



Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council AGENDA

MONTHLY MEETING
Wednesday January 15, 2025
1:30 PM

VIRTUAL ONLY MEETING
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Conference number: 564-999-2000 ID: 141231937#

- 1. Call to Order Kathleen Drew, EFSEC Chair
- 2. Roll Call Andrea Grantham, EFSEC Staff
- 3. Proposed Agenda Kathleen Drew, EFSEC Chair
- 4. Minutes **Meeting Minutes**..... Kathleen Drew, EFSEC Chair
 - December 18, 2024 Monthly Meeting Minutes
- 5. Projects
 - a. **Kittitas Valley Wind Project**
 - Operational Updates.....Jarred Caseday, EDP Renewables
 - b. **Wild Horse Wind Power Project**
 - Operational Updates.....Jennifer Galbraith, Puget Sound Energy
 - c. **Chehalis Generation Facility**
 - Operational Updates.....Jeremy Smith, Chehalis Generation
 - d. **Grays Harbor Energy Center**
 - Operational Updates.....Chris Sherin, Grays Harbor Energy
 - e. **Columbia Solar**
 - Operational Updates.....Thomas Cushing, Greenbacker Capital
 - f. **Columbia Generating Station**
 - Operational Updates.....Denis Mehinagic, Energy Northwest
 - g. **WNP – 1/4**
 - Non-Operational Updates.....Denis Mehinagic, Energy Northwest
 - h. **Goose Prairie Solar**
 - Project Updates.....Nelson Jia, Brookfield Renewable
 - i. **High Top Solar**
 - Project Updates.....Sara Randolph, EFSEC Staff
 - j. **Ostrea Solar**
 - Project Updates.....Sara Randolph, EFSEC Staff
 - k. **Horse Heaven Wind Farm**
 - Project Updates.....Amy Moon, EFSEC Staff
 - l. **Wautoma Solar**
 - Project Updates.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff
 - m. **Hop Hill Solar**
 - Project Updates.....John Barnes, EFSEC Staff
 - n. **Carriger Solar**
 - Project Updates.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff
 - o. **Wallula Gap**
 - Project Updates.....John Barnes, EFSEC Staff
 - p. **Goldeneye BESS**
 - Project Updates.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff
 - Land Use Consistency Order.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff

The Council may consider FINAL ACTION on the Land Use Order for the Goldeneye BESS project.

Note: "FINAL ACTION" means a collective positive or negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of a governing body when sitting as a body or entity, upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance. RCW 42.30.020

6. Other

- Cost Allocation.....Sonia Bumpus, EFSEC Staff

7. Adjourn.....Kathleen Drew, EFSEC Chair

WASHINGTON STATE
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING

December 18, 2024
Taken Remotely via Teams

PREPARED BY: Michelle D. Elam, RPR, CCR 3335

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 APPEARANCES</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 STATE AGENCY MEMBERS:</p> <p>4 Kathleen Drew, Chair</p> <p>5 Elizabeth Osborne, Department of Commerce</p> <p>6 Eli Levitt, Department of Ecology</p> <p>7 Nate Pamplin, Department of Fish and Wildlife</p> <p>8 Lenny Young, Department of Natural Resources</p> <p>9 Stacey Brewster, Utilities & Transportation</p> <p>10 Commission</p> <p>11</p> <p>12 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OPTIONAL STATE AGENCIES:</p> <p>13 Wautoma Solar:</p> <p>14 Dave Sharp, Benton County</p> <p>15 Paul Gonseth, WA Department of</p> <p>16 Transportation</p> <p>17 Carriger Solar:</p> <p>18 Matt Chiles, Klickitat County</p> <p>19 Wallula Gap:</p> <p>20 Adam Fyall, Benton County</p> <p>21</p> <p>22 ASSISTANT ATTORNEYS GENERAL:</p> <p>23 Jon Thompson</p> <p>24 Zack Packer</p> <p>25 Talia Thuet</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 APPEARANCES (Continuing)</p> <p>2 Jennifer Galbraith</p> <p>3 Wild Horse Wind Power Project, Puget Sound</p> <p>4 Energy</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 Jeremy Smith</p> <p>7 Chehalis Generation Facility, PacifiCorp</p> <p>8</p> <p>9 Denis Mehinagic</p> <p>10 Columbia Generating Station & WNP-1/4, Energy</p> <p>11 Northwest</p> <p>12</p> <p>13 Thomas Cushing</p> <p>14 Columbia Solar, Tuusso Energy</p> <p>15</p> <p>16 Nelson Jia</p> <p>17 Goose Prairie Solar, Brookfield Renewable</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 COUNSEL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:</p> <p>20 Sarah Reyneveld</p> <p>21 Yuriy Korol</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 APPEARANCES (Continuing)</p> <p>2 COUNCIL STAFF:</p> <p>3 Sonia Bumpus</p> <p>4 Ami Hafkemeyer</p> <p>5 Amy Moon</p> <p>6 Stew Henderson</p> <p>7 Joan Owens</p> <p>8 Andrea Grantham</p> <p>9 Sonia Skaland</p> <p>10 John Barnes</p> <p>11 Joanne Snarski</p> <p>12 Alex Shiley</p> <p>13 Ali Smith</p> <p>14 Karl Holappa</p> <p>15 Maria Belkina</p> <p>16 Martin McMurry</p> <p>17 Trevin Taylor</p> <p>18 Patty Betts</p> <p>19</p> <p>20 OPERATIONAL UPDATES:</p> <p>21 Jarred Caseday</p> <p>22 Kittitas Valley Wind, EDP Renewables</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 MEETING INDEX</p> <p>2 EVENT: PAGE NO.</p> <p>3 Call to order 7</p> <p>4 Roll call 7</p> <p>5 Proposed agenda 11</p> <p>6 Minutes</p> <p>7 November 20, 2024, monthly meeting minutes 12</p> <p>8 Projects</p> <p>9 Kittitas Valley Wind Project 13</p> <p>10 Wild Horse Wind Power Project 13</p> <p>11 Chehalis Generation Facility 13</p> <p>12 Grays Harbor Energy Center 14</p> <p>13 Columbia Solar 14</p> <p>14 Columbia Generating Station 14</p> <p>15 WNP - 1/4 14</p> <p>16 Goose Prairie Solar 15</p> <p>17 High Top Solar 17</p> <p>18 Ostrea Solar 17</p> <p>19 Horse Heaven Wind Farm 17</p> <p>20 Wautoma Solar 19</p> <p>21 Hop Hill Solar 21</p> <p>22 Carriger Solar 21</p> <p>23 Wallula Gap 22</p> <p>24 Goldeneye BESS 22</p> <p>25</p>

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<p>1 BE IT REMEMBERED that on Wednesday, Page 7</p> <p>2 December 18, 2024, at 1:14 p.m., before Michelle D. Elam,</p> <p>3 Certified Court Reporter, RPR, the following Monthly</p> <p>4 Meeting of the Washington State Energy Facility Site</p> <p>5 Evaluation Council was held, to wit:</p> <p>6</p> <p>7 <<<<<<>>>>>></p> <p>8</p> <p>9 CHAIR DREW: Good afternoon.</p> <p>10 This is Kathleen Drew, chair of the Energy</p> <p>11 Facility Site Evaluation Committee, calling this meeting</p> <p>12 to order.</p> <p>13 Ms. Grantham, will you call the roll.</p> <p>14 MS. GRANTHAM: Certainly, Chair Drew.</p> <p>15 Department of Commerce.</p> <p>16 MS. OSBORNE: Elizabeth Osborne, present.</p> <p>17 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Ecology.</p> <p>18 MR. LEVITT: Eli Levitt, present.</p> <p>19 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Fish and Wildlife.</p> <p>20 We have Nate Pamplin present.</p> <p>21 Department of Natural Resources.</p> <p>22 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, present.</p> <p>23 MS. GRANTHAM: Utilities & Transportation</p> <p>24 Commission.</p> <p>25 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, present.</p>	<p>1 Moving on to EFSEC council staff. Page 9</p> <p>2 Sonia Bumpus.</p> <p>3 MS. BUMPUS: Present.</p> <p>4 MS. GRANTHAM: Ami Hafkemeyer.</p> <p>5 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Present.</p> <p>6 MS. GRANTHAM: Amy Moon.</p> <p>7 MS. MOON: Present.</p> <p>8 MS. GRANTHAM: Thank you.</p> <p>9 Sara Randolph.</p> <p>10 John Barnes.</p> <p>11 MR. BARNES: Present.</p> <p>12 MS. GRANTHAM: Joanne Snarski.</p> <p>13 MS. SNARSKI: Present.</p> <p>14 MS. GRANTHAM: Zia Ahmed.</p> <p>15 And Patty Betts.</p> <p>16 MS. BETTS: Present.</p> <p>17 MS. GRANTHAM: I'll move on to operational</p> <p>18 updates for Kittitas Valley Wind project.</p> <p>19 MR. CASEDAY: Jarred Caseday, present.</p> <p>20 MS. GRANTHAM: Wild Horse Wind Power project.</p> <p>21 MS. GALBRAITH: Jennifer Galbraith, present.</p> <p>22 MS. GRANTHAM: Grays Harbor Energy Center.</p> <p>23 Chehalis Generation Facility.</p> <p>24 MR. SMITH: Jeremy Smith, present.</p> <p>25 MS. GRANTHAM: Columbia Generating Station.</p>

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1 Columbia Solar.
 2 MR. CUSHING: Thomas Cushing, present.
 3 MS. GRANTHAM: And Goose Prairie Solar.
 4 MR. CRIST: Jacob Crist, present.
 5 MR. JIA: And Nelson Jia, present.
 6 MS. GRANTHAM: Thank you. I will mark both of
 7 you present.
 8 And is there anyone present for the counsel for
 9 the environment?
 10 MS. REYNEVELD: Yes. Sarah Reyneveld and Yuriy
 11 Korol are present.
 12 MS. GRANTHAM: Thank you.
 13 And I saw in chat, for Wallula Gap, we have Adam
 14 Fyall for Benton County present as well.
 15 Chair, there is a quorum for all councils.
 16 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
 17 Before we go on to our motions for minutes and
 18 agenda, I want to give our new council member, Nate
 19 Pamplin, opportunity to introduce himself.
 20 He is going to be the new representative from
 21 the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and we will be able
 22 to thank Mike Livingston before the end of this meeting.
 23 So, Nate.
 24 MR. PAMPLIN: Thank you, Chair Drew. And it's
 25 really nice to meet everyone.

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1 Thank you so much for being patient and
 2 onboarding me as I learn this forum and all of the
 3 associated policies and projects and decisions that you
 4 all have to -- or we all have to deal with.
 5 I have been with the Department of Fish and
 6 Wildlife for 18 years, and in an executive role for 15 of
 7 those years. I've served as the head of our wildlife
 8 program, served as a policy director.
 9 My current title is director of external
 10 affairs, and I represent the director on a number of
 11 intergovernmental forums.
 12 I will do my best to serve as well as Mike
 13 Livingston has done in this roll for the past seven
 14 years. So I appreciate, again, your-all's patience as I
 15 come up to speed.
 16 Thank you.
 17 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
 18 Our proposed agenda. We have a revised agenda
 19 in the packet.
 20 Is there anyone who will move to approve or
 21 adopt that proposed agenda.
 22 MR. YOUNG: I move -- Lenny Young moves to
 23 approve the proposed agenda.
 24 CHAIR DREW: Second?
 25 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, second.

