

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5TH STREET, ROOM 111

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501 PHONE: (707) 476-2390

October 29, 2024

Mr. Patrick Blacklock 1215 K Street, Suite 1650 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject:

Public Opportunities for Comment on the Golden State Natural Resources Forest Resiliency

Demonstration Project Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Mr. Blacklock:

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors requests that the Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) extend the public comment period for the Golden State Natural Resources (GSNR) Forest Resiliency Demonstration Project's draft environmental impact report (DEIR) by 30 days and ensure that public meetings concerning the DEIR are timed so that they are both effective and able to be well-attended by interested parties. The proposed projects, while not proposed to be physically located in Humboldt County, will have an impact on fellow rural counties and their residents, forest management practices, and the energy and climate conditions of our state, region, and planet.

As Lead Agency for this project, we request that GSFA allow adequate time for members of the public to review the DEIR and its appendices, understand the project's impacts, and meaningfully participate in the CEQA process. Multiple considerations weigh in favor of a longer public comment period. The project is complex, with multiple components over multiple counties. Because of this complexity, the DEIR is over 1300 pages long, not including the abundant appendices. The public comment period as provided also falls across the general election and the Thanksgiving holiday. Based on abundant input from the community, the Humboldt County Board of Superiors requests that GSFA extend the public comment period by 30 additional days for a total of 90 days.

Additionally, we deem that public meetings are an essential component of the public review process. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors is concerned that the scheduled DEIR-related meetings are not effectively timed to promote informed public participation. We request that future public meetings be rescheduled, or additional meeting times added so that they are held at least 30 days after the publication of the DEIR.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter and your attention to this matter.

Sincerely.

Rey Rohn Chair

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors