

CAMPO WIND PROJECT

POSITION: The Chamber's Sustainability & Industry Committee voted to SUPPORT the authorization and issuance for a Major Use Permit at the Boulder Brush Facilities to begin construction of Terra-Gen's Campo Wind Project (CWP) on February 4, 2021. The Chamber's Public Policy Committee voted to SUPPORT this proposed project on February 9, 2021. The Board voted to SUPPORT this project on February 25, 2021.

RATIONALE: Upon completion the CWP will generate 250 megawatts of energy, enough to provide 70,000 homes with clean wind-generated power and bring the region closer to its GHG emission reduction targets.

STATUS: The San Diego County Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of a Major Use Permit by a 7-0 at its Nov 13, 2020 meeting. In a San Diego County Board of Supervisors decision on March 3, 2021, the project was granted a major use permit.

SUMMARY

Terra-Gen has a significant regional presence and is a well-established wind development company in the California market. Comprised of 60 wind turbines and upon completion, the CWP will displace approximately 58,000 metric tons of CO2 emissions per year, reducing GHG emissions and generating high-demand clean energy for the region. Ultimately, it will connect to the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink via a transmission line, substation, and switchyard. The CWP project site is in accordance with San Diego County's 2012 Wind Energy Ordinance which details preferred locations of projects of this type, making it an eligible wind resource.

To date the project has been reviewed and approved by the Campo Band of Diegueño Mission Indians under Lease Agreement, the Bureau of Indian Affairs as the lead agency under NEPA, US Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 Consultation, State Historic Preservation Officer under Section 106 Consultation, County of San Diego Planning Commission voted 7-0 to recommend approval and approval was recommended by the County's Planning and Development Services Department.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Projects will enable San Diego County to increase in-County, utility-scale power generation by ~15% with clean, renewable energy.

INDUSTRY/IES IMPACTED

The project will impact members of the Campo community, developers and construction workers that will work on the project, energy grid operators and members of the region's workforce that will be employed onsite.

SUPPORTERS

- Southern California Tribal Chairman's Assc.
- Cleantech San Diego
- Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation

OPPONENTS

- Backcountry Against Dumps

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR

- Generating clean, renewable energy is a critical step in the reduction of GHG emissions.
- Local companies hiring local workers is generally good for the regional economy.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

- Quality of life concerns for the residents of the area nearby the proposed project site, including dust from construction and noise from turbine functions.