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1 CHAIR DREW: All those in favor, say "aye."
 2 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.
 3 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?
 4 The agenda is approved.
 5 Moving on to the meeting minutes of
 6 November 20th, 2024, the monthly meetings.
 7 Is there a motion to approve the meeting
 8 minutes?
 9 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster. So moved.
 10 CHAIR DREW: Second?
 11 MS. OSBORNE: Elizabeth Osborne. Second.
 12 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
 13 I did not find any corrections. Did anyone
 14 else?
 15 Hearing none, all those in favor of approving
 16 the meeting minutes from November 20th, 2024, please say
 17 "aye."
 18 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.
 19 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?
 20 The meeting minutes are approved.
 21 MR. PAMPLIN: Madam Chair, if I could, I would
 22 just like to abstain from the adoption of the meeting
 23 minutes, as I wasn't on the council at that time.
 24 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you. So noted.
 25 Moving on the Kittitas Valley Wind project,

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1 Mr. Caseday.
 2 MR. CASEDAY: Good afternoon, Chair Drew, EFSEC
 3 council, and staff, this is Jarred Caseday with EDP
 4 Renewables for the Kittitas Valley Wind Power project.
 5 We had nothing nonroutine to report for the
 6 period.
 7 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
 8 MR. PAMPLIN: Thank you.
 9 CHAIR DREW: Wild Horse Wind Power project,
 10 Ms. Galbraith.
 11 MS. GALBRAITH: Thank you, Chair Drew, council
 12 members, and staff.
 13 This is Jennifer Galbraith with Puget Sound
 14 Energy, representing the Wild Horse Wind facility. And I
 15 just had one update for the council.
 16 The Kittitas Fire Marshall conducted the annual
 17 Fire Life and Safety Inspection on the 18th of November,
 18 and no violations were identified.
 19 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. And congratulations.
 20 MS. GALBRAITH: Thank you.
 21 CHAIR DREW: Moving on to Chehalis Generation
 22 facility, Mr. Smith.
 23 MR. SMITH: Good afternoon, Chair Drew, council
 24 members, and EFSEC staff.
 25 This is Jeremy Smith, the operations manager

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 representing Chehalis Generation Facility. 2 There are no nonroutine items to report for this 3 period. 4 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. 5 Grays Harbor Energy Center, is this -- I didn't 6 hear Mr. Sherin. Is it Sara Randolph? 7 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you, Chair Drew. 8 Ms. Randolph has been out this week. 9 For the record, this is Ami Hafkemeyer. 10 The facility update is in your packet. There 11 are no nonroutine items to report. 12 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. 13 Columbia Solar, Mr. Cushing. 14 MR. CUSHING: Good afternoon. 15 Thank you, Chair Drew, and EFSEC staff. 16 This is Thomas Cushing for Columbia Solar. 17 There are no nonroutine updates to report. 18 CHAIR DREW: Columbia Generating Station and WNP 19 1/4. 20 MR. MEHINAGIC: Good afternoon, Chair Drew, 21 council members, EFSEC staff. 22 This is Denis Mehinagic speaking on the behalf 23 of Energy Northwest, Columbia Generating Station, and 24 Washington Nuclear Projects 1 and 2. 25 We have nothing nonroutine to report for this</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 monitoring for the site. 2 And with that, I will turn it over to Nelson to 3 provide the operational updates for the month of December 4 that we've had and then he will pick up the official 5 operational updates starting in January for Brookfield 6 Renewable. 7 So thanks. 8 Any questions before Nelson? 9 CHAIR DREW: Any questions? 10 Congratulations. 11 MR. CRIST: Thank you. 12 CHAIR DREW: We're very pleased to have the 13 project on board. 14 Nelson? 15 MR. JIA: Hello, everybody. This is Nelson Jia. 16 I'm the asset manager for Brookfield Renewable, looking 17 after Goose Prairie. 18 As Jacob mentioned, we just hit operation 19 December 5th. So since then, we've been starting to 20 generate. Up until our reporting period December 10th, 21 we've generated approximately 550-megawatt hours. Up to 22 today, it's about approximately 1,100-megawatt hours, 23 peaking at about 45 megawatts so far. 24 In terms of operational incidents or 25 environmental risks, we have nothing to report at this</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 period. 2 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. 3 Goose Prairie Solar, Mr. Crist. 4 MR. CRIST: Yes. Good afternoon, Chair Drew, 5 EFSEC council, and staff. 6 For the record, this is Jacob Crist, senior 7 project manager, on behalf of Brookfield Renewable US. 8 I'm providing the Goose Prairie Solar update. I'm also 9 accompanied by Nelson from our operations team. 10 So happy to report that on December 5th, we 11 received -- or December 4th we received our utility sign 12 off from BPA and started selling merchant power on 13 December 5th. So the project has officially declared 14 COD, and we have officially turned it over to our 15 operations team. 16 Prior to that time, we finished up some 17 availability testing. We have some capacity testing 18 still remaining. We're waiting until the first of the 19 year to complete that. 20 The O&M site certificate deliverables have been 21 received and approved by EFSEC prior to the COD notice. 22 And then we're happy to report that we had no 23 discharge on site in the month of November. 24 The frequent monitoring by WSP has slowed down. 25 So our contractor has picked up weekly environmental</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 time. 2 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. And congratulations to 3 your team. 4 MR. JIA: Thank you. 5 CHAIR DREW: Moving on to the High Top Solar 6 project update, Mr. Barnes. 7 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you, Chair Drew. This is 8 Ami Hafkemeyer again. 9 Staff continued to work with the developer on 10 preconstruction plans, which are just about wrapping up. 11 There is nothing else to update at this time. 12 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. 13 And Ostrea Solar project update. 14 Ms. Hafkemeyer. 15 MS. HAFKEMEYER: I apologize. That was for 16 Ostrea that we're wrapping up preconstruction plans. 17 There is no update at this time for High Top 18 project. 19 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Horse Heaven Wind Farm, 20 Ms. Moon. 21 MS. MOON: Good afternoon, council, Chair Drew, 22 and EFSEC council members. 23 For the record, this is Amy Moon reporting on 24 the Horse Heaven Wind project. 25 On November 1st of 2024, EFSEC issued a Public</p>

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1 Notice of Decision by the governor, notifying the public
 2 that Governor Inslee signed the Site Certification
 3 Agreement, or SCA. That was done on October 18th, the
 4 signing was done October 18th, 2024.
 5 The project proponent, Horse Heaven Wind Farm,
 6 LLC, also signed the SCA, and implementation of the SCA
 7 has been initiated.
 8 The certificate holder and EFSEC staff are
 9 collaborating currently on establishing the
 10 preoperational technical advisory group, which is denoted
 11 as the PTAG, P-T-A-G, including development of the PTAG
 12 charter and outreach to prospective PTAG members, per the
 13 Mitigation Measure Habitat 4. And in the Site
 14 Certification Agreement, that's denoted as half dash 4,
 15 which is to establish a PTAG and a technical advisory
 16 committee.
 17 The PTAG is the first committee to be
 18 established. And that is an integral part of the final
 19 project design and is responsible for reviewing and
 20 providing technical advice on wildlife and wildlife
 21 habitat documents produced by the certificate holder, as
 22 well as reviewing and providing advice to EFSEC on the
 23 final project design.
 24 The PTAG must be established at least one year
 25 prior to construction.

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1 within 14 days of the date of service of the petition for
 2 reconsideration.
 3 In light of that rule, on December 12th, Benton
 4 County filed a petition for reconsideration with the
 5 EFSEC office.
 6 The applicant filed a petition in response on
 7 December 17th. These documents are available to the
 8 council.
 9 I would say I could answer questions, but maybe
 10 Amy can help if there are any.
 11 CHAIR DREW: At one point, I want to make a
 12 clarification.
 13 The petition for reconsideration was on the
 14 adjudicative order, not on the council decision; is that
 15 correct?
 16 Mr. Thompson?
 17 MS. BUMPUS: This is Sonia Bumpus, for the
 18 record.
 19 Chair Drew, that's correct.
 20 CHAIR DREW: Okay. So just to clarify that the
 21 petition for reconsideration is not on the decision to
 22 the governor but on the adjudicative order. Okay. I
 23 wanted to make that clear.
 24 Any other questions from council members?
 25 Okay. Thank you.

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1 Does the council have any questions?
 2 CHAIR DREW: Are there any questions for
 3 Ms. Moon?
 4 MS. MOON: Thank you.
 5 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
 6 Wautoma Solar project.
 7 MS. SNARSKI: This is Joanne Snarski. I'm
 8 stepping in for Lance Caputo, who is the assigned siting
 9 specialist for Wautoma.
 10 On November 22nd, 2024, after council approval,
 11 the Wautoma Site Certification Agreement, along with the
 12 recommendation for pre-emption, was forwarded to the
 13 governor's office for his review and decision.
 14 The Revised Code of Washington,
 15 Chapter 80.50.100, Sub 3, provides the governor 60 days
 16 to act upon the council's decision.
 17 Governor Inslee's decision is expected before
 18 the January 22nd, 2025, deadline. To date, we have not
 19 received any requests for additional information from the
 20 governor's office.
 21 Pursuant to Washington Administrative
 22 Code 463-30-335, a petition for reconsideration of a
 23 recommendation to the governor must be made to the
 24 director within 20 days of the service to the governor.
 25 Additionally, any party may file a response to a petition

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1 Hop Hill Solar project. Mr. Barnes.
 2 MR. BARNES: Thank you, Chair Drew, and council
 3 members.
 4 For the record, this is John Barnes, EFSEC's
 5 staff on the Hop Hill application.
 6 Work is continuing with the applicant to
 7 complete studies and reports needed to make a SEPA
 8 determination.
 9 We continue to coordinate and review the
 10 applicant -- application with our contractor and
 11 contracted agencies and tribal governments.
 12 Are there any questions?
 13 CHAIR DREW: Carriger Solar. Ms. Snarski.
 14 MS. SNARSKI: Thank you.
 15 Again, this is Joanne Snarski, the siting
 16 specialist for Carriger Solar.
 17 Following Carriger Solar's submittal of their
 18 application in 2023, in addition to working with the
 19 regulatory permitting agencies, we also engaged with the
 20 Department of Agriculture.
 21 Cypress Creek has been responsive in addressing
 22 concerns identified by the Department of Agriculture,
 23 regarding the loss of agricultural lands if the project
 24 is certified to move forward.
 25 In coordination with the Department of

