

APWRA Monitoring Report Purposes & SRC Policy Context

Document excerpts compiled by the Center for Collaborative Policy January 2010

1. What are the responsibilities of the SRC in relation to the Monitoring Report?

From Alameda County Conditional Use Permit Exhibits G-1 & G-2

- Throughout all years of the [Avian Wildlife Protection and Settling Parties Avian Wildlife Protection] Program, the Scientific Review Committee (SRC) **shall investigate, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Program**, using input from the Permittee(s), the County consultant and state-sponsored research, and subsequently **recommend adjustments, and design and implementation of alternative strategies.**

2. What is the purpose of the Monitoring Report?

From the Board Resolution

- The selected biological resource monitoring consultant (“County consultant”) shall be responsible for using appropriate protocols and methodologies to **enumerate and describe the relevant circumstances and apparent causes of bird injuries and deaths (e.g., location and pattern of turbines, avian behavior, environmental conditions, etc.)**, conduct other research objectives to be established by the SRC and/or the Planning Director, and to **assemble such data for use by the SRC.**

From M21 2009 Draft Bird Fatality Study:

- The Monitoring Team implements the monitoring program designed to measure avian mortality rates, analyzes data collected, and reports results in line with recommendations made by the SRC.
- In addition to monitoring avian mortality for the purpose of assessing progress toward achieving the goal of a 50% reduction in turbine-related avian mortality rates, information from the current study has been used to examine the efficacy of management actions designed to reduce turbine-related avian fatality, including the seasonal shutdown of turbines and the replacement of older generation turbines with newer turbines (repowering).

3. What are the purpose and goals of the SRC that might be relevant to its review of the Monitoring Report?

From the Board Resolution

- The SRC shall...**be responsible for developing scientifically-supported strategies to reduce injury and mortality to avian wildlife associated with wind turbine operations** in the Alameda County portion of the APWRA, including existing and future repowering projects, **through the implementation of those strategies...**
- The SRC shall provide its recommendations to the Planning Director for the **implementation of specific strategies to reduce avian mortality, and the conduct of research and monitoring activities.**

From Exhibit D

Tasks:

- ...**Develop and evaluate scientifically-supported strategies to reduce injury and mortality to avian wildlife associated with wind turbine operations** in the APWRA, and **assess those strategies** using state-of-the-art science, peer-reviewed data, and applicable local, state and federal guidelines.

From the SRC Charter: Purpose and Goals

The purpose of the Scientific Review Committee is to provide independent review and expertise on research and study related to wind energy production and avian behavior and safety. To this end, the goals of the group are to:

- **Reach agreement on analysis and interpretation of data;** and
- **Ensure sound and objective scientific review of avian safety strategies.**

The SRC will be the primary body seeking consensus on the **best methods and tools to improve scientific understanding** in Altamont Pass.