

April 24, 2002

To: Sutter County Planning Commission

Re: Agenda Item #5a: Authorization to initiate a Zoning Ordinance amendment to provide for the regulation of small wind energy systems; location - Countywide

Current Proposal

The proposal is to authorize staff to prepare a change to the Sutter County Zoning Code pertaining to the regulation of small wind energy systems (windmills).

Background

In 2001, the State of California adopted Assembly Bill (AB) 1207 as part of its energy program to encourage the use of new or renewable energy sources. AB 1207 mandates that local agencies allow the installation and operation of small wind energy systems (windmills) on non-urban properties where the system and property meet the requirements of AB 1207.

The bill also provides local agencies with the authority to adopt an ordinance regulating the installation and operation of these systems within certain specific limitations.

Recommended Action

Initiate a revision to the Zoning Code pertaining to the regulation of small wind energy systems.

Sincerely,

THOMAS A. LAST
PLANNING DIVISION CHIEF

Dale Follas
Associate Planner

Attachment: Exhibit A - Assembly Bill 1207