

BOB FILNER  
51ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 21, 2011

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The Honorable Ken Salazar  
Secretary  
United States Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ken:

On behalf of my constituents, I urgently request that you deny the entire Tule Wind project, proposed by Iberdrola Renewables in the culturally and biologically sensitive McCain Valley National Cooperative Land and Wildlife Management Area in Eastern San Diego County.

The introduction of industrial wind turbines and the related electrical infrastructure into these sensitive wild land and interface areas, with severely limited fire fighting infrastructure, increases the risk of catastrophic wildfires and the fire insurance rates for the impacted communities. Also, Tribal leadership and individual members of the Manzanita Band, the Viejas Band, and the Campo Band of the Kumeyaay Nation have submitted letters on the joint Tule Wind DEIR/EIS documenting their concerns over the project and the significant negative impacts it represents to the rapidly declining Golden Eagle population.

In addition, the Tule Wind project needs to complete the Major Use Permit process with the County of San Diego for a new project access road, a thorough groundwater investigation, a new transmission line, a revised fire protection plan and other critical and unresolved project details.

If you have any questions, or I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Jessica Gomez of my staff at (619) 422-5963.

Sincerely,

BOB FILNER  
Member of Congress

cc:

Stephan Chu, Secretary of Energy  
Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs  
Jonathan Silver, Director DOE Loan Guarantee Program

BF/jg  
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