

Ned Israelsen, Manager  
**Thunder Valley, LLC**  
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January 20, 2011

**JAN 25 2011**

Iain Fisher, California Public Utilities Commission  
Greg Thomsen, Bureau of Land Management  
c/o Dudek  
605 Third Street  
Encinitas, CA 92024

Re: Proposed Thule Wind Energy Project

Dear BLM and California PUC:

This is a letter of support for the Thule Wind Project. In particular, I am urging certification of the EIR/EIS for the project as originally proposed, without reduction in size.

I am a neighbor of the Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians, owning the 325-acre Thunder Valley Ranch which adjoins the reservation on 2 sides of my property. The proposed project, including the portion on the Ewiiapaayp reservation, sits squarely within some of the best wind resources in California. I recognize the importance of this project to the members of the tribe, as well as our community and our nation.

Wind energy represents a major "green" resource and is currently a priority for reducing carbon emissions and dependence on fossil fuels. As it seems is true with everything, there is a balance here between the positive impact of wind energy on jobs, the local and national economy, and the global environment from displacement of fossil fuel, and the possible adverse impact on the local environment where the project is situated.

In my belief, the balance of interests tips strongly in favor of building the entire project, as proposed. I understand that whenever interests must be balanced, there is a temptation to "split the baby." Thus, there is a temptation to reduce the size of any proposed wind project. I believe such a knee-jerk response is inappropriate here. The local environmental impact is minor; mitigation can reduce impacts even further; and the public interest in favor of the project is very strong. Moreover, there are so few good wind sites, which will occupy such a small fraction of the U.S., that splitting the baby in each instance will dramatically reduce the amount of wind that can be developed in this country, to the detriment of all of us. Instead, there should be a strong bias in favor of developing all of our commercially-feasible wind resources, recognizing the relatively minor environmental impact of wind turbines and the tiny fraction of one percent of California that they could ever occupy.

Sincerely,



Ned Israelsen; 760-803-1279