

Notice of Availability for Public Review

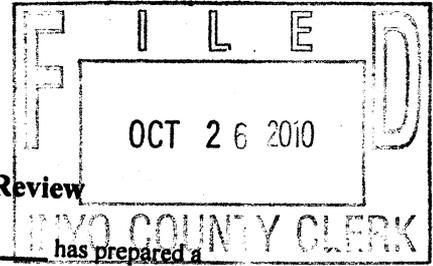
Inyo County

To: Interested Individuals
SEE
LABEL
LIST

From: (Lead Agency) INYO CO. PLANNING DEPT.
P.O. DRAWER L
INDEPENDENCE, CA 93526
(Address)

Contact CATHREEN RICHARDS

County Clerk
County of INYO



Subject: Notice of Availability for Public Review

This is to advise that INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPT.
(Lead Agency)

Negative Declaration

Environmental Impact Report

for the project identified below. As mandated by State law, the minimum public review period for this document is:

Negative Declaration

EIR

- 20 days (Negative Declaration was not submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review)
- 30 days (Negative Declaration was submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review)
- 21 days (State Clearinghouse granted a shortened review period for the Negative Declaration)

- 30 days (Draft EIR was not submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review)
- 45 days (Draft EIR was submitted to the State Clearinghouse for a normal 45-day review)
- 30 days (State Clearinghouse granted a shortened review period for the Draft EIR)

The document is available for review at 1108 N. EDWARDS ST., INDEPENDENCE, & ALL COUNTY LIBRARIES
(Location)

A public hearing has been scheduled with INYO CO. PLANNING COMMISSION to receive comments on the document.
(Hearing Body)

Date: (NOT)

Time: YET

Place: SCHEDULED

The comment period for this document closes on NOVEMBER 24, 2010
(Date)

Testimony at future public hearings may be limited to those issues raised during the public review period either orally or submitted in writing by 5:00 p.m. the day the comment period closes.

Project Title: LITTLE LAKE NORTH WIND PROJECT

Project Location - Specific: COO JUNCTION AREA (SEE ATTACHED)

Project Description: (brief) (SEE ATTACHED)

Signature [Signature]
Title ASST. PLANNER Date 10-20-10

Telephone 760-878-0263

10-00052



**Planning Department
168 North Edwards Street
Post Office Drawer L
Independence, California 93526**

**Phone: (760) 878-0263
FAX: (760) 878-0382
E-Mail: inyoplanning@
inyocounty.us**

DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND INITIAL STUDY

PROJECT TITLE: Little Lake North Wind Project: Conditional Use Permit #2010-05 and Height Variance #2010-01

PROJECT LOCATION: The project, consisting of up to five meteorological towers, will be located on five separate, potential sites. The sites are within an area (approximately 14,209 acres) of BLM land on Tax Assessor Parcels (from north to south) 037-020-17 (two will be located on this parcel), 037-030-05, 037-270-01 and 037-070-09. Three of the potential towers will be located approximately ¼ to 1 mile east, and two will be located approximately ¼ to 2 miles west, of U.S. Highway 395 in southern Inyo County. The northern-most tower will be located west of the southern end of Haiwee Reservoir, and the southern-most will be located southeast of Coso Junction.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A proposal to install up to five meteorological towers to evaluate the wind resources on approximately 14,209 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) right of way (ROW). The towers will be used only to evaluate the potential of wind resources at the site for a sufficient amount of time in order to determine if the wind resources would support a wind energy project. If the site proves to be sufficient to support a commercial wind project, RES Americas Development Inc. would apply to BLM for long-term commercial wind energy development. Such a potential commercial project would happen in the future, as a separate project, and would be evaluated accordingly. The lease with BLM for the current project ROW expires September 2013. It is anticipated that the meteorological project will also end then. If the applicant decides to continue the project, a new lease agreement with BLM must be entered into, and will be subject to all pertinent regulations existing at the time of renewal.

The meteorological towers will be 8 inches in diameter and approximately 197 feet high. They will be secured with a temporary portable base and guy wires that are connected at four temporary earth anchors in four directions. The tower base will be approximately 2' X 2' and the guyed anchor points approximately 2'X12' will be fenced with 5-strand barbless wire.

Installation of the meteorological towers will entail transporting the masts with pick-up trucks via US-395 to existing dirt roads. The existing dirt roads will be traveled to points that are the closest to the installation sites. From these points the masts and all other required equipment will be transported by hand to the installation sites. The pieces of the tower are 5' to 10' feet each. They will be laid on the ground and fitted together; then erected using a gin-pole and winch. Once vertical, the guy wires will be tensioned and a fence will be built around the mast base and guy wires.

Little Lake North Wind Project:
Project Area

Walker Creek Rd

Sage Flat Drive

Haiwee Reservoir

Cactus Flats

Haiwee Canyon Rd
Mast 1A

Mast 2

Mast 3

Mast 4C

Mast 5A

Sykes Rd

Coso Junction

▲ Proposed Potential Mast Site
■ Project Area Parcels

0 1 2 Miles

N

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