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 Agriculture, Carriger Solar has committed to monitoring 2 soil characteristics throughout the duration of the 3 project. 4 In early December, Department of Agriculture 5 agreed to the details of the long-term monitoring plan. 6 These mitigation measures will be captured when Director 7 Bumpus proceeds with the SEPA threshold determination. 8 May I answer any questions? 9 CHAIR DREW: Any questions for Ms. Snarski? 10 Thank you. 11 Wallula Gap update. Mr. Barnes. 12 MR. BARNES: Thank you, Chair Drew and council 13 members. 14 For the record, this is John Barnes, EFSEC staff 15 for the Wallula Gap application. 16 We continue to coordinate and review the 17 application with our contractor, contracted agencies, and 18 tribal governments. 19 Are there any questions? 20 CHAIR DREW: Goldeneye BESS. Mr. Ahmed. 21 MR. TAYLOR: This is Trevin Taylor, filling in 22 for Zia Ahmed. 23 For the record, Zia Ahmed is the siting 24 specialist on the Goldeneye Battery Energy Storage 25 project.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 the public comment period. 2 So after some internal discussion, EFSEC thought 3 it appropriate to post a new comment period to ensure 4 that anybody interested was able to provide comment with 5 some better clarity on the comment period dates. 6 CHAIR DREW: So if people have commented 7 already, those comments will still move forward as 8 comments on the project in addition to the other ones so 9 people don't need to put another comment in to repeat 10 that comment they have already sent us; is that true? 11 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Correct. Any comment already 12 submitted either to the database or to the EFSEC inbox 13 will still be filed for the action. There will just be 14 an additional opportunity to comment. But all of the 15 comments that will be presented to the council for review 16 together. 17 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. 18 Any other questions from council members? 19 Okay. Thank you. 20 MR. LEVITT: Chair Drew? 21 CHAIR DREW: Is that Mr. Levitt? 22 MR. LEVITT: Yes. 23 Can you hear me? 24 CHAIR DREW: Yes, I can. 25 Go ahead.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 On December 2nd, 2024, EFSEC sent a second data 2 request and is waiting for a response from the 3 applicants. We are continuing to review the application 4 materials with our contracted agencies. 5 With respect to the land use consistency order, 6 staff were made aware of errors in the public comment 7 campaign posted for the land use consistency order last 8 week. 9 The public comment period was open from 10 Wednesday, December 11th through Sunday, December 15th. 11 But the dates on the website were incorrect, confusing to 12 the public -- were incorrect and confusing to the public. 13 Excuse me. 14 Staff will post a new public comment period 15 ahead of the January council meeting and recommend the 16 council take up discussion for land use consistency at 17 that time. 18 There are no other updates at this time. Let me 19 know if there any questions. 20 CHAIR DREW: Question for Ms. Hafkemeyer. 21 We had a comment period open. Did we receive 22 comments? 23 MS. HAFKEMEYER: We received approximately 30 24 comments during the campaign period. Several of them 25 noted inconsistency between the dates on the website and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 MR. LEVITT: Yeah, I guess I just wanted to 2 check in and see, is there any reason we could not open 3 the comment period for longer than four or five days at a 4 time? 5 MS. HAFKEMEYER: No, we can open the comment 6 period for longer. 7 MR. LEVITT: Okay. Yeah, I guess I just want to 8 be sensitive to the fact that, you know, this is around 9 winter holidays, winter vacation period, and also that we 10 accidentally miscommunicated about the comment period, so 11 it's nice to give people, you know, a good opportunity to 12 weigh in if they so choose. 13 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Certainly. 14 CHAIR DREW: Okay. The staff will implement a 15 larger -- I think they shut down the comment period. So 16 maybe after the first of the year, open it back up again 17 for a longer period of time than what we had it open 18 before. 19 Does that -- would that resolve your concern? 20 MR. LEVITT: Yes. Thank you. 21 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you. 22 Any other questions or comments from council 23 members? 24 Okay. Moving on to the other agenda item. We 25 have a staff update. We're really pleased to have Patty</p>

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1 Betts back with us for at least a time period to work on
2 SEPA issues. I will allow Ms. Hafkemeyer or Ms. Betts
3 to --
4 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Certainly.
5 So EFSEC staff welcomes back Patty Betts, who
6 previously was part of our staff and retired, but she has
7 agreed to come back with us for a short time while we are
8 in need of additional staffing.
9 MS. BETTS: She didn't have to twist my arm
10 either.
11 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. We appreciate your help
12 and support during this time and always, and are very
13 happy to have you back on our team. Thank you.
14 Finally, we have a Resolution No. 354. I
15 believe that council members have received a copy of it.
16 And I will read this resolution.
17 "Commending services of Department of Fish and
18 Wildlife council member Mike Livingston.
19 "Whereas, Mike Livingston was appointed to serve
20 on the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation
21 Council, representing the Washington Department of Fish
22 and Wildlife effective February 1, 2018; and,
23 "Whereas, Mike Livingston served his term with
24 great distinction as the Fish and Wildlife council
25 representative until November 31st, 2024; and,

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1 "Whereas, Mike Livingston attended approximately
2 130 regular and special council meetings as an active
3 listener and thoughtfully and seriously reviewed
4 thousands of pages of documents related to SEPA
5 environmental reviews and associated public comments;
6 and,
7 "Whereas, Mike Livingston ably and thoughtfully
8 represented the interests of the citizens of the state of
9 Washington on the council, lending his expertise in the
10 field of protection and preservation of the state's fish
11 and wildlife; and,
12 "Whereas, Mike Livingston brought his technical
13 expertise and actively participated in the council's
14 activities during the review of applications and
15 preparation of Site Certification Agreements for five
16 clean energy projects, including Columbia Solar, Goose
17 Prairie, High Top, Ostrea, Horse Heaven, and Wautoma."
18 I would just correct that since we now separate
19 High Top and Ostrea, that's six projects.
20 "Whereas, Mike Livingston's participation marked
21 several significant council milestones, including EFSEC's
22 separation from the Utilities and Transportation
23 Commission and establishment as an independent agency;
24 the first exercised processing of an application for the
25 Columbia Solar project; and consideration of the largest

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1 clean energy project, wind and solar, in the council's
2 history with the Horse Heaven project; and,
3 "Whereas, Mike Livingston's participation was
4 always characterized by notable preparation" -- and noble
5 too, yes -- "and thoughtful questions and perspectives in
6 adjudicative processes and council deliberations; and,
7 "Whereas, Mike Livingston provided exemplary
8 service on the council and meaningfully engaged with
9 EFSEC staff, fellow council members, and the chair on all
10 council decision-making processes.
11 "Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Energy
12 Facility Site Evaluation Council hereby recognizes Mike
13 Livingston's outstanding, unwavering, and faithful
14 contribution to the council's siting and regulatory
15 activities, and gratefully expresses its sincere
16 gratitude for the commitment, dedication, and effort he
17 has shown over the past five years and ten months.
18 "Dated this 18th day of December 2024."
19 Is there a motion to approve this resolution?
20 MR. LEVITT: Eli Levitt. Motion to approve.
21 CHAIR DREW: Is there a second?
22 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young. Second.
23 CHAIR DREW: Are there any comments or
24 discussion?
25 Ms. Brewster.

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1 MS. BREWSTER: Mike, I will miss you quite a
2 lot. We've been partners on the council since we both
3 started. I will probably continue to channel my inner
4 Mike Livingston when it comes to these wildlife issues.
5 Thank you for your service.
6 CHAIR DREW: Any other comments?
7 I, too, as I've told you personally, will miss
8 having you on this council. I know you will stay
9 involved on the Fish and Wildlife side of issues in
10 Eastern Washington, your full-time job, and we appreciate
11 that. And certainly welcome Nate as well.
12 Thank you very much.
13 All those in favor of Resolution No. 354, please
14 say "aye."
15 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.
16 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?
17 Motion is carried.
18 I think that one deserves a gavel.
19 And with that, our meeting is adjourned.
20 (Meeting adjourned at 1:58 a.m.)
21
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, MICHELLE D. ELAM, Certified Court Reporter
in the State of Washington, residing in Mayer, Arizona,
reported;

That the foregoing Monthly Meeting of the
Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
was conducted in my presence and adjourned on
December 18, 2024, and thereafter was transcribed under
my direction; that the transcript is a full, true, and
complete transcript of the said meeting, transcribed to
the best of my ability;

That I am not a relative, employee, attorney or
counsel of any party to this matter or relative or
employee or any such attorney or counsel and that I am
not financially interested in the said matter or the
outcome thereof;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
3rd day January, 2025.

/s/MICHELLE D. ELAM, RPR, CCR
State of Washington CCR #3335
My CCR certification expires on 6/12/25

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update Format

Facility Name: Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project

Operator: EDP Renewables

Report Date: January 6, 2024

Reporting Period: December 2024

Site Contact: Jarred Caseday, Operations Manager

Facility SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance (only applicable for operating facilities)

- Power generated: 6,813.06 MWH.
 - Wind speed: 3.77 m/s.
 - Capacity Factor: 8.86%.
-

Environmental Compliance

- No incidents

Safety Compliance

- Nothing to report

Current or Upcoming Projects

- Nothing to report

Other

- No sound complaints
- No shadow flicker complaints

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Wild Horse Wind Facility
Operator: Puget Sound Energy
Report Date: January 3, 2025
Report Period: December 2024
Site Contact: Jennifer Galbraith
SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance

December generation totaled 41,029 MWh for an average capacity factor of 20.23%.

Environmental Compliance

The Wild Horse Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met via conference call on December 18th for the annual meeting (see agenda and draft minutes attached). This was an informational meeting. There were no items that required formal actions/recommendations from the TAC for the Council's consideration.

Safety Compliance

Nothing to report.

Current or Upcoming Projects

Nothing to report.

Other

Nothing to report.

Wild Horse Wind Facility

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

December 18, 2024
10:00am-12:00pm

Video Conference Call
(See calendar invite for call-in instructions)

Agenda

Item	Item Description	Presenter(s)
1.	Welcome & Introductions	Jennifer Galbraith, PSE
2.	Informational Item Year in Review	Jennifer Galbraith, PSE
3.	Informational Item Virtual Fencing – Year 1 Results	Tip Hudson, WSU Ryan Stingley, Stingley Ranch Shaun Morrison, WDFW
4.	Meeting Recap	Jennifer Galbraith, PSE

**Wild Horse Wind Power Project
 Technical Advisory Committee
 Video Conference Call
 December 18, 2024, 10:00am
 Meeting Minutes**

Attendance:

Jennifer Galbraith*	PSE	Norm Peck*	Kittitas Audubon
Andrea Crawford	PSE	Bill Essman*	KCF&SC
Shelley Miller	PSE	Ryan Stingley	Grazing Lessee
Travis Pointer	PSE	Marc Eylar*	KC Noxious Weeds
Spencer Ainsworth	PSE	Jim Woodward*	DNR
Nathaniel Slinkert	Vence	Mike Ritter*	WDFW
Robert Kruse*	FWWP	Shaun Morrison	WDFW
John Barnes	EFSEC		

Regrets: Tip Hudson (WSU Extension)

*Denotes a voting member of the TAC

1. Welcome and Introductions: Jennifer Galbraith, PSE

TAC members and guests introduced themselves and the organization they represent. Member updates:

- Jim Woodward (DNR) is the new DNR representative on the Wild Horse TAC.

