## Wildlife Commission Resolution - 10-01 Regarding Public Hunting Access in Wind Farm Developments

- 1. **WHEREAS,** the Renewable Energy Standard for Colorado as of 2020 shall be 30% of produced energy from renewable sources;
- 2. **WHEREAS**, the best source of wind supply is on private land in remote areas of Colorado; and
- 3. WHEREAS, hunting is a traditional activity enjoyed by many; and
- 4. **WHEREAS**, legally obtained access to private land is important in order to meet harvest objectives and maintain healthy wildlife populations and quality habitat; and
- 5. **WHEREAS**, the renewable wind industry has expressed concerns over potential vandalism to equipment by hunters; and
- 6. **WHEREAS**, hunters have a widely recognized, and long standing history of safe and responsible conduct in the field; and
- 7. **WHEREAS**, individuals that damage wind development property are vandals, not hunters, who should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law;
- 8. **THEREFORE, BE IT** *RESOLVED* **THAT** that the Colorado Wildlife Commission expresses its appreciation and strong support for landowners to control legal sport hunting access; and
- 9. **BE IT FURTHER** *RESOLVED* **THAT** the Colorado Division of Wildlife shall advocate that wind development companies allow public hunting access in areas with wind farms on private lands where the private landowner allows hunting; and
- 10. **BE IT FURTHER** *RESOLVED* **THAT** the Division of Wildlife work with state and federal land management agencies, local law enforcement, wind development companies, private non-governmental organizations, and private landowners to avoid and report damage to wind turbine generators caused by vandals; and
- 11. **BE IT FURTHER** *RESOLVED* **THAT** the Division work to inform and educate the sportsmen of this State on the role of renewable energy sources and how to report incidents of vandalism to local law enforcement authorities; and
- 12. **BE IT FURTHER** *RESOLVED* **THAT** the Division recommend to the Colorado Public Utilities Commission that permits for wind farm developments be conditioned so as to prevent applicants from requiring indemnification from landowners who are willing to provide public access for hunting.

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Adopted July 8, 2010

Timothy R. Glenn

Chair

Colorado Wildlife Commission