

January 27, 2009

Bureau of Land Management
Carson City District – Sierra Front Field Office
Attn. Comstock Wind Project Manager
5665 Morgan Mill Road
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Opposition to the Wind Energy Project in Virginia City

I am writing this letter to inform you of my concerns in regards to the proposed windmill project in the Virginia City area. I want to first tell you that I am not opposed to the use of windmills as a source of energy, just that they belong out of the view of the citizens of Virginia City and the visitors that come here to enjoy our beautiful city. Nevada has wind all throughout the state, not just Virginia City. Please see below my list of reasons that Virginia City should not be polluted with this project.

1. Virginia City is a Historical District, and thus is subject to state ordinances that prohibit such equipment in the view of the Historic area. Citizens and visitors do not want to look at these windmill towers all day and night.
2. Noise pollution would be greater with the instillation of the windmills. The sound that the windmills make will travel right down the canyons and into the town. Citizens do not want to hear the low frequency hums that these windmills create. This is a quiet town and we enjoy waking up in the morning without the sounds of traffic, let alone the low frequency hums produced by the windmills. When this same company did some testing a year ago with smaller windmills, the sound was a huge annoyance in the community. Sound travels in this area a great distance depending on the wind speed. At times, Noise on C Street can be heard all the way down by the High School which is on R Street, 15 streets to the East, about ½ mile.
3. Impact to the environment will be great. The instillation of the windmills could potentially greatly impact the wildlife in the area. Mule Deer numbers have reduced in this area over the last 10 years. The areas that are proposed for the windmills are natural drainages and have always had great numbers of wildlife. The windmills will impact the bird populations, such as Golden and Bald Eagles. The Bald Eagle is the symbol of America and they are slowly making a comeback in this area and surrounding areas. We already have too many problems in this state with encroaching on wildlife habitats. Why would anyone want to endanger anymore wildlife than they have to? Natural springs and migration patterns will be greatly impacted is windmills are installed.
4. I have also been told that potentially, roads to these areas will be widened. This will also damage natural drainages and wildlife habitat. Widening the roads will increase traffic in the area, as more off road vehicles will come to the area and cause further damage because

there will be more access in areas that vehicles do not belong. The potential risk for wild land fires increases with more people driving through the area. Any fire in this area could be and has been very devastating to the ecosystem. I am an avid outdoorsman and I enjoy visiting these areas for purposes of hunting and enjoying the scenery. Windmills will destroy the beautiful scenery. Potentially, these areas could be fenced off, denying access to Public Lands. Access to Historic areas will also be denied. Jumbo Grade has a lot of history in itself. Our city water system runs along this road and could potentially be damaged by heavy equipment and things of that nature while in the process of construction.

In conclusion, I am again not opposed to the use of windmills to harness the wind for energy; I am however opposed to placing the windmills in the Virginia City area. 300' tall windmills belong in the vast uninhabited areas of Nevada where there is plenty of wind. There are many areas in Nevada that windmills could be placed and no one would ever know that they were there. Please take my concerns and others that you have or will receive, into consideration when deciding on this matter.

Thank you for your time,

Dave Curtis
Virginia City resident
Captain, Storey County Fire Department