2. Year In Review: Jennifer Galbraith, PSE

New Plant Manager

- Spencer Ainsworth, joined Wild Horse in February as the new Plant Manager.

Hunting

- WDFW issued 628 reservations (411 in modern firearm elk, 217 in other seasons).
- PSE contracted with WDFW again for security during the modern firearm season. Sergeant Brant Johnson said everything went very smoothly, made many contacts, with very few violations (mainly speeding and checking permits).

Vegetation Management/Weed Control

- PSE contracted with Woodland Resources to treat noxious weeds and sprayed ~4 miles of roads for cheatgrass, as well as junction boxes and transmission poles. Some mowing was completed for fire safety.

Virtual Fencing

- A total of 3 base stations have been installed at Wild Horse. PSE worked with Vence and WDFW to determine good locations with the most coverage (a map showing the extent of coverage was shared with TAC members).
- Robert Kruse asked what the boundary colors meant. Nathaniel Slinkert responded that green is good coverage, blue is marginal. Red boundaries delineate the CRM pastures, not the virtual fence boundaries.
- Shaun Morrison said that WDFW has 2 additional base stations in storage at Watt Canyon that could be utilized. WDFW is considering installing one east of the river to get additional coverage looking back west across the Columbia River but nothing has been finalized.
- Ryan Stingley shared that he was able to try new grazing patterns that have never been used before. There was a lot of learning on the fly and it brought attention to the fact that the area needs a lot of water, which limits grazing possibilities as well as the overall geography of the area.

- Marc Eylar asked if the Vence system was used to move the cows up slope to areas that aren't grazed much. Ryan Stingley said that they didn't try it this year. There was some lag time in updating the collars/pastures and battery life started failing towards the end of the season (used April until October).
- Shaun Morrison provided an overview of WDFW's experience with Vence:
 - Shared Green Dot map and Vence Herd Manager image with 180 cow/calf pairs.
 - Only a few cows crossed the boundary due to collar issues.
 - Stubble heights during surveys shows that the rotation relieved some of the grazing pressure. More pressure was around water, which is to be expected.
 - Robert Kruse asked about grazing utilization and relationship between monitoring and when cows are grazing. Shaun said that it is based on the amount of winter snow, early season growth and moisture. Grazing typically starts on WDFW pasture because it is lower elevation and has growth earlier in the year.
- Tip completes utilization monitoring throughout the season at Wild Horse. Jennifer will send out the annual grazing monitoring report once it is finalized.
- Norm Peck asked what the difference in cost is between wire fencing vs virtual fencing. Shaun Morrison said the cost for wire fencing is \$35,000-\$46,000 per mile vs Vence at \$12,000 per station, and \$15,000 in collars, for a total start up at \$51,000. This doesn't consider the cost of ongoing fence repair and the benefits to wildlife (eliminates collision/entanglement risk). Eventually, after more experience with virtual fencing, we can start removing interior/cross fencing, but will need to keep boundary fences and fences along roadways.
- Nathaniel said that new collars are coming out in 2026 and there will be electronic identification (eID) ear tags. Ryan said this is the first model and it's only going to get better in the future.
- Norm asked how much fencing at Wild Horse is barbed vs barbless. Jennifer said there is ~4 miles of barbless and ~20 miles of barbed. PSE has removed 6-8 miles of barbed fencing that was no longer needed and/or down on the ground.
- Robert asked about the status of the smooth fencing around the mitigation parcel. Jennifer said that PSE continues to maintain the fence but it's definitely challenging due to the rough/steep terrain and difficulty keeping the wire energized. PSE will continue to maintain.
- The goal is to remove cross fencing someday after Vence is proven effective.
- The first annual Virtual Fence Conference was held this year in Wenatchee with a site visit to Wild Horse for a presentation on the technology. Ryan Stingley shared his experience and answered questions.
- Jennifer has talked to Tip about convening the larger CRM group since the joint lease will be going out for bid again soon. Robert Kruse and Marc Eylar expressed disappointment that the larger group has not been meeting. Solar \$ had facilitated the group in the past. Will need to identify a new facilitator and stakeholders to invite since many stakeholders are no longer around.
- James Woodward (DNR) introduced himself and requested that he be included on the CRM planning list and to keep Richard Barry on the list.

3. Post-Meeting Deliverables & Action Items

Responsible Party	Task
Tip Hudson (WSU)	Email 2024 Grazing Monitoring Report and presentation to TAC members
Jennifer Galbraith (PSE)	Contact Tip Hudson to identify facilitator for larger CRM group who will schedule CRM meeting in 2025.

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Chehalis Generation Facility
Operator: PacifiCorp
Report Date: January 7, 2025
Reporting Period: December 2024
Site Contact: Jeremy Smith, Operations Manager
Facility SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance

-Relevant energy generation information, such as wind speed, number of windy or sunny days, gas line supply updates, etc.

- 222,602 net MW-hrs. generated in the reporting period for a capacity factor of 59.19%

The following information must be reported to the Council if applicable to the facility:

Environmental Compliance

-Monthly Water Usage: 2,570,876 gallons

- City of Chehalis completed water meter replacement December 23, 2024.

-Monthly Wastewater Returned: 984,577 gallons

-Permit status if any changes.

- No changes.

-Update on progress or completion of any mitigation measures identified.

- Nothing to report

-Any EFSEC-related inspections that occurred.

- Nothing to report.

-Any EFSEC-related complaints or violations that occurred.

- Nothing to report

-Brief list of reports submitted to EFSEC during the monthly reporting period.

- Nothing to report

Safety Compliance

-Safety training or improvements that relate to SCA conditions.

- Zero injuries this reporting period for a total of 3,441 days without a Lost Time Accident.

Current or Upcoming Projects

- Planned site improvements.
 - No planned changes.
- Upcoming permit renewals.
 - Nothing to report.
- Additional mitigation improvements or milestones.
 - Nothing to report.

Other

- Current events of note (e.g., Covid response updates, seasonal concerns due to inclement weather, etc.).
 - Nothing to report.
- Personnel changes as they may relate to EFSEC facility contacts (e.g., introducing a new staff member who may provide facility updates to the Council).
 - Nothing to report.
- Public outreach of interest (e.g., schools, public, facility outreach).
 - Nothing to report.

Respectfully,



Jeremy Smith
Gas Plant Operations Manager
Chehalis Generation Facility

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Grays Harbor Energy Center
Operator: Grays Harbor Energy LLC
Report Date January 15, 2024
Reporting Period: December 2024
Site Contact: Chris Sherin
Facility SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance

-GHEC generated 115,987MWh during the month and 2,789,762 MWh YTD.

The following information must be reported to the Council if applicable to the facility:

Environmental Compliance

- There were no emissions, outfall, or storm water deviations, during the month.
- Routine monthly, quarterly, and annual reporting submissions to EFSEC Staff.
 - Monthly Outfall Discharge Monitor Report (DMR).
 - Annual NPDES O&M Manual Review.
 - Annual NPDES Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan (SPCCP) review.
 - Annual AOP/PSD review and updated Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction Procedures Manual.
 - Annual AOP/PSD O&M Manual review.
- Submitted Fire Marshal Inspection corrections.

Safety Compliance

- None.

Current or Upcoming Projects

- Submitting the application to renew the Air Operating Permit (AOP) for Grays Harbor Energy Center (GHEC) that is currently authorized to operate under PSD Permit EFSEC/2001-01, Amendment 5 and Federal Operating Permit EFSEC/94-1 AOP Modification 1.
- Submitted the Acid Rain Permit Application for permit renewal in accordance with Permit Requirements 1(i) of Acid Rain Permit No. EFSEC/10-01-AR.
- NPDES permit renewal application submitted to EFSEC in December 2023 in accordance with Section S6.A of NPDES Permit No. WA0024961.

Other

-None.

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting Facility Update

Facility Name: Columbia Solar Projects (Penstemon, Camas and Urtica)

Operator: Tuusso Energy, LLC

Report Date: January, 10 2024

Reporting Period: 31 days from December 1, 2024

Site Contact: Thomas Cushing

Facility SCA Status: Operation

Construction Status

- Penstemon
 - Currently operational
 - Total Generation during the month of December was 155 MWh

 - Camas
 - Currently operational
 - Total Generation during the month of December was 137 MWh

 - Urtica
 - Currently operational
 - Total Generation during the month of December was 329 MWh
-

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting

Facility Name: **Columbia Generating Station and Washington Nuclear Project 1 and 4 (WNP-1/4)**

Operator: **Energy Northwest**

Report Date: **January 15th, 2025**

Reporting Period: **December 2024**

Site Contact: **Josh LaPorte**

Facility SCA Status: **Operational**

CGS Net Electrical Generation for December 2024: **840,390.97 Mega Watt-Hours.**

The following information must be reported to the Council if applicable to the facility:

Environmental Compliance:

Columbia Generating Station Update

On 11/18/2024 the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) issued a Final Summary and closed their Situation Report (SITREP) for the 9/18/24 5-Day Report Energy Northwest (EN) submitted to EFSEC and Ecology but later retracted on 10/9/2024 after the spill pathway from EN's Reactor Feedwater Turbine (RFT) Heat Exchanger was confirmed to not impact the Columbia River. EN has an ongoing internal causal analysis of the operational and human performance indicators during this event. During Outage 27 (R27) EN will be opening, cleaning, inspecting, and testing as necessary all four oil coolers for the RFT System which includes TO-HX-2A through TO-HX-2D.

EN received and paid Ecology's invoice for penalty and reimbursement of the state's expenses for an oil spill reported to Ecology and EFSEC on June 13th, 2023. There are no additional actions anticipated from Ecology for this event.

Safety Compliance

No update.

Current or Upcoming Projects

Washington Nuclear Power (WNP)-1/4 Update

The Closure Post/Closure Plan for the Industrial Development Complex Limited Purpose Landfill was approved by Ecology and EFSEC on 12/23/2024. EN is in the process of hiring a general contractor to implement the Closure Plan.

Other

No update.

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update Format

Facility Name: Goose Prairie Solar

Operator: Brookfield Renewable US

Report Date: 1/8/2025

Reporting Period: 12/1/2024 to 1/8/2025

Energy Generation Period: 12/1/2024-12/31/2024

Asset Manager: Nelson Jia

Facility SCA Status: (Construction/**Operational**)

Operations & Maintenance (only applicable for operating facilities)

Energy generated for the reporting period.

- Total generation for the month of Dec-2024 was 2,657 MWh
 - No major outages or maintenance events to report
-

The following information must be reported to the Council if applicable to the facility:

Environmental Compliance

Permit status if any changes.

- None

Update on progress or completion of any mitigation measures identified.

- No discharge on the site reported in December.

Any EFSEC-related inspections that occurred.

- WSP inspections are re-occurring weekly on behalf of EFSEC

Any EFSEC-related complaints or violations that occurred.

- None

Brief list of reports submitted to EFSEC during the monthly reporting period.

- The Goose Prairie Site Security Plan was provided to first responders on 12/19/24 in accordance with Site Certificate Condition VI.G.2., with notifications provided to EFSEC.

