From:	Ford, John
To:	Elizabeth Burks; Werner, Steve; Duke, Natalie
Cc:	Lippre, Suzanne
Subject:	FW: Terra-Gen Project
Date:	Monday, December 2, 2019 6:43:58 AM
Attachments:	image001.png

For File and Staff Report.

John H. Ford
Director
Planning and Building Department
707.268.3738

From: Wilson, Mike <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2019 12:32 AM
To: Ford, John <JFord@co.humboldt.ca.us>
Subject: Fwd: Terra-Gen Project

Submitting to the record.

Mike Wilson P.E.
Humboldt County Supervisor, District 3
707.476.2393

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** David McMurray <davidmcmurray81@gmail.com>
> **Date:** December 1, 2019 at 10:38:03 AM PST
> **To:** Rees Hughes <rees.hughes@humboldt.edu>
> **Cc:** "Wilson, Mike" <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>
> **Subject: Re: Terra-Gen Project**
>
> I agree with you. Rees...as we talked about I am sending a hand written note plus a copy of your note to the chair and Mike..Bd. of supervisors. You are so well spoken. You should feel good about that as you stand up for what I consider to be right values.
> Very warmly, David
>
> On Fri, Nov 29, 2019 at 9:48 AM Rees Hughes <rees.hughes@humboldt.edu> wrote:
>
> > Good morning Mike,
> >
> > I hope that you had a pleasant work-free Thanksgiving. But, now it is Friday and I'm

trying to work off some of my eating excesses at my keyboard.

I have been sitting on the sidelines regarding the Terra-Gen project. After reading the account of the Planning Commission decision, I feel that my passivity is allowing for other interests to dictate the dialogue about this project.

Certainly there may be modifications to the proposal that allow for a compromise solution, but I support the Terra-Gen project. Here is my thinking:

1) The demand for energy will continue to increase. I believe that it is very important that we not continue to rely on carbon-based sources for the generation of power to meet existing and future demand. Rooftop solar panels and large solar arrays are insufficient to generate enough power to meet our needs. We need a multi-pronged approach that includes wind energy (see the Times-Standard 'My Word' column by Peter Lehman, Director Emeritus of the Schatz Energy Research Lab at HSU that ran on September 29, 2019). Admittedly, there is no energy project that does not have some negative impact. It is just that this one is located in our backyard.

2) When we flip on a light switch or plug in our car or expect streetlights to come on each evening, how do we really think that the power gets produced? Even if is being generated by renewables, that will come from the wind turbine on someone else's scenic ridge or the solar array covering acres in someone else's open space or the hydroelectric dam restricting someone else's river. If we are going to walk the walk, we have to participate.

3) Some opponents speak to the beauty of Monument and Bear River Ridges. I certainly agree (Hike #60 in my walking guide, *Hiking Humboldt: 101 Shorter Day Hikes, Road and Urban Walks*). I am a regular walker along Bear River Ridge. That being said, the "pristine prairies" project opponents idealize are used for cattle and sheep ranching and are periodically logged. With the exception of the thin ribbon of a couple of county roads, the land is private and not open to the public.

4) I have visited large wind projects along I-10 and in the Tehachapi area where I have talked with wildlife biologists charged with monitoring the impact on birdlife. There is no question that there are bird deaths but the professionals I have spoken with tell me that we know more and more about ways to mitigate the impact.

5) The wind farm proposed for Monument and Bear River Ridges would make a significant contribution to meeting local energy demand. Perhaps there are possibilities for negotiating changes related to the Bridgeville substation that would allow Humboldt County to disconnect from the larger grid in the case of power outages like we have had this past autumn. Having additional power generation capabilities would greatly enhance our ability to meet our power needs locally and be independent when necessary.

I respect the difficulty and complexity of this decision. But, this is a case when it is imperative to take the long view. I hope that you do.

Rees Hughes
1660 Brigid Lane
Arcata, CA 95521
707.826.0163

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Rees Hughes

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?"
Mary Oliver

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please change my email address to the following - davidmcmurray81@gmail.com