive.

1. **TULE WIND PHASE 1 – NOISE /COMMUNITY COMPLAINT CONTACTS:**

* *Toll Free Project Hotline & Noise Complaints directly to Iberdrola /Avangrid: 855-369-9337;* [*windcommunity@avangrid.com*](mailto:windcommunity@avangrid.com)*.*
* *Noise complaints can also be made to Lazaro Herrera, County Noise Control Officer & Code Compliance: 858-694-3741;* [*lazaro.herrera@sdcounty.ca.gov*](mailto:lazaro.herrera@sdcounty.ca.gov)*; and to BLM: Tristan Riddell @* [*triddell@blm.gov*](mailto:triddell@blm.gov)*,* [*760*](mailto:760)*-337-4436; or Carrie Sahagun @* [*csahagun@blm.gov*](mailto:csahagun@blm.gov)*, 760-337-4437.*

1. **TULE WIND PHASE II**:

* No news on status of 9th Circuit Court of Appeals case or pending construction of approximately 24 Phase II turbines on state land (7) and Ewiiaapaayp tribal land (17).

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**G. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:43 PM: NEXT MEETNG SET FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST @ BACKCOUNTRY RESOURCE CENTER.**

**MINUTES/SUMMARY APPROVED BY GROUP ON OCTOBER 4TH**

**Michele Strand, Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***For More information*** contact Donna Tisdale, Chair at 619-766-4170 or [tisdale.donna@gmail.com](mailto:tisdale.donna@gmail.com) ;

Current and past meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted on the County website @ <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html>

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