

International Indian Treaty Council



2940 16th Street, Suite 305
San Francisco, CA 94103-3664
(415) 641-4482 phone
(415) 641-1298 fax
www.iitc.org



September 2, 2020

Shasta County Department of Resource Management, Planning Division
Attn. Lio Salazar, Senior Planner
1855 Placer Street, Suite 103
Redding, CA 96001
Via email: Lsalazar@co.shasta.ca.us

cc: Pit River Tribal Council via Radley Davis, IITC Board Member, Illmawi Band of the Pit River Nation,
Illmawi Cultural Advisor
Via email: radleydavis09@gmail.com

RE: Request to Extend Comment Period to September 30, 2021 – Fountain Wind Project Draft
Environmental Impact Report

Dear Mr. Lio Salazar,

On behalf of the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC), I am writing to request the public comment period on the draft environmental impact report (“DEIR”) for the Fountain Wind Project (the “Project”) be extended to September 30, 2021. The Tribe and its members will not be able to fully and adequately respond to the DEIR within the current timeframe due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, the multiple fires raging across California, increased public safety power outages, and some tribal members inability to access the DEIR electronically or physically due to the aforementioned reasons.

The International Indian Treaty Council is an Indigenous Peoples organization with Consultative Status to the United Nations since 1977. Pit River Tribe is a long-time affiliate of IITC and we are pleased to support their reasonable and very justified request to your office for a one-year extension.

We agree with their expressed concerns that, if approved, this Project would result in significant impacts to aesthetics, water quality, biological environment, economic base, and Tribal cultural resources in the area. These impacts would be borne by the local and Tribal communities in the area without providing them with significant benefits. The cultural and human rights of the Pit River Tribe would be particularly impacted. The Tribe and its members must be given the time to fully and adequately articulate their comments and concerns, in keeping with the United States’ obligation to carry out meaningful consultation with Tribal Nations, in particular regarding impacts on their cultures and sacred places. Failure to provide them with this opportunity would also violate their right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent as affirmed by the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as underscored in past resolutions of the Pit River Tribe.

In light of these concerns, and especially the multiple unusual circumstances currently unfolding locally, nationally and globally, extending the comment period is the reasonable and ethical course of action to ensure informed public and Tribal participation in the required review process.

The IITC appreciates the County's consideration of Pit River's request. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ron Lameman".

Ron Lameman
President, IITC Board of Directors
(780) 222-8976
rlameman@treatysix.org

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrea Carmen".

Andrea Carmen
IITC Executive Director
(520) 273-6003 cell
andrea@treatycouncil.org