

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9—SENATOR RHOADS

MAY 4, 2011

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Expresses opposition to the location of a proposed wind power project on Mount Wilson and Table Mountain. (BDR R-1286)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Expressing opposition to the location of a proposed wind power project on Mount Wilson and Table Mountain.

1 WHEREAS, The State of Nevada has an interest in developing
2 cost-effective alternative sources of energy which minimally affect
3 the environment and preserve the natural resources of the State,
4 including renewable energy derived from wind power; and

5 WHEREAS, Mount Wilson and Table Mountain, which are
6 located in the Wilson Creek Range in Lincoln County, Nevada, are
7 culturally and historically significant, are renowned for their diverse
8 indigenous animal and plant species, and are distinct for their scenic
9 landscapes; and

10 WHEREAS, Mount Wilson and Table Mountain are cherished by
11 Nevadans who enjoy using the land for hunting, hiking, recreation
12 and other outdoor activities; and

13 WHEREAS, A wind power project currently proposed in Lincoln
14 County would require the use of 31,000 acres, primarily on Mount
15 Wilson and Table Mountain, and the construction of 350 wind
16 turbines that are between 211 and 325 feet in height, 178 miles of
17 access roads and 50 miles of overhead transmission line; and

18 WHEREAS, The infrastructure necessary to build and operate the
19 wind turbines will require the construction of numerous roads
20 through steep terrain, the removal of millions of tons of soil and the
21 destruction of native vegetation and fauna; and

22 WHEREAS, The wind power project will destroy the qualities of
23 Mount Wilson and Table Mountain that provide for the multiple
24 public uses of the region and negatively affect the habitats of



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1 numerous animal species that rely on this land as a migratory
2 corridor and to breed and forage for food; and

3 WHEREAS, Mount Wilson and Table Mountain have been
4 designated by the Bureau of Land Management as crucial fawning
5 grounds for mule deer and elk; and

6 WHEREAS, The wind power project could be located at an
7 alternative site, thereby minimizing the environmental footprint of
8 the project and preserving the culturally significant and
9 environmentally diverse areas of Mount Wilson and Table
10 Mountain; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
12 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 76th Session of
13 the Nevada Legislature recommend that a more suitable location for
14 the wind power project other than Mount Wilson and Table
15 Mountain be found in Lincoln County, Nevada; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Lincoln County Board of County
17 Commissioners and the Nevada Grazing Board of District No. 4
18 should be involved in all phases of any wind power project in the
19 Mount Wilson and Table Mountain region of Lincoln County,
20 including, without limitation, the planning, construction, operation
21 and decommission phases of such a project; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That any wind power project proposed on public
23 land in the Mount Wilson and Table Mountain region of Lincoln
24 County should be situated in contemplation of the location's cultural
25 significance, indigenous plants and animals, multiple public uses
26 and accessibility; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
28 transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of the United
29 States Department of the Interior, the State Director of the Nevada
30 State Office of the Bureau of Land Management, the Director of the
31 State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Chair
32 of the Nevada Grazing Board of District No. 4, the Lincoln County
33 Board of County Commissioners and the managing partner of the
34 Nevada Wind Company; and be it further

35 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon
36 passage.

