

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE PROPOSED
LAVA RIDGE PROJECT AND SUPPORTING A NO-BUILD OPTION.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Land Management has under consid-
eration an application from LS Energy to lease an extensive amount of acres
of public land, Lava Ridge, in Jerome, Lincoln, and Minidoka Counties; and

WHEREAS, LS Energy plans to construct 400 wind turbines, with a maximum
height of up to 740 feet, 381 miles of access roads, and the infrastructure to
support their construction and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the height of the turbines will impact civil, military, and
agricultural flight operations; and

WHEREAS, the energy created by the Lava Ridge Project is designed and
planned to provide energy to Southern Nevada and California; and

WHEREAS, the States of Nevada and California have tremendous open space
that could accommodate this project and more directly move the impacts to the
beneficiaries; and

WHEREAS, the Magic Valley economy currently has a shortage of housing,
available workforce, and construction capacity, stressing the local markets
needed to support the build out of Lava Ridge; and

WHEREAS, local citizens and businesses are concerned about the impact
of a boom-and-bust economy over a two-year period; and

WHEREAS, Idaho is required by law to protect all wildlife. This project
area will severely impact the migration and habitat of local wildlife; and

WHEREAS, these lands have been utilized by agriculture, public recre-
ation, hunting, and fishing by the citizens of Idaho and specifically the
Magic Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Lava Ridge Project encroaches upon the historical signifi-
cance of the Minidoka National Historic site of the Hunt Japanese Relocation
Camp from World War II; and

WHEREAS, tremendous public opinion is not favorable to the Lava Ridge
Project; and

WHEREAS, the legislative complexity of the federal, state, and local
laws and regulations associated with the project cause concern for citizens
and local governments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Ses-
sion of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives
and the Senate concurring therein, that Idaho Attorney General Raúl Labrador
and Governor Brad Little review the Lava Ridge Project to assure that the in-
terests of Idaho are foremost in the final decision.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature considers the concerns of
Idaho and the Magic Valley justification to support a no-build option.