



Respondent No: 8

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Q1. Name	Curtis
Q2. Email address	curtis.earl03@gmail.com
Q3. Are you part of an Agency or Organization?	No
Q4. Share any comment	<p>This project continues to blatantly disregard the will of the local citizens and instead rams the project forward in every way possible without actually addressing the real issues. Local residents do not want to see any impact to the ferruginous hawk nesting areas. There should be no windmills, solar panels, or BESS within ten miles of a nest, let alone two. The previous EFSEC recommendations in April of 2024 were well beyond what citizens felt was acceptable, but were at least reasonable. Why has there been such a drastic shift to effectively approve the original plan with very little modification since the Governor's action? The Certificate Holder has also demonstrated it has not thought through the local requirements and the major issues with their proposal, and that they have no interest in listening to local residents. It's also very clear from previous public comments over the past few years that there are other major issues with this project that have been swept under the rug. If EFSEC, PTAG, the Governor, and the Certificate Holder are so invested in such power generation without addressing massive shortcomings, then locate the project within miles of their homes and let it impact their local community's safety, environment, home values, and horizons. The Certificate Holder and the Governor have demonstrated wanton disregard for the local residents and how this project would affect their lives, property value, and landscape. Aside from the unacceptable implementation of Spec-5 mitigation, this particular project poses serious environmental, safety, and long-term sustainability concerns that cannot be overlooked.</p> <p>1. Firefighting and Public Safety Risks: Wind turbines severely limit the ability of firefighters to respond to wildfires. Their height and rotating blades make it unsafe for helicopters and air tankers to operate nearby—tools that are essential for protecting lives, property, and natural resources in our fire-prone region. Approving this project would create permanent “no-fly zones” for aerial firefighting and delay critical fire suppression efforts.</p> <p>2. Harm to Birds and Wildlife: Wind turbines are known to cause high numbers of bird and bat deaths, including protected and migratory species. Raptors (ferruginous hawk especially) and bats that help control agricultural pests are especially at risk. These losses can have ripple effects across the entire ecosystem and contradict the state's environmental protection goals. No equipment should be within 2 miles of any previous nesting location.</p> <p>3. Intermittent and Unreliable Power: Wind energy depends on weather and cannot produce steady, on-demand electricity (resulting in a low capacity factor). When the wind doesn't blow, fossil fuel plants and hydropower must fill the gap (especially considering our local nuclear energy production is shipped west/south rather than staying local), negating much of the carbon reduction benefit. Investing in such unreliable generation makes little sense.</p> <p>4. Unsustainable Materials and Waste: Wind turbines require rare earth metals mined under environmentally damaging conditions overseas. Even worse, turbine blades—made from composite materials—cannot currently be recycled and are already piling up in landfills across the country. This creates a future waste problem (in about twenty years) rather than a sustainable energy solution.</p> <p>In Conclusion, this project poses unacceptable risks to public safety, wildlife, and the environment, while delivering unreliable energy and creating long-term waste. I respectfully urge the state to reject all primary components within two miles of a potential ferruginous hawk nest so we can pursue cleaner, safer, and truly sustainable alternatives.</p>
Q5. Upload your document (optional)	not answered
Q6. Upload a picture (optional)	not answered
Q7. Did you also share a video?	No
Q8. What is the title of your video?	not answered