Safety Compliance

Internal Brookfield Renewable US/Goose Prairie Solar LLC training conducted 12/30/24 in accordance with the EFSEC approved plans:

- Operations Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan-SWPPP, SCA VI.B
- Operations Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan-SPCCP, SCA VI.C
- Operations Emergency Plan, SCA VI.E
- Operations Fire Control Plan, SCA VI.E
- Operations Site Security Plan, SCA VI.H

Current or Upcoming Projects

- In feasibility stage, exploring opportunity to install BESS at site

Other

Current events of note (e.g., Covid response updates, seasonal concerns due to inclement weather, etc.).

- None

Personnel changes as they may relate to EFSEC facility contacts (e.g., introducing a new staff member who may provide facility updates to the Council).

- Nelson Jia, Asset Manager for Brookfield Renewable will now be providing the updates for the Goose Prairie Project.

Public outreach of interest (e.g., schools, public, facility outreach).

- Inquiries.WA@brookfieldrenewable.com was established to support process of addressing any public questions/comments/concerns.

High Top Solar Project

General Description:

Ostrea Solar is an 80 MW solar photovoltaic (PV) project complete with an optional battery storage system (BESS) on eight parcels of land within the Agricultural Zoning District, near the city of Moxee, not to exceed 811.3 acres. The Project will consist of PV panels, single axis tracking PV modules and inverters, an electrical collection system, a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), an operation and maintenance building, access roads, interior roads, security fencing, a collector substation, and electrical interconnection infrastructure.

Location:

Unincorporated Yakima County, WA. 22 miles east of Moxee.

Applicant:

Cypress Creek Renewables

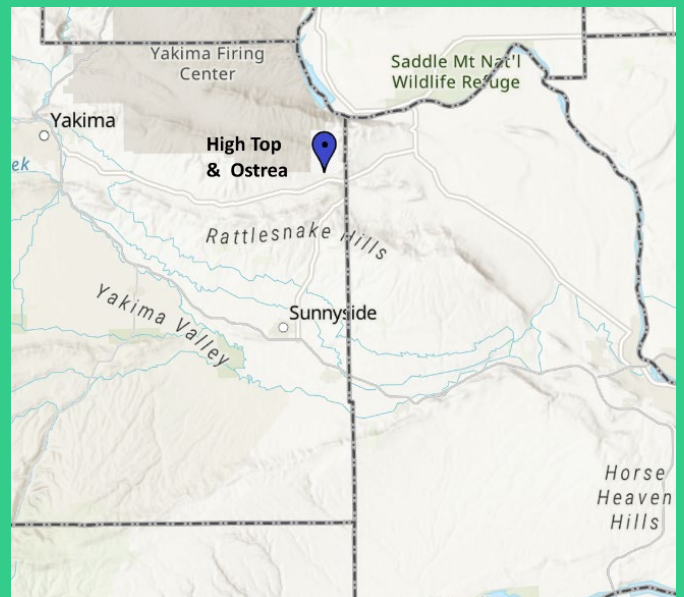
Milestone Dates:

- November 30, 2021, Original ASC Submitted
- April 6, 2023, SCA Executed and Signed by Governor Jay Inslee

Status:

Application Approved
SCA Signed
Pre-Construction
Construction
Prior to Commercial Operations
Operations
Termination, Decommissioning, and Site Restoration

Location Map:



Ostrea Solar Project

General Description:

Ostrea Solar is an 80 MW solar photovoltaic (PV) project complete with an optional battery storage system (BESS) on eight parcels of land within the Agricultural Zoning District, near the city of Moxee, not to exceed 811.3 acres. The Project will consist of PV panels, single axis tracking PV modules and inverters, an electrical collection system, a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), an operation and maintenance building, access roads, interior roads, security fencing, a collector substation, and electrical interconnection infrastructure.

Location:

Unincorporated Yakima County, WA. 22 miles east of Moxee.

Applicant:

Cypress Creek Renewables

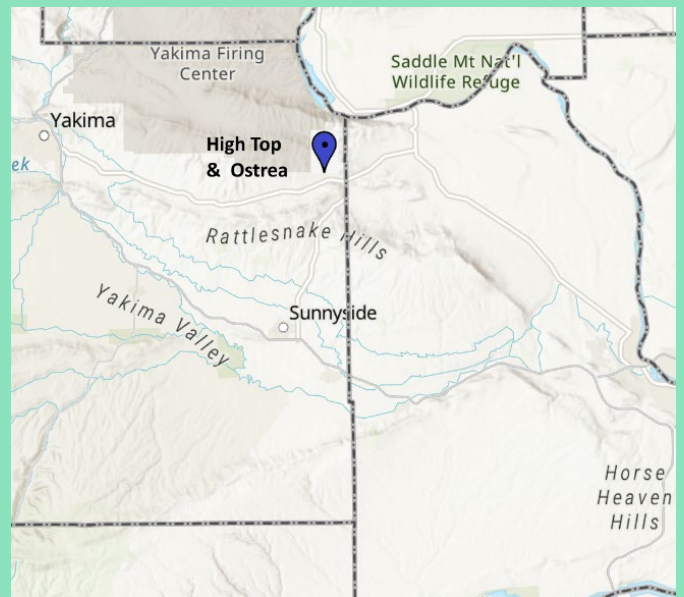
Milestone Dates:

- November 30, 2021, Original ASC Submitted
- April 6, 2023, SCA Executed and Signed by Governor Jay Inslee
- August 21, 2024, Council Approved Ostrea ISRP

Status:

Application Approved
SCA Signed
Pre-Construction
Construction
Prior to Commercial Operations
Operations
Termination, Decommissioning, and Site Restoration

Location Map:



Horse Heaven Wind Project

General Description:

Proposed construction of a renewable energy facility that would have a nameplate energy generating capacity of up to 1,150 megawatts (MWs) for a combination of wind and solar facilities as well as battery energy storage systems (BESS). Meteorological Towers (MET), overhead transmission lines, and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Facilities are also proposed.

Project area: 72,428 acres, privately owned land in which five DNR parcels are located within.

Location:

Unincorporated Central Benton County south of the Tri-Cities.

Applicant:

Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC.

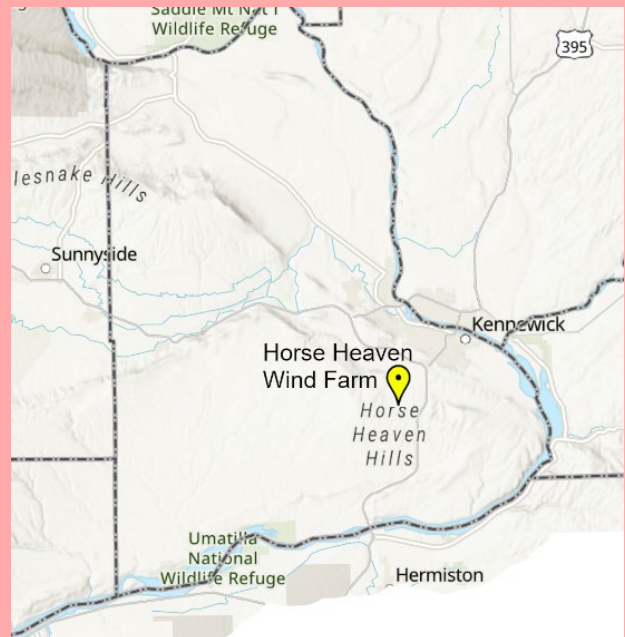
Milestone Dates:

- February 8, 2021, Original ASC Submitted
- May 17, 2022, Council issues Order No. 883 of Land Use Consistency – Finding Proposed Site Consistent with Land Use Regulations.
- October 31, 2023, Final Environmental Impact Statement Issued.
- April 17, 2024, Adjudicative Order Resolving Contested Issues.
- April 29, 2024, Recommendation to the Governor Submitted.
- May 25, 2024, Governor Remanded the Council’s Recommendation.
- September 17, 2024, Final Recommendation to the Governor Submitted.
- October 18, 2024, Received Signed SCA and Final Decision from the Governor.
- November 21, 2024, Applicant Signed the SCA.

Status:

Application Approved
SCA Signed
Pre-Construction
Construction
Prior to Commercial Operations
Operations
Termination, Decommissioning, and Site Restoration

Location Map:



Wautoma Solar Energy Project

General Description:

A 470 MW solar PV facility complete with four-hour, 470 MW battery energy storage system. Includes 0.25-mile overhead transmission line connecting to BPA substation. Project area: 4,573 acres, privately owned land.

Location:

Unincorporated NW Benton County.

Applicant:

Innergex Renewable Development USA, LLC.

Milestone Dates:

- June 9, 2022, Original ASC Submitted
- November 16, 2022, Council issues order of Inconsistent Land Use
- May 20, 2024, MDNS Issued
- July 22, 2024, Prehearing Conference for Adjudication on Preemption
- September 25, 2024, Adjudicative Hearings
- November 20, 2024, Final Recommendation to the Governor Submitted.
- January 9, 2025, Received Signed SCA and Final Decision from the Governor.
- January 10, 2025, Applicant Signed the SCA.

Status:

Application Approved
SCA Signed
Pre-Construction
Construction
Prior to Commercial Operations
Operations
Termination, Decommissioning, and Site Restoration

Location Map:



Hop Hill Solar Energy Project

General Description:

HOHI bn, LLC (Applicant), a subsidiary of BNC DEVCO, LLC, which is a joint venture between BrightNight, LLC and Cordelio Power. Hop Hill Solar project is an up to 500-megawatt² (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) generation facility coupled with an up to 500-MW battery energy storage system (BESS). The Solar Array Siting Area encompasses approximately 11,179 buildable acres and the overhead 230-kV gen-tie line will be developed within a 150-foot-wide corridor and microsited within the approximately 10,841-acre Transmission Line Corridor Siting Area). The final solar array area anticipated to be approximately 6,000 acres.

Location:

Benton County, Washington.

