Maiden Wind Farm

Telephone comment by Ginny Kuehn
5/15/02

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I have been interacting with different BPA people for months and months. I am probably one of the top five or six people in the wind energy business in the world and I have been involved since the 80's. I have said over and over that this is one of the dumbest projects that I have heard putting the wind projects in Rattlesnake and putting wind in period. The federal subsidies will not be there and they not sufficient to offset the cost.

It is not that you won't have wind a third of the time, maybe you will have some wind a third of the time, but I doubt that you will have full rated power maybe 5 or 6 percent of the time, maybe 8 percent at the stretch. I have tried over and over to tell people that there is a lot of data available, there is a lot of information available. This is another WPPSS, a super WPPSS, the bond offering was a mistake, was a mistake to put the wind turbines in. I tried my best to interact with the right people, but, the right people are the ones that are politically involved and think we want to go with wind and the people that are involved with the projects certainly want to see this project go. It is a serious mistake.

I will be happy to donate any of my time or services or anything else if someone wants to do an analysis of it, I have tons of data. I was the original flow wind person in California. We put 509 vertical axes and 220 horizontal axes turbines in and now they are all scrapped.

Most of the other projects that we have been involved with over the years have been dead-ended. That was in a much healthier power environment than we have right now. I don't know who else to tell, I don't want to go public on it or go to the press like the little article this morning she was right on that article. I am available to talk to anybody about it at anytime. It is a significant error I think it is a tactful error and I think it sounds like good politics, but in truth is not going to be, the environmentalists are going to kill you on it for one thing and when you get to the economics of it all one has to do is look at the past experience of the other wind projects and the current economic situation and you can pencil it out and it does not make sense.

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Was urged by my daily paper to put in my comments about the wind project on Rattlesnake. I am definitely in favor of it.

Anywhere we put a wind generator is good. The more the better.