



Solano County
Airport Land Use Commission
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Ray Schoch
Chairman

SOLANO COUNTY AIRPORT LAND USE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF September 10, 2009

The regular meeting of the Solano County Airport Land Use Commission was held Thursday, September 10, 2009 in the Solano County Administration Center, Multi-Purpose Room, 675 Texas St., Fairfield, CA 94533.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Schoch, Commissioners Stockard, Baldwin, Baumler, Seiden and Vancil

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Cavanagh and Potter

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Leland, Resource Management, Lee Axelrad, County Council, Diane Buschman, Resource Management

Items 1, 2 & 3: Chairman Schoch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Item 4. Public Comment

Ben Doyle, Nextera, asked if he could postpone his comments until after Item 7 on the agenda.

Lonn Maier, SMUD, also asked if his comments could be postponed until Item 7 was heard.

Item 5. Approval of the Minutes of August 13, 2009

The minutes of August 13, 2009 were approved.

Item 6 File ALUC-09-02: Public Hearing on a Consistency Determination

Jim Leland stated that Solano County staff was recommending continuing this item to the October 8th meeting as the application was incomplete and staff was requesting additional information from the applicant. Commissioner Stockard made a motion to continue the item to the October 8, 2009 ALUC meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Seiden. Commissioner Baumler asked if the item could be heard on another date as he would be unable to attend the October 8th meeting. Chairman Schoch stated that he was not in favor of scheduling a special meeting for only one item and asked

for a vote. The motion to continue the item to the October 8, 2009 ALUC meeting passed unanimously.

Item 7. Discussion of Scheduling a Wind Turbine Workshop

Mr. Leland noted that the Commission had requested additional information on wind turbines and their impacts on aircraft radar systems. Solano County staff suggested holding a wind turbine workshop or a study session with representatives from the Air Force and the wind turbine industry as a way to provide the ALUC with the additional information they requested. Chairman Schoch was in favor of scheduling a special meeting in September for the workshop. Lee Axelrad, county counsel, noted that it was important to have as many Commissioners as possible attend the workshop to get the maximum benefit of the additional information to be presented.

Ben Doyle, Nextera, stated that he was encouraged by and supported staff's suggestion to hold a workshop that would bring together the different stakeholders in an open forum setting to address concerns regarding wind turbine development. He stated that he knew that the wind turbines were fairly contentious in nature and that the Air Force has concerns. He believed that it was important to find solutions to ensure that wind turbine development didn't degrade Travis AFB's ability to operate and protect its military mission. And at the same time it was important to allow the citizens of Solano County to benefit from wind turbine development.

Lohn Maier, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), stated that SMUD has existing and proposed wind projects in the Montezuma Hills wind development area (WDA). He referred to an American Wind Energy Association conference on the issues facing wind energy where a presentation was made by a joint panel that included the Dept of Defense, FAA, and the Air Force. The panel discussed how an energy infrastructure compatibility group had been established to provide timely review of proposed wind energy projects. He noted that the review process described by the panel was the process that SMUD had been following. He concluded by stating that SMUD had practiced due diligence and was interested in working with Travis AFB, the ALUC, Solano County and other interested parties to resolve any issues regarding wind energy development in the Solano County WRA and would be available to participate in a workshop.

Annie Mudge, enXco, stated that enXco was the developer for the Shiloh I and Shiloh II projects in the WDA and has a pending application for a Shiloh III project. EnXco would welcome the opportunity to have a dialogue on the technical issues raised by the radar issues at Travis AFB. She suggested that the most constructive way to enhance that dialogue would begin at staff level. There are a number of technical issues that require the expertise of radar specialists to work through. That information could then be brought back to the ALUC. She stated that this type of dialogue was consistent with the policy and framework of the Federal process and was consistent with the Federal Aviation Act. EnXco would like to share information at a stakeholder meeting

that its radar experts have developed that would provide the kind of assessment capability that the Air Force has been seeking. She concluded by stating that enXco would like to participate in a workshop(s) with the ALUC, FAA, Air Force and stakeholders to find satisfactory solutions for all parties.

Mr. Leland asked the Commission if there was consensus to hold a workshop. Commissioner Stockard asked if county staff felt that holding a staff level workshop first would be beneficial. Mr. Leland answered that staff would like representatives from the ALUC present at workshops. Mr. Axelrad suggested holding a second workshop if it was needed. Commissioner Seiden thought that it was important to include the Air Force and the FAA in the workshop. Chairman Schoch stated that he would work with staff to find a date for a workshop.

Item 8. Discussion of ALUC Work Plan for 2009-2010

Mr. Leland stated that there were three work program items that should be included in the 2009/10 ALUC work program. The first was workshop(s) to explore possible solutions for the development of the wind resource area and the protection of the airspace. The second and third items were possible updates to the Nut Tree LUCP and the Travis AFB LUCP as both Travis AFB and the Nut Tree Airports are currently updating their master plans and those efforts could be completed during the current planning period. The ALUC will need to develop programs to update their respective Land Use Compatibility Plans and corresponding funding requests for submittal to the Solano County Board of Supervisors. The ALUC concurred that the three items submitted by Mr. Leland be included in the 2009/10 ALUC Work Program.

Item 9. Adjournment

The next regular meeting of the Solano County Airport Land Use Commission will be held on **Thursday, October 8, 2009**, in the Solano County Administration Center, Multi-Purpose Room, 675 Texas St., Fairfield, CA 94533