

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



Mr. Jeffrey Durocher
Wind Permitting Manager
Iberdrola Renewables
1125 NW Couch Street, Suite 700
Portland, OR 97209
(sent via email: Jeffrey.Durocher@iberdrolaren.com)

May 13, 2011

Subject: Tule Wind Project - Data Request No. 16A

Dear Mr. Durocher:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) requests additional information in support of the East County Substation, Tule Wind, and Energia Sierra Juarez Gen-Tie Projects Final EIR/EIS. Following review of the Tule Wind, LLC's response to noise data request response no. 16, additional information is requested (please refer to Attachment A). We would appreciate your response to this data request no later than May 18, 2011.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by phone at 415.355.5580 or by e-mail at iain.fisher@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Iain Fisher
Energy Division
California Public Utilities Commission

cc: Greg Thomsen, BLM (GThomsen@blm.gov)
Thomas Zale, BLM (Thomas_Zale@blm.gov)
Jeffery Childers, BLM (Jeffery_Childers@blm.gov)
Patrick O'Neill, HDR (Patrick.O'Neill@hdrinc.com)
Jeffrey.Durocher (Jeffrey.Durocher@iberdrolaren.com)

Attachments A

Noise

1. Please review the modeled octave band sound levels in Table 1 of the response to data request no. 16. There appears to be a discrepancy. For example, the spectral noise emission data for the Gamesa G87, as provided in Table 8 of the February 2011 Tule Wind Project Noise Study, has a noise emission level of 83.8 dB at 31.5 Hz and 92.2 dB at 63 Hz. However, the data presented in Table 1 of response to data request no. 16 depicts the noise level at 31.5 Hz to be 5 dB higher as compared to the sound level at 63 Hz. The atmospheric attenuation is negligible at these frequencies for the nearby turbines. The primary attenuation is associated with geometric divergence and ground effect, which are the same for both frequencies. Therefore, it seems the overall modeled sound level at 31.5 Hz should be less than the sound level at 63 Hz. Please review the modeled sound levels in Table 1 and update if necessary.