

From: [PING FANG](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#); [Ping Fang](#)
Subject: Public Comments to Renewable Energy Siting Assessment and Presentation (agenda item #64)
Date: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 12:02:36 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I like to offer a few comments to County of Ventura Renewable Energy Project Siting Assessment (by Ascent) and Planning Division 2nd Presentation (by Donald Nielson on 12/19):



1. The Assessment chooses to limit its scope to solar and wind renewable production and lithium-ion battery for energy storage. It does not address any considerations for leveraging hydrogen or bioenergy based renewable production technology. Nor does it do so for any of those long duration battery technology (e.g Redox-flow, Zinc-hybrid, Ion-Air, etc). Lithium battery technology can generally store energy for less than 4 hours (as oppose to long duration ones). Former may not be more efficient in land use while later may exacerbate what is known as [renewable energy curtailment](#) or renewable energy loss problem.
 - Energy curtailment could slow the transition to clean energy and/or to make over-capacity investment of solar/wind, which equates to more land use. At worse, it may put our grid reliability into jeopardy during emergency situation, where our Lithium-battery storage may not be able to keep with multi-day grid-outage situations.
 - Please direct staff to formulate a more balanced approach through deploying mixture of multiple modalities of battery storage systems in the County.
 - Direct staff to preserve an option for commercializing technologies in the future to use natural sea-water for producing hydrogen which can then be used as a fuel by a nearby electricity producing facilities. A Sichuan-based company in China has successfully demonstrated such technology in June of this year for a stable such operation over 240 hours, according to news reports. It may involve updates to Coastal Zoning Ordinance which require
 - At minimum, the regulation should not create any barrier in the short term to our adoption for those long duration energy storage systems and for introducing hydrogen-based production ecosystem which have got more support from federal/state government and from oil and gas industry too
2. The Assessment does not include much on concerns of local grid and local demand for electricity (beyond building electrification).
 - Ormond Beach Generating Station at Oxnard was scheduled to stop operation this year but has been [extended through 2026](#) out of concerns for the grid failure, according to a representative of its owner and operator. It is a gas-fired power plant that has the capacity of producing 1419 mWh (as oppose to kWh) to stabilize the grid.

- It would be a tremendous waste of existing infrastructure, if we have no plan to replace it with either a renewable sourced power plant and/or long duration battery storage systems. We have done so once without leveraging our past telecommunication network left by our telecom employer. It would be a shame to repeat that again.
- Please direct staff to prepare a regulation pathway to convert it into a renewable energy production site with a long duration energy storage facility to support that too. Such batter site should be given a score of 2 or more in assessment value.
- Please direct staff to gather and/or understand the electric power demand and requirement placed on the local grid from the County and possibly from neighboring counties (where the grid services). To better an incoming EV future, we look into both within the context of 5%, 10%, etc in EV adoption rate. Without such critical information, we would be blind when it happens and ill-prepared to be surprised by more frequent grid outages, an man-made problem from poor planning by the government.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to share my comments.

Best Regards,
Ping

Links in the message (4)

	Long duration and multi-day storage tec...		Oxnard officials, activists upset Ormon...
---	--	---	--