Applicant:

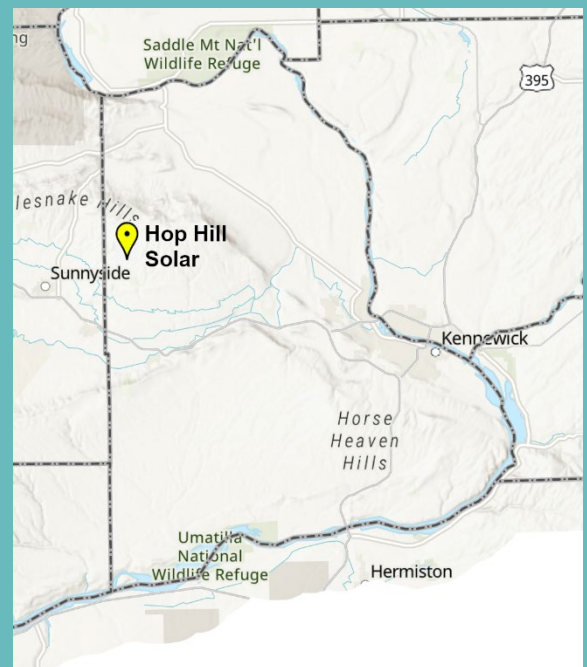
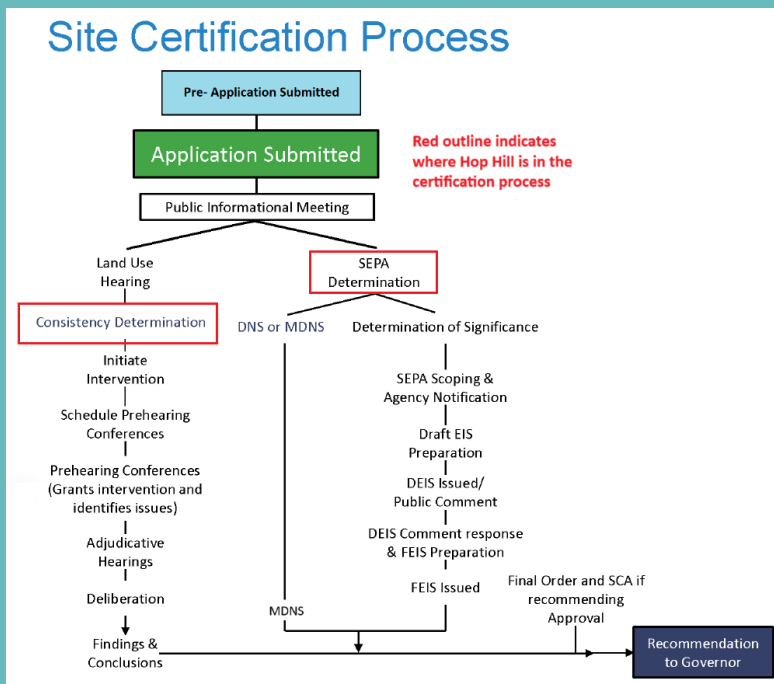
BrightNight, LLC.

Milestone Dates:

- December 22, 2022, Original ASC Submitted
- February 23, 2023, Public Comment Hearing, Land Use Consistency Hearing
- November 3, 2023, Brightnight requests application review extension (original date:12/22/23 to 12/22/24)
- November 15, 2023, Order finding Project Inconsistent with Land Use (Benton County) Regulations, setting the matter for adjudication.

Status:

Location Map:



Carriger Solar Project

General Description:

A proposed 160 megawatts (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) electric generating facility. Includes a proposed 63 MW of battery energy storage system (BESS). Project area: 2,108- acres of privately owned land.

Location:

Unincorporated Klickitat County. Approximately 2 miles west of Goldendale.

Applicant:

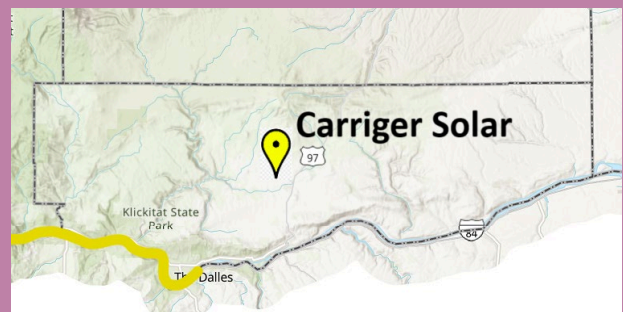
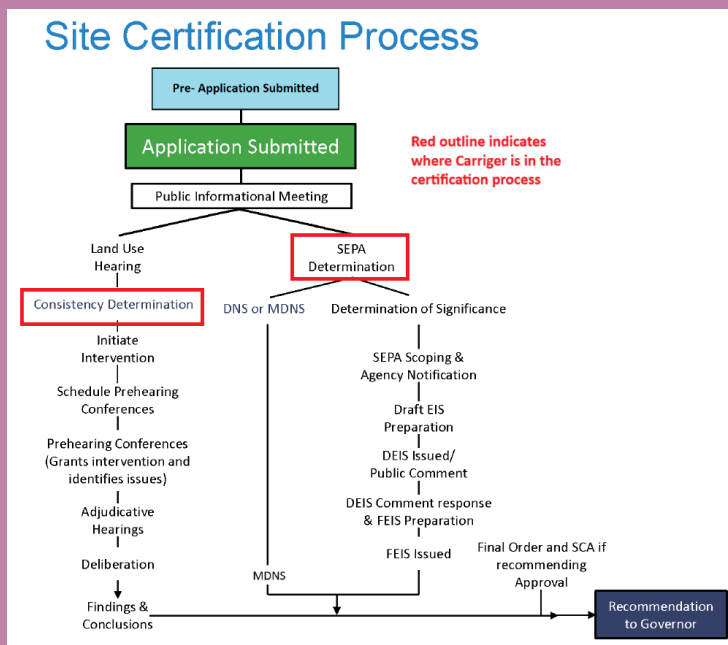
Cypress Creek Renewables, LLC.

Milestone Dates:

- February 10, 2023, Original ASC Submitted
- September 25, 2023, Council issues Order No. 889 Granting a Finding of Land Use Consistency.

Status:

Location Map:



Wallula Gap Solar Energy Project

General Description:

Wallula Gap Solar, a 60-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) project with an optional battery energy storage system (BESS). The Facility would be located across a portion (approximately 437 acres) of three parcels. The optional BESS would not exceed the nominal 60-MW capacity of the Facility. Facility would interconnect through a line tap to Benton Public Utility District's (PUD) 115-kV line near the Prior #2 substation. The generation would then be connected to the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) facilities at the Plymouth tap (aka Paterson Tap), where Benton PUD and BPA facilities connect at BPA's McNary substation.

Location:

Unincorporated community of Plymouth, Benton County, Washington.

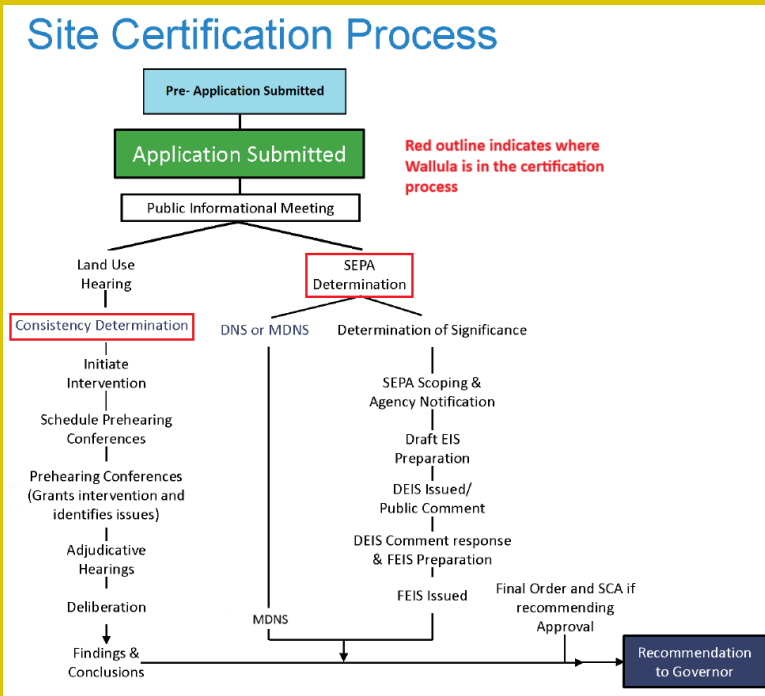
Applicant:

OneEnergy Development LLC

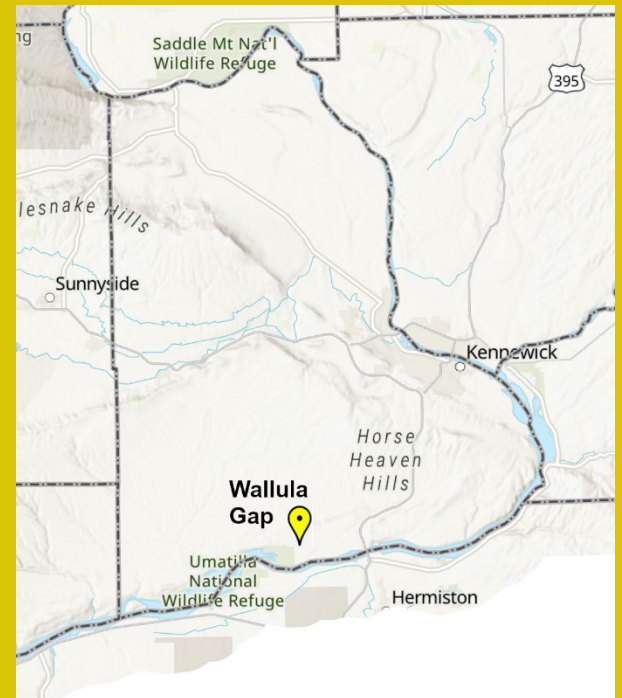
Milestone Dates:

- February 23, 2024, Original ASC Submitted
- April 23, 2024, Public Comment Hearing, Land Use Consistency Hearing

Status:



Location Map:



Goldeneye Battery Energy Storage Project

General Description:

A 200-megawatt (MW)/800-megawatt hour (MWh) battery energy storage system (BESS) project. The Project will not generate electricity, but instead provide a buffer for Skagit County's (County) electrical grid. The Project will accomplish this by receiving energy (charging) from the Puget Sound Energy (PSE) electric transmission system, storing energy on site, and then later delivering energy (discharging) back to the point of interconnection Project area: approximately 16 acres, privately owned land.

Location:

Unincorporated Skagit County, Washington.

Applicant:

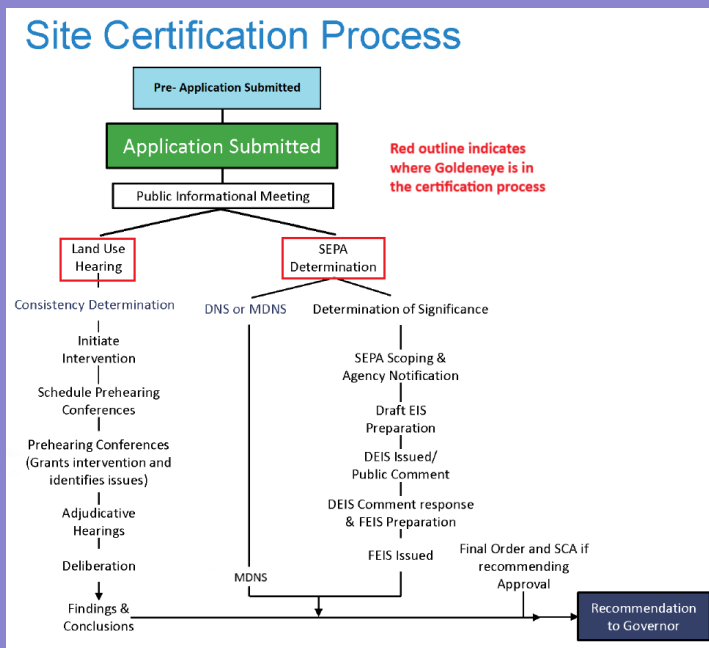
GOLDFINCH ENERGY STORAGE, LLC, 412 West 15th Street, 15th Floor. New York, New York 10011

Milestone Dates:

- June 27, 2024, Original ASC Submitted
- August 13, 2024, Public Information Meeting and Land Use Consistency Hearing

Status:

Location Map:



BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the Matter of Application
No. 2024-
Docket No. EF-240004

Council Order No.

