

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**
Nevada

Carson City District - Sierra Front Field Office

BLM Nevada News

Carson City District Office No. 09-07

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Contact: Mark Struble, Public Affairs Officer, (775) 885-6107

BLM to Prepare an EIS on New Comstock Wind Energy Project

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Carson City District-Sierra Front Field Office, intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the impacts resulting from construction of the New Comstock Wind Energy Project.

Great Basin Wind, LLC, has submitted a right-of-way application to construct and operate a commercial wind turbine facility that would include approximately 69 wind turbines with the potential of producing 192 megawatts of electricity. The turbine towers would be 210 ft. to 330 ft. tall supporting a nacelle and three blades 115 ft. to 170 ft. in length.

Turbine units would be connected to a proposed electric substation by approximately 20 miles of underground electrical distribution system. A proposed 120 kV overhead transmission line approximately 5 miles in length would connect the new substation to an existing substation operated by Sierra Pacific Power Co. located near U.S. Highway 50 east of Carson City.

A series of 15 ft. to 40 ft. wide access roads would be improved or constructed to facilitate site development. Other proposed facilities would include several small outbuildings for storage of materials and temporary work areas and storage yards.

The BLM will work closely with interested parties to identify the best possible alternatives and management decisions that will take into account local, regional, and national needs and concerns.

Public Scoping Meeting: members of the public are invited to participate in the scoping process to identify issues and concerns to be addressed in the EIS on **Wednesday, December 10, 2008, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** at the BLM-Carson City District Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, Nevada.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the EIS process. Members of the public are invited to participate in the scoping process to identify issues and concerns to be addressed in the EIS.

Comments on issues and concerns should be received on or before the close of business on Friday, January 30, 2009, at the address listed below.

In addition to the ongoing public participation process, formal opportunities will be provided through comment on the Draft EIS (60-day comment period) and the Final EIS (30-day availability period).

Comments will be accepted by mail, FAX or e-mail to New Comstock Wind Energy Project Manager, BLM-Carson City District-Sierra Front Field Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, NV 89701. FAX

(775) 885-6147. E-mail newcomstockwind@blm.gov

For more information on the EIS, visit the BLM webpage at http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field.html or contact Jane Peterson, BLM Energy Projects Liaison, at (775) 885-6000.