

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP (BPG)
MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR DECEMBER 12, 2019**

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM, Thursday, December 12 2019 (changed from usual 1st Thursday date) at the Backcountry Resource Center- Community Room, 39919 Ribbonwood Rd, Boulevard, CA 91905.

A. MEMBERS PRESENT: 2) Earl Goodnight 3) Kevin Keane; 4) Donna Tisdale; 5) Michele Strand; 7) Nancy Good.

MEMBERS ABSENT: 1) VACANT; 6) Michael Coyne (unexcused)

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: (OPTIONAL) (please silence cell phones)

C. MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER 7TH MEETING:

- *M/S: Keane/Goodnight: Accept November 7 minutes as amended: Passed: 5-0-0*

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: Opportunity for public comment on any subject matter within the Group's jurisdiction that is not on the posted agenda. No action can be taken on non-agenda items. Items can be added on future agendas.

- Chair Tisdale reported that the Save our San Diego Countryside (SOS) representative asked to move the planned information only presentation on their March ballot measure to our February meeting.
- Cherry Diefenbach reported attending the new CCA meeting at USD where Patrick Brown announced that he had a 90 MW solar project for sale. There was a battery storage salesman there, too. It was also announced that the CPUC determined the need to keep some gas powered generation plants open to support renewables.
- Jim Whalen commented that all new projects need batteries.

E. ACTION ITEMS (Agenda items may be taken out of order upon request):

1. DECEMBER 19TH COURT HEARING ON PLACEMENT OF SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATOR (SVP) THOMAS CORNWELL AT 2135 MCCAIN VALLEY ROAD:

- Hearing will be held at 9AM Thursday, Dec 19th at Dept 2001, San Diego Superior Court, 1100 Union St, San Diego. Comments will be accepted at hearing or can be emailed to sdsafe@sdsheriff.org; Call 858-495-3619 or mail comments to: SVP Release/SAFE Task Force, 9425 Chesapeake Dr, San Diego, 92123.
- Tisdale noted that the proposed SVP address says Jacumba but it is just off McCain Valley Road between Old 80 and I-8 and that is basically Boulevard.
- The proposed SVP placement was discussed and frustration expressed at being disproportionately and repeatedly targeted.
- Too many SVPs are already here. Too many per capita.
- *M/S: Strand/Keane: Authorize Chair to send comments opposing local placement of SVP Thomas Cornwell: Passed: 5-0-0*

2. REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF ANNUAL POST OFFICE BOX FEE:

- Chair Tisdale requested reimbursement of her personal payment of the \$76 annual fee for Planning Group's Post Office Box 1272. She provided a copy of the Post Office receipt stamped 11-1-19.
- *M/S: Strand/Keane: Authorize Tisdale request for \$76 reimbursement (for annual fee for Post Office Box 1272): Passed 5-0-0.*

3. SHOULD THE GROUP REQUEST SUPERVISOR JACOB'S HELP IN GETTING WIND TURBINES SHUT DOWN DURING RED FLAG EVENTS WHEN POWER TO LOCAL NEIGHBORHOODS IS SHUT OFF TO PREVENT FIRES?

- Wind turbines and project construction have sparked numerous large-scale wildfires in other communities. Linked compilation of wind turbine related accidents and fires: <https://www.wind-watch.org/news/tag/accidents/page/2/?titles=on>
- Chair Tisdale provided copies in agenda package of the summary she compiled on wind turbine fires.
- She commented that there is no valid reason to allow turbines to run during high wind events when local neighborhoods and businesses are shut off in order to prevent fires.
- Turbines do malfunction, heat up, explode, and spark fires, some of which burn thousands of acres.
- Jim Whalen and Kevin Keane opposed request to shut off turbines during Public Safety Power Shutoff events saying it is a waste of time and not an issue.
- Tisdale responded that the summary she provided shows that turbine fires are an issue and request is valid.
- Nancy Good and others commented that the turbines should be shut off when local communities are shut off, as a matter of fairness if nothing else.
- ***M/S: Good/Goodnight: Authorize Chair to send letter requesting that local wind turbines be shut off during Public Safety Power Shutoff events: Passed: 4 Yes, 1 No (Keane), zero abstained.***

F. GROUP BUSINESS & PROJECT UPDATES – DISCUSSION ONLY:

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:

- Tisdale announced that applications for vacant Seat #1 are still being accepted and encouraged those present to spread the word.
- The County has taken over the Live Oak Springs Water Company, as reportedly announced by Dianne Jacob at the Backcountry Revitalization meeting. No details available. Water quality issues were mentioned.
- Boulder Brush Substation & Gen-Tie Draft EIR released for public comment. Comments are due by 4PM Feb 3rd. Public meeting will be at 6 PM on Jan 23rd. See copy of Notice in agenda package and item F-5 on this agenda.
- Copies of 2 Boulder Brush maps were included in the agenda package.
- County staff did send preliminary cumulative impact energy project map showing 5 mile radius from Boulevard area projects. Tisdale reported asking for updated map showing Jacumba projects and closer radius boundaries. See package.
- Jim Whalen stated that he had asked for the maps.

2. REVITALIZATION REPORT

- Tammy Daubach was not available. She provided her reports in advance to be read at the meeting.
- Christmas trees will be sold by the Jacumba Friends of the Library. The prices are \$30 and \$20 depending on the size of the tree.
- Jacumba/Boulevard Revitalization Alliance will meet at 7:30 PM at the Backcountry Resource Center on January 16th.
- The next Mountain Empire Collaborative Meeting is January 13th.
- Yoga classes have been canceled at the Resource Center, due to low interest.
- The school will not be holding the holiday program at the Resource Center this year. They would rather do the performance during school hours at the school.