Goldeneye Energy Storage, LLC, for
the Goldeneye Solar Storage Project,
Applicant

ORDER DETERMINING LAND
USE CONSISTENCY

BACKGROUND

Synopsis. *Goldeneye Energy Storage, LLC (Applicant)¹ filed an application for site certification with the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC or Council) on June 27, 2024, seeking approval of the proposed Goldeneye Solar Storage Project (Project) site in unincorporated Skagit County, Washington. RCW 80.50.090(2) requires EFSEC to determine whether the proposed site is consistent and compliant with local provisions. The Council may find that the site proposed for a facility is consistent and in compliance with land use plans and zoning ordinances if the proposed use is one that can be approved under current land use and zoning laws, conditionally or outright. The Council, by this order, concludes that the proposed site of the project is consistent with local land use plans and zoning ordinances because it would be eligible to apply for a special use permit as a major utility development under the Skagit County Code.*

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1 **Nature of Proceeding.** This matter involves an application for site certification (Application or ASC) filed on June 27, 2024, by Goldeneye Energy Storage, LLC to construct and operate the Goldeneye Storage Project.
- 2 **Land Use Consistency Hearing.** RCW 80.50.090(2) requires EFSEC to “conduct a public hearing to determine whether or not a proposed site is consistent and in compliance with city, county, or regional land use plans or zoning ordinances.” On August 5, 2024, EFSEC issued a Notice of Informational Public Hearing and Land Use Consistency Hearing and scheduled an in-person hearing at Sedro-Woolley Community Center in Sedro-Woolley,

¹ The application for site certification and Administrative Decision Administrative Official Interpretation 2023-01 reference Goldfinch Energy Storage, LLC. Goldfinch Energy Storage, LLC is a predecessor entity of Goldeneye Energy Storage, LLC. The details of the project were not altered with the name change of the entity. *Applicant’s Legal Memorandum.*

Washington, with the option to participate by Microsoft Teams or by telephone for 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2024.²

3 On August 13, 2024, the Council conducted the land use consistency hearing, to hear testimony regarding whether the Project was consistent and in compliance with Skagit County's local land use provisions. The following EFSEC members were present or participated remotely via Microsoft Teams at the August 13, 2024, hearing: Kathleen Drew (EFSEC Chair), Elizabeth Osborne, (Department of Commerce), Eli Levitt (Department of Ecology), Mike Livingston (Department of Fish and Wildlife), Stacey Brewster (Department of Utilities and Transportation Commission), Leonard "Lenny" Young (Department of Natural Resources), and Robby Eckroth (Skagit County). Chair Drew presided over the hearing.

4 Tim McMahan, Attorney, represented the Applicant and spoke on the Applicant's behalf. Jordan Grace, environmental planner with Tetra Tech and Tommy Nelson, Tenaska lead project manager also spoke on the Applicant's behalf. The Council also heard testimony from Skagit County residents Kim Rubenstein, Randy Good, Bonnie Helms, Kim Torgerson, James Delay, Suzanne Rohner, Celeste Frisbee, and State Senator Keith Wagoner.

5 **Applicant's Description of Proposed Facility - Goldeneye Solar Storage Project.** The Project would be a standalone 200-megawatt (MW)/800-megawatt hour (MWh) battery energy storage system (BESS), with interconnection and ancillary support infrastructure.

6 The Siting Area would encompass approximately 16 acres across the five parcels. The BESS units would be located on the main assessor parcel, P40030, located at 25080 Minkler Road, Sedro-Woolley, Washington. The underground transmission line would be located on assessor parcels P40042 and P40046. The access road to the site would be located on a portion of assessor parcels P40046, P40022, and P40047. *Application for Site Certification, Part 1: Site Summary, p. 3 of 166; Figure 2 in Attachment A.*

7 The Project would not generate electricity, but it would provide a buffer for the local electrical grid. The Project would receive energy (charging) from the Puget Sound Energy (PSE) electric transmission system, storing energy on site, and then later deliver energy

² The Council sent this Notice to all interested persons on the mailing list for the Facility including landowners within one mile and to all subscribers to EFSEC's general minutes and agenda list. Further, the Council posted this Notice in English and Spanish on its public website, delivered this Notice in English and Spanish to EFSEC's mailing list and the mailing list for this Project, distributed the Notice to local libraries, and purchased advertisement in the local daily newspapers of general circulation.

(discharging) back to the point of interconnection. *Application for Site Certification, Part 1: Project Summary, p. 3 of 166.*

- 8 All proposed Project parcels are zoned as Agricultural - Natural Resource Lands (Ag-NRL). The portion of Minkler Road right-of-way, where an upgraded water line is located, is zoned both Ag-NRL and Rural Reserve (RRv). *Id.*
- 9 The five parcels on which the Project would be located would together constitute the Project Siting Area. The owners of the parcels are listed in a table in Section A.3. Property Owner and Location of Proposed Site Use of the initial application. The owners are: John Grinder, Jon Fleurichamp, and Puget Sound Energy. *Application for Site Certification, A.3: Property Owner; Application for Site Certification, Attachments A & B.*
- 10 On February 1, 2023, the Skagit County Planning Director issued Administrative Official Interpretation (AOI) 2023-01. Applicant requested an AOI of Skagit County Code (SCC) 14.04.020 for the definition of the term “utility development”. Specifically, Applicant requested that the proposed BESS project in the current matter be classified as a major utility development. *AOI 2023-01, page 1.*
- 11 AOI 2023-01 approved Applicant’s request “to allow consideration of the proposed BESS project as a major utility development.” *AOI 2023-01, page 6.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 12 EFSEC received oral and written comments on whether the proposed site is consistent and compliant with local land use provisions. Jack Moore, Director of Skagit County Planning & Development Services, and the Skagit River System Cooperative raised concerns that the Applicant’s ASC incorrectly states that no portions of the Project are within shoreline jurisdiction. These commenters assert that portions of the project—the underground transmission line and an access road—are within 200 feet of the ordinary high water mark of Hansen Creek and therefore within shoreline jurisdiction.
- 13 Commenters raised concerns about noise, fire and flood safety, and pollution due to chemical leaks and runoff. Some commenters also argued the Project is inconsistent with the rural, agricultural character of the surrounding area and stated their opposition to conversion of agricultural land.

DISCUSSION

Land Use Consistency Determination and Applicable Law

- 14 RCW 80.50.090(2) provides that subsequent to the informational public hearing for a proposed facility, the Council shall conduct a public hearing to determine whether the

proposed site was consistent and in compliance with city, county, or regional land use plans or zoning ordinances on the date of the application. In this order, the Council will refer to land use plans and zoning ordinances collectively as “land use provisions” and will refer to its decision as pertaining to “land use consistency.”

- 15 The Council’s evaluation of land use consistency is not dispositive of the Application and a determination of land use consistency is neither an endorsement nor an approval of the Project.³ The evaluation pertains only to the general siting of categories of uses, considering only the site and not the project’s construction and operational conditions.
- 16 Whether a particular facility will create on- or off-site impacts (including impacts to the environment) is considered separately through the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process, during the Council’s adjudication (if applicable), through the environmental permitting processes (if applicable), and through other Council processes (if applicable).⁴ The Council’s ultimate recommendation to the Governor will be made after full and thorough consideration of all relevant issues.
- 17 Under the test for land use consistency previously established by the Council, EFSEC considers whether the pertinent local land use provisions “prohibit” the site “expressly or by operation clearly, convincingly and unequivocally.” A facility meets this initial standard so long as it “can be permitted either outright or conditionally.”⁵ Whether applicable conditional use criteria are in fact met is a question for later EFSEC proceedings,⁶ after which EFSEC may recommend and impose conditions of approval in the Site Certification Agreement (SCA) to recognize the purpose of Skagit County’s special use permit criteria.⁷ For the purpose of determining initial land use consistency, EFSEC has previously held that a project is consistent with local land use regulations where it is potentially eligible for a conditional use permit, regardless of the likelihood of final county approval.⁸

³ In re Whistling Ridge Energy Project, Council Order No. 868 at 9 (October 6, 2011) (Whistling Ridge Order). A determination of land use inconsistency simply results in the Council’s further consideration of whether local land use provisions should be preempted. WAC 463-28-060(1); *see also* RCW 80.50.110(2) and WAC 463-28-020. If they are preempted, the Council will include in any proposed site certification agreement conditions designed to recognize the purpose of the preempted provisions. WAC 463-28-070.

⁴ RCW 80.50.090; RCW 80.50.040(9), (12); Chapter 463-30 WAC; Chapter 463-47 WAC; Chapter 463-76 WAC; and Chapter 463-78 WAC.

⁵ In re Columbia Solar Project, Docket No. EF-170823, Council Order – Expedited Processing, ¶ 35. (April 17, 2018).

⁶ *Id.*, ¶ 36.

⁷ RCW 80.50.100(2); WAC 463-64-020.

⁸ In the Matter of TUUSSO Energy, LLC, Columbia Solar Project, Order Granting Expedited Processing (April 17, 2018); In the Matter of Scout Clean Energy, LLC, for Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC, Applicant, Order Finding Proposed Site Consistent with Land Use Regulations (May 17, 2022).

18 The EFSEC process contemplates that the Applicant will coordinate with the local jurisdiction to attempt to determine whether the project would be consistent and compliant with the jurisdiction's land use plans and ordinances.⁹ If, through these discussions, the local jurisdiction determines the project is indeed consistent and compliant with its land use plans and ordinances, it may provide, and the applicant may present to the Council, a certificate attesting to that fact. Such a certificate provides prima facie proof of consistency and compliance with County land use plans and zoning ordinances.¹⁰

19 **Definitions of "Land Use Plan" and "Zoning Ordinances."** The term "land use plan" is defined by statute as a "comprehensive plan or land use element thereof adopted . . . pursuant to" one of the listed planning statutes.¹¹ EFSEC interprets this definition as referring to the portions of a comprehensive plan that outline proposals for an area's development, typically by assigning general uses (such as housing) to land segments and specifying desired concentrations and design goals.¹² Comprehensive plan elements and provisions that do not meet this definition are outside of the scope of the Council's present land use consistency analysis. The term "zoning ordinance" is defined by statute as an ordinance "regulating the use of land and adopted pursuant to" one of the listed planning statutes.¹³ EFSEC has interpreted this definition as referring to those ordinances that regulate land use by creating districts and restricting uses in the districts (i.e., number, size, location, type of structures, lot size) to promote compatible uses. Ordinances that do not meet this definition are outside of the scope of the Council's present land use consistency analysis.

20 EFSEC has defined the phrase "consistent and in compliance" based on settled principles of land use law: "[z]oning ordinances require compliance; they are regulatory provisions that mandate performance. Comprehensive plan provisions, however, are guides rather than mandates and seek consistency."¹⁴ Under the Growth Management Act, a local agency's zoning regulations must be made in conformity with its comprehensive plan.¹⁵ Consequently, compliance with zoning ordinances establishes a presumption of consistency with the comprehensive land use plan that those ordinances implement.

