

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
February 26, 2019

**"For all items *NOT* on the agenda"**

**(Each Speaker Limited to 3 Minutes)**

**Voluntary Sign-In Sheet**

1. NORM EHRLICH - SIX RIVERS SOLAR.  
— not present —
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Public Comment – 2/26/2019

- I am here to focus specifically on the execution of Municipal Code 33-55.4.12.5.2
  - Energy performance standards for limiting generator use to 20% and requiring solar panels balance of energy usage.

Laws are not self executing. The law is only as good as the policies of the people enforcing the law.

Fortunately on 9/11/18 we have a unanimous proclamation from the supervisors supporting climate change action and a statement that alternative energy sources generate significant economic benefits and employment opportunities.

§55.4.6.5.6 requires permit applicants to include an energy budget detailing all monthly cultivation related energy use as well as on-site renewable energy and storage capacity. This provision of the law has not been followed.

On page 3.17-6 of the revised draft EIR of the Humboldt County General Plan estimates that “well over 1,000 off-grid PV systems are installed off grid representing 1.0 MW. I know that in the past 40 years I have sold about half of that and with that comes a thousand stories to be told.

Continuing with the off-grid focus the County does not report the off-grid GHG from gas generators as mandated by California State law (CCR§95100-95163). The only way to determine GHG emissions is to through enforcement the Energy Performance Requirements of the regulations.

We all agree that climate change is upon us but what we do not agree on is the urgency of the matter. Consider these facts:

- Currently there are no less than 1,000 generators currently in use with thousands of gallons of gasoline being used and spilled in an already critical environment caused by climate change.
- There is about 20MW of solar panels required to satisfy the demand to comply with the regulations with serious shortages of expertise to install these complex systems. Very different from on-grid technology
- We have the fertile environment to employ “microgrid” technology which will soon be ubiquitous as an on-grid substitute for PG&E
- This represents about \$100 million in solar business to this community
- There are millions of dollars locked up in property equity that can be accessed by PACE that needs to be made available for these solar projects

With this being said I am requesting that careful consideration of the unique opportunities for clean energy jobs, the revenues to be generated from a \$100 million of business, substantial omission of GHG reporting required by the State, and the freeing up of capital locked up in land equity that could be used to spur on new clean high tech businesses.

MY REQUEST IS SIMPLE. PLEASE PRODUCE A WRITTEN POLICY FROM THE BOARD TO GUIDE THE STAFF ON HOW THIS LAW CAN WORK TO ITS GREATEST ADVANTAGE.