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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 07, 2014 4:54 PM  
**To:** web; Clerk  
**Subject:** Full Board of Directors and District Clerk - Board Contact Form

**Name \*** Roger Sundahl

**Select a Choice** Full Board of Directors and District Clerk

**Email \*** [REDACTED]

**Location: (i.e. City, Address or District Ward)** Portola Valley, Ca

**Daytime Phone Number (if you wish to be contacted by phone)** [REDACTED]

**Comments: \***

In light of your recent narrowly approved bond measure, I would like the board to consider the following:

- 1) Does the Open Space Trust support renewable energy?
- 2) If you do support renewable energy, would you allow either wind mills or solar panels on those parts of your open space land that have sufficient solar or wind energy to support the production of electricity?  
More specifically, would you support wind mills on Windy Hill?

Thanks for your consideration.

Roger Sundahl

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**DRAFT RESPONSE FOR  
BOARD CONSIDERATION**

August 13, 2014

Mr. Sundahl,

Thank you for sharing your comments about potential renewable energy opportunities that the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) may want to consider on existing Preserves. The District welcomes innovative ways to promote sustainability measures as we fulfill our mission and, moving forward, implement Measure AA priorities that the public has supported for increased open space conservation, low-intensity public access, and environmental restoration.

The District is interested in exploring new energy efficiency measures and evaluating renewable energy technologies (such as wind turbine, solar photovoltaic systems, etc.) where they are consistent with the District's mission, objectives and policies. Proposals, such as one for solar panels and/or wind mills at Windy Hill, would need to protect the physical and environmental characteristics of the land, as well as the quality of the visitor use experience while avoiding financial burdens to the District and negative impacts to the environment (e.g. visual, biological, geological). In addition, the District would need to carefully consider the scale, design, and purpose of any new proposal, and evaluate its consistency with the allowable land uses. Moreover, any new proposal at Windy Hill would also be subject to a conditional use permit and advisory design review by the Town of Portola Valley as part of their permitting process.

Renewable energy proposals that facilitate public recreation, the preservation of significant structures, or support agriculture would be of greatest interest to the District. Without knowing the details of what you might have in mind at Windy Hill, a large scale proposal would likely not be consistent with the District's mission, objectives and policies.

To date, the District has integrated renewable energy facilities on a limited basis to help manage its properties more efficiently and cost-effectively. Examples include the installation of solar-powered access gates at Preserves entrances/parking areas and windmills to power agricultural water pumps in remote Coastal areas.

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate in contacting Jane Mark, Planning Manager, at (650) 691-1200 or at [jmark@openspace.org](mailto:jmark@openspace.org). Thank you again for your time in preparing and submitting comments to the District.

Cecily Harris  
Board President