21 "Application" means any request for approval of a particular site or sites filed in accordance

⁹ WAC 463-26-090.

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ RCW 80.50.020(18).

¹² *In re Northern Tier Pipeline*, Council Order No. 579 (Northern Tier Pipeline Order) at 9 (November 26, 1979).

¹³ RCW 80.50.020(30).

¹⁴ *Whistling Ridge Order* at 10 n 15.

¹⁵ [RCW 36.70A.120](#).

with the procedures established pursuant to RCW 80.50.060.

APPLICABLE SKAGIT COUNTY CODES

- 23 SCC 14.04.020 defines utility development as, but not limited to, “facilities and services that generate, transport, process, or store water, sewage, solid waste, electrical energy, communications and pipelines for fuel, oil, natural gas, and petroleum products.” SCC 14.04.020.
- 24 SCC 14.04.020 outlines three types of utility developments; minor utility development, major utility development, and major regional development. *Id.*
- 25 Minor utility development is defined as, “an unmanned utility development designed to serve a small local community that would be considered a normal utility service for the area. *Id.*
- 26 Major utility development is defined as, “a utility development that is not a minor utility development or a major regional utility development.” *Id.*
- 27 Major regional utility development is defined as, “a utility development that is designed to serve a region.” *Id.*
- 28 Skagit County Code 14.16.400 defines the purpose of its Agricultural-Natural Resource Lands district: to “provide land for continued farming activities, conserve agricultural land, and reaffirm agricultural use, activities and operations as the primary use of the district. Non-agricultural uses are allowed only as accessory uses to the primary use of the land for agricultural purposes.” SCC 14.16.400(1).
- 29 SCC 14.16.400(2) codifies the permitted uses of Ag-NRL as:
- a) Agriculture.
 - b) Agricultural accessory uses.
 - c) Agricultural processing facilities.
 - d) Co-housing, as part of CaRD, subject to SCC 14.18.300 through 14.18.330.
 - e) Commercial greenhouse operations that are an integral part of a local soil-based commercial agriculture operation.
 - f) Individual or multiple farm composting as an incidental agricultural operation to a working farm with no net loss of soil. The composting operation shall be managed according to an approved nutrient management plan in conjunction with the local Conservation District and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards and all applicable environmental, solid waste, access and health regulations. Such use shall not generate traffic uncommon to a farm operation.

- g) Family day care provider as defined in Chapter 14.04 SCC; provided, that no conversion of agricultural land is allowed.
- h) Farm-based business carried on exclusively by a member or members of a family residing on the farm and employing no more than 3 nonresident full-time equivalent employees.
- i) Historic sites open to the public that do not interfere with the management of the agricultural land.
- j) Home-Based Business 1.
- k) Manure lagoons.
- l) Cultivation and harvest of any forest products or forest crop and necessary accessory buildings.
- m) On-site sorting, bagging, storage, and similar wholesale processing activities of agricultural products that are predominantly grown on-site or produced principally from the entire commercial farm operation. Such activities shall be limited to those which are integrally related to the agricultural production and harvesting process.
- n) Seasonal roadside stands not exceeding 300 square feet.
- o) Single-family detached residential dwelling unit and residential accessory uses, when accessory to an agricultural use; and provided, that no conversion of agricultural land is allowed for accessory uses.
- p) Water diversion structures and impoundments related to resource management.
- q) Wholesale nurseries.
- r) Anaerobic digester, when accessory to an agricultural use.
- s) Maintenance, drainage.
- t) Net metering system, solar.
- u) Repair, replacement and maintenance of water lines with an inside diameter of 12 inches or less.

30 A Hearing Examiner may issue a special use permit for a major utility development to deviate from the use requirements of SCC 14.16.400(2). SCC 14.16.400(4)(h). The purpose of a special use permit is to “provide a means to recognize and approve land uses not specifically identified as allowed uses. A special use permit must demonstrate that the proposed activity will not adversely affect or prevent those uses normally allowed within the respective district.” SCC 14.16.900(1)(a).

31 To qualify for a major utility development special use permit, an applicant must show that “there is no other viable parcel or non-agricultural designated land to serve the affected area” and must conduct “[a]nalysis of alternatives to the development of the utility in the natural resource land” SCC 14.16.400(4)(h). The applicant also bears the burden of proof to show the major utility development meets the general criteria for approval of a special use permit, provided under SCC 14.16.900(1)(b)(v):

- (A) The proposed use will be compatible with existing and planned land use.

- (B) The proposed use complies with the Skagit County Code.
- (C) The proposed use will not create undue noise, odor, heat, vibration, air and water pollution impacts on surrounding, existing, or potential dwelling units, based on the performance standards of SCC 14.16.840.
- (D) The proposed use will not generate intrusions on privacy of surrounding uses.
- (E) The proposed use will not cause potential adverse effects on the general public health, safety, and welfare.
- (F) For special uses in Industrial Forest—Natural Resource Lands, Secondary Forest—Natural Resource Lands, Agricultural—Natural Resource Lands, and Rural Resource—Natural Resource Lands, the impacts on long-term natural resource management and production will be minimized.
- (G) The proposed use is not in conflict with the health and safety of the community.
- (H) The proposed use will be supported by adequate public facilities or services and will not adversely affect public services to the surrounding areas, or conditions can be established to mitigate adverse impacts on such facilities.
- (I) The proposed use will maintain the character, landscape and lifestyle of the rural area. For new uses, proximity to existing businesses operating via special use permit shall be reviewed and considered for cumulative impacts.

The Skagit County Shoreline Master Program (SMP) is codified pursuant to SCC 14.26.010. Under Section 7.18.A.3. of the SMP, utility developments are permitted in rural shoreline areas, provided they comply with the general and tabular regulations of the SMP. *See* SMP Sec. 7.18.B., 7.18.C.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Council has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding and the parties to it pursuant to RCW 80.50.075 and WAC chapter 463-43.
2. The Council provided adequate notice to interested parties, and the Council has adequate information to render a land use consistency decision.
3. The Applicant obtained AOI 2023-01 from local Skagit County authorities, which certifies that the proposed project would be considered a major utility development.
4. As stated above, when determining whether a site meets the standard for land use consistency under RCW 80.50.075(1), EFSEC will consider whether the pertinent local land use provisions “prohibit” the site “expressly or by operation clearly, convincingly and unequivocally.” A facility meets this initial standard so long as it “can be permitted either

outright or conditionally.”¹⁶

5. The term conditional or conditionally are not specific legal terms of art. In the current matter, Applicant’s consistency and compliance with the current zone requirements contained within Skagit County Code is conditioned upon approval of the special use permit. The Skagit County Code uses the term “special use permit” to describe permits for uses that may be approved conditionally, so for purposes of this analysis, conditional use and special use will be used interchangeably.
6. At this stage, as in previous cases,¹⁷ EFSEC considers only the Project’s eligibility for a conditional use permit, not its likelihood of receiving approval. The question of whether the Project actually complies with the requirements for a special use permit under the Skagit County Code will be incorporated into EFSEC’s process in the form of an additional public hearing required under RCW 80.50.090(5) if EFSEC grants expedited processing, or in the adjudication required by RCW 80.50.090(4), in the event that expedited processing is not granted.
7. Here, the Skagit County Code does not clearly, convincingly, and unequivocally prohibit the siting of the Project either expressly or by operation. Because AOI 2023-01 determined that the Project would be considered a major utility development, it would be eligible to apply for a special use permit from the Skagit County Hearing Examiner under SCC 14.16.400(4)(h).
8. The record before the Council does not clearly demonstrate the siting of the Project is prohibited. Commenters expressed concerns that the Project would be incompatible with the agricultural character of the site area. While these arguments may be germane to whether the Project ultimately meets the criteria listed under SCC 14.16.900(1)(b)(v), they do not show that siting of the Project is clearly prohibited on its face. The Applicant has advanced its own arguments as to why the Project is compatible with local character and existing uses, and the Council will weigh these arguments and those of commenters at a later stage in this proceeding. *See Application for Site Certification, Attachment H at 16-20.*
9. If portions of the Project are, in fact, located within shoreline jurisdiction, the Project’s siting is still not clearly prohibited. The Skagit County SMP allows siting of utility developments within rural shoreline areas, provided those developments comply with the

¹⁶ In re Columbia Solar Project, Docket No. EF-170823, Council Order – Expedited Processing, ¶ 35. (April 17, 2018).

¹⁷ In the Matter of TUUSSO Energy, LLC, Columbia Solar Project, Order Granting Expedited Processing (April 17, 2018); In the Matter of Scout Clean Energy, LLC, for Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC, Applicant, Order Finding Proposed Site Consistent with Land Use Regulations (May 17, 2022).

general and tabular design regulations provided under Sections 7.18.B. and 7.18.C. of Shoreline Master Program. SMP Sec. 7.18.A.3. Nothing in the record suggests the Project fails to do so in any way that would unequivocally prohibit its siting. Whether the Project actually complies with these design regulations, if applicable, will be considered by the Council at a later date.

10. Therefore, pursuant to RCW 80.50.090(2) and WAC 463-26-110, the Council finds the Applicant has met its burden of proof to demonstrate that the Project is consistent and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Skagit County Code and the comprehensive land use plans with which those regulations must conform.

ORDER

THE COUNCIL ORDERS:

1. Goldeneye Energy Storage, LLC's application for site certification and approval of Goldeneye Solar Storage Project is consistent and in compliance with local land use provisions, consistent with RCW 80.50.090(2) and WAC 463-26-110.
2. The Council will provide a means to receive information regarding site-specific conditions and criteria akin to what the Skagit County Hearing Examiner would receive during a special use permit hearing. This will occur either as part of the adjudication, if one is to be provided in this matter, or during the hearing required by RCW 80.50.090(5).

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective _____.

WASHINGTON STATE ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

KATHLEEN DREW, Chair

DRAFT

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

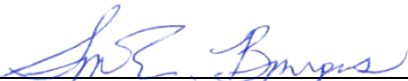
Non-Direct Cost Allocation for 3rd Quarter FY 2025

Jan 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024

The EFSEC Cost Allocation Plan (Plan) was approved by the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council in September 2004. The Plan directed review of the past quarter's percentage of EFSEC technical staff's average FTE's, charged to EFSEC projects. This along with anticipated work for the quarter is used as the basis for determining the non-direct cost percentage charge, for each EFSEC project.

Using the procedures for developing cost allocation, and allowance for new projects, the following percentages shall be used to allocate EFSEC's non direct costs for the 3rd quarter of FY 2025.

Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project	4%
Wild Horse Wind Power Project	4%
Columbia Generating Station	20%
Columbia Solar	4%
WNP-1	2%
Grays Harbor 1&2	6%
Chehalis Generation Project	6%
Desert Claim Wind Power Project	4%
Goose Prairie Solar Project	4%
Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project	13%
Badger Mountain	0%
CCR High Top	2%
CCR Ostrea	4%
Wautoma Solar Project	7%
Hop Hill	5%
Carriger Solar	5%
Wallula Gap	5%
Goldeneye	5%



Sonia E. Bumpus, EFSEC Manager

Date: 1/13/25