3. **FIRE SAFE COUNCIL (FSC) REPORT:**

- Sandbags are available at the Boulevard Fire Dept.
- The FSC will be meeting at 7:30 PM at the Backcountry Resource Center on January 16th. Looking for new board members.
- The FSC stats for 2019's community clean-ups by weight from Boulevard, Jacumba, Campo, and Potrero:
 - a. 90.3 tons of trash; 21.77 tons of metal; 380 vehicle loads that averaged 588.42 pounds.
- Working on putting together a mattress recycling program at the Resource Center.
- There was a San Diego FSC meeting with Phil Irwin of California Fair Plan Property Insurance. His email is pirwin@cfpnet.com. He is willing to talk at meetings. Fire line is currently more important than ISO ratings with insurance. It has to do with elevation, slope, and satellite images.

4. **COMMUNITY CHOICE ALTERNATIVE UPDATE:**

- Community choice entities in San Diego and other counties are being lobbied to buy energy from proposed backcountry wind and solar projects.

5. **60-4.2 MW TURBINE CAMPO WIND: FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS) EXPECTED TO BE RELEASED BY BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT IN THIS WINTER:**

- Chair Tisdale reported that Harold Hall, with BIA, responded on December 12th that they now expect the Final EIS for Campo Wind to come out for public comment after the first of the year.

6. **BOULDER BRUSH GEN-TIE /SUBSTATION; PDSMUP-19-002; ER-19-16-001; DRAFT EIR RELEASED ON DEC 12TH- PUBLIC MEETING SET FOR 6 PM JANUARY 23RD:** Campo and Torrey Wind. PDS Project Manager:

Nicholas.Koutoufidis@sdcounty.ca.gov; 858.495.5329.

- The DEIR is posted at https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/ceqa_public_review.html
- Public comment ends at 4PM on Feb 3rd.
- Public Notice with meeting and comment details was included in agenda package.
- Tisdale commented that it is important to review and submit personal comments and to share any concerns for the BPG's formal comment letter.
- Boulder Brush substation and gen-tie support Campo Wind and Torrey Wind with total of 90-600' ft tall turbines.
- Brief discussion on project issues and the fact that if the Campo General Council members vote to terminate Terra-Gen's 60-turbine Campo Wind, as rumored, it would significantly reduce the economic feasibility for their 30-turbine Torrey Wind and the expensive Boulder Brush Substation that is needed to loop into the 500kV Sunrise Powerlink to move the energy to consumers.
- Since the DEIR was released after the BPG's final agenda was published, the DEIR will be placed on the January 2nd agenda as an action item for a vote.

7. **TERRA-GEN'S 126 MW TORREY WIND PROJECT WITH 30-4.2 MW TURBINES: PDS2018-MUP-18-014: NO ESTIMATED DRAFT EIR TIMELINE AVAILABLE:**

- No news to report

8. **90 MW JACUMBA VALLEY RANCH ENERGY PARK (JVR SOLAR) PDS2018-GPA-18-010, PDS2018-REZ-18-007, PDS2018-MUP-18-022; PDS2018-ER-18-22-001:**

- Following up on her comment during Public Comment section at beginning of meeting, Cherry Diefenbach reported that Patrick Brown has said the JVR Solar project site is the last flat cheap land available for project.

9. **TULE WIND PHASE 1 – NOISE /COMMUNITY COMPLAINT CONTACTS:**

- Tisdale reported that there is still no response from Tule Wind to November request for follow-up on their alleged noise testing.
- Toll Free Project Hotline & Noise Complaints directly to Iberdrola /Avangrid: 855-369-9337; windcommunity@avangrid.com. Noise complaints can and should also be made to San Diego County Noise Control & Code Compliance: (858) 694-3741 or e-mail PDS.CodeCompliance@sdcounty.ca.gov ; important to include Dianne.jacob@sdcounty.ca.gov .

10. **TULE WIND PHASE II:** Tule II is currently permitted to erect up to 24 new turbines on State land and the Ewiiapayaap Reservation, with a capacity of 69 megawatts.

- No news on any construction plans for Tule II. BIA contact said he would check.
- Jim Whalen confirmed that he still works for Tule Wind.

11. **74 MW RUGGED SOLAR: PDS2017-MUP-12-007W1 MAJOR USE PERMIT MODIFICATION-NEW PROJECT DESCRIPTOR: Applicant submitted new documents on Oct 29th deadline:**

- Jim Whalen stated his opinion that single axis solar seems to be less problematic than dual axis.
- In all fairness, Boulevard deserves better treatment.
- Kevin Keane commented that communities in Germany are turning against wind turbines. He also stated that electric car batteries can start fires and the BPG should address that issue.

12. **60 MW 420 ACRE BOULEVARD SOLAR MUP12-010TE PDS2012-3300-12-00 @ 796 Tierra Del Sol Road; Application extension renewed to February 2020”**

- No news.

G. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:52: NEXT MEETING SET FOR JANUARY 2, 2020 @ BACKCOUNTRY RESOURCE CENTER.

Minutes approved by Group on 12-12-19

Michele Strand, Secretary: _____



For More information contact Donna Tisdale, Chair at 619-766-4170 or tisdale.donna@gmail.com ; Current and past meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted on the County website @ <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html>

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