

April 12, 2013

Marin County Board of Supervisors

Via Email: bos@marincounty.org

Re: Local Coastal Program Amendments (LCPA) Sixth Board Public Hearing - Remaining carryover topics including those related to Agriculture, Appeal of Second Units and Potential Takings Economic Evaluation; and resolution of LCPA submittal.

Dear Marin County Board of Supervisors,

West Marin Sonoma Coastal Advocates (WMSCA) wishes to thank the Board of Supervisors for their courage and foresight to remove all references to Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) from the LCPA and not permit WECS as an allowed land use in the Marin County Coastal Zone (LCPA Staff Report, April 16, 2013, BOS Exhibit 2, BOS Approved Revisions, Energy, WECS [Coastal], page 5):

ENERGY

Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) (Coastal)

Approved by Board

At the February 26, 2013 hearing, the Board directed staff to remove the Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) component from the LCPA. All references to WECS will be removed from the LCPA, and they will not be an allowed land use in the Marin County Coastal Zone unless further action is taken by the Board at a later date, through a separate amendment process. The Board will consider revisiting the issue at a future date yet to be determined, once Coastal Commission staff has finished drafting their own policy addressing wind energy development. Accordingly, staff recommends that the following sections be deleted in their entirety from the LCPA Development Code. Please refer to Exhibit #3 to review the full text proposed for deletion.

- **Section 22.32.190 – Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) (Coastal)**

- o This section would have established specific land use standards for WECS in the Coastal Zone. See LCPA Dev. Code, p. 10.*

- **All references to WECS listed in Tables 5-1-d, 5-2-b, and 5-3-a of Chapter 22.62 (Coastal Zoning Districts and Allowable Uses)**

- o These references would have reflected the zoning districts where the different types of WECS would have been allowed and the permit requirements for each.*

- **Section 22.64.045 – Coastal Wind Energy (-WE) Combining District**

- o This section would have established the new combining district necessary to implement the PC-approved WECS standards of Section 22.32.190. See LCPA Dev. Code, p. 56.*

- **Section 22.130.030 – Definitions**

- o Definition of “Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) (land use) (coastal)”: The coastal WECS definition differed from the WECS definition for the non-coastal area of the County, and would have been necessary to implement Section 22.32.190. See LCPA Dev. Code, p. 177.*

We also wish to thank LCPA staff for their tireless work in preparing this document.

WMSCA appreciates the pressures on local agencies to enable the installation of renewable technologies. However, all renewable energy proposals may not be appropriate for all locations.

We again commend the Board and LCPA staff for continuing the protection and preservation of Marin County's unique coastal environment.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of WMSCA,

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