

December 12th, 2017

EFSEC Staff,

For your consideration,

Reasons that irrigated farm land is not the proper use or site for Industrial Solar-

716,870 Gallons of ground water per acre are lost by NOT irrigation Under Ellensburg Water Company (EWC)

Non Pro-ratable Senior 1884 Rights

1 Acre foot= 325,850 Gallons

EWC acres= 9749

EWC Water right=43,840 acre feet

EWC entitlement=4.4 acre feet (not counting return flow)

325,850 Gallon per acre X 4.4 acre feet = 1,433,740 Gallons Applied on Each Acre

50% water return flow consumptive plant use

50% goes into Ground

50% of 1,433,740 = 716,870 Gallons per acre into ground under EWC

All Irrigation Companies & Districts contribute a Substantial amount of water to the Aquifer!

Attached is research by Dick Bain Submitted & accepted into evidence during Acquavella and water rights adjudication.

Submitted today by Ron Poulsen Ellensburg Water Company Board of Directors

Here's Your mitigation!

EW C (C.F.O) entitlement = 4.4 ac'

1 acre foot = (AF) 325,850 gallons on each acre

325,850 gallons per ac'
X 4.4 ac'

* 1,433,740 gallons on each acre. (contribution to water table)

50% of H₂O runs off in the form of return flow or consumptive plant use. 50% of 1,433,740 gallons = 716,870 gallons

716,870 X # of Ac owned

Irrigation season is 7 month (210 days)

Well use is 365 days @ 350 gallons/day = 127,750 gall

Contribution to ground water & water table = 716,870 gallon/ac
From Senior surface right

Senior NON Proratable 1884

9749.33 acres
1643840 acre ft



Columbia Solar Project

Land Use Hearing

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The Columbia Solar Project is an alternative energy proposal by TUUSSO Energy, LLC (TUUSSO). The five solar project sites are named as follows: Camas, Fumaria, Penstemon, Typha and Urtica.

Commenter Information (Please print)

Name:

Paula McMinn

Organization: (optional)

Street Address:

11663 Hwy 10 POB 184

Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt #

City:

Ellensburg

☒ Yes☐ NoP.O. Box 184
Ellensburg, WA 98926

State:

WA

Zip Code:

98926

Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email:

☐ Yes☐ No

Comment subject/Issue:

Land Use

Comment:

I love to question the use of prime farm land when there's so much land that's not prime. Seems the projects could figure out a way to bring the energy collected from solar sites to wherever that is stored. ~~over the~~

Sign

(Please use reverse side if you run out of room)

Thank you for your participation!



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Commenter Information (Please print)

Name: Benjamin Racine

Organization: (optional) _____

Street Address: _____

Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt # _____ City: _____

☒ Yes ☐ No

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email: benjamin@gmail.com☒ Yes ☐ No(360) 610-7356Comment subject/Issue: TUUSSO Land Use

Comment:

I am more pro-solar than almost anyone I know. I am also extremely pro-democracy. Lastly, I am an engineer and a designer by profession and see things through that lens. BUT, I think local food is the only thing that is more important than local energy. Human needs in order of most necessary are: air (5 mins to death), water (days until death), and food (weeks until death). There is not a duration of similar order that results for electricity that immediately results in end of life. In the future when transportation costs skyrocket, these concerns will be more and more important. This for this reason regarding priorities, and because I feel that EFSEC is an anti-democratic organization, I feel that it is of extreme significance that the county be allowed more time for resolving the various legislation that ~~are~~ must push these projects off of extremely precious farmland. This is eastern Washington, a desert if it weren't for the massive investment in irrigation and agriculture. These projects belong on land that is FAR LESS suitable for sustaining local lives in the future.

↓ live to peak oil

Sign

Benjamin Racine 12/12/2017

(Please use reverse side if you run out of room)

Thank you for your participation!



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Commenter Information (Please print)

Name: TYRAH DUNNING

Organization: (optional) _____

Street Address: 601 East Tacoma Ave.

Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt # _____ City: Puente Rico

☐ Yes ☐ No

State: WA Zip Code: 98926

Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email: joanne.dun@ymail.com

☐ Yes ☐ No

Comment subject/Issue: ANTICIPATING AND REGULATING AND PLANNING FOR
Comment: CONSISTENT PLACEMENT WITH REGARD TO AGRICULTURE & WATER
IN AN ARID CLIMATE.

HELLO,
I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT SEEMS TO BE A DISREGARD FOR
THE DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL ZONED LANDS, IN KITTITAS COUNTY,
SPECIFICALLY THE CLASSIFICATION OF "COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE." THIS HAS
NOTHING TO DO WITH ME BEING A "N.I.M.B.Y." (OR NOT IN MY BACKYARD).
I SPENT THE LAST YEAR, TRAVELING AROUND THE COUNTRY, WITH A SOLAR/
PV SYSTEM, POWERING MY ACCOMMODATIONS. I AM CURRENTLY WORKING ON
ANOTHER PV PROJECT, TO POWER ANOTHER ADVENTURE.

I HAVE TO SAY, THAT I NEVER SAW ~~FORWARD~~ UTILITY SCALE
PV PROJECTS ON IRRIGATED LANDS, WITHIN ANY OF THE MORE ARID CLIMATES
I TRAVELED THROUGH. I SAW PLENTY OF UTILITY SCALE PROJECTS IN
GRASSY, WET PLACES LIKE FLORIDA, OR NORTH CAROLINA - PLACES WHERE
THE CLIMATE MAINTAINS PLENTY OF HUMIDITY, AND THEREFORE RICH SOILS?
PLENTY OF WATER FOR FARMING.

I UNDERSTAND THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT AESTHETIC
AND AGAIN - I WANT TO BE VERY CLEAR THAT THIS IS NOT MY CONCERN.
THERE ~~IS~~ IS AN ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF LANDS NOT USED FOR FARMING
OR CROPS IN KITTITAS VALLEY, AND IN FACT, MANY OF THESE ARE AT A SLIGHTLY
HIGHER ELEVATION, AND WON'T BE AFFECTED BY THE WINTER "STAGNANT AIR"
IN NEARBY AREAS, WHICH

Sign

Tyrah Dunning

Occur frequently in Kittitas Valley, throughout the winter. I say this, with regard ~~for~~ and knowledge of, the complications of solar array projects & percentage of grade. — There are still places which are not so "hilly."

I think that people living ~~in~~ west of the Cascades, (which I have spent several years hiking "there") often forget that it doesn't rain as much throughout the rest of the state. I don't think there has been much consideration for soils and water, while planning these projects not to manage a wetland impact.

I understand the pressure that ^{TUVSSO} must be under, by Puget Sound Energy, and that they want to protect their investments into these five projects. I understand how frustrating it must be, to wait all of these months for Kittitas County to formulate their own regulations for large scale utility projects. There is, currently, a committee, working to formulate these site regulations. It seems like the most reasonable and lawful ~~action~~ ^{action} to take, would be to at least let that happen — then challenge it, if you "don't like it."

Looking over the plans, for the five TUVSSO projects, I noticed that "Kittitas" is misspelled, on three out of five of the projects' titles. I feel like that is indicative of the regard this company, TUVSSO, has for the local government. Okay, so that sounds like a rant, so I guess I will wrap this up. Thank you for your time, and consideration.



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Commenter Information (Please print)

Name: Jerry Price

Organization: (optional) _____

Street Address: 4621 #6 Rd

Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt # _____ City: Ellensburg

☒ Yes ☐ No

State: WA Zip Code: 98926

Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email: rhodygr@hotmail.com

☒ Yes ☐ No

Comment subject/Issue: _____

Comment:

I am in favor of solar panels and solar power. The placement of these projects on irrigated land I am opposed to. I think farmland is priceless. Taking it out of farm production impacts the opportunity of future farmers making it more difficult to find farm land.

We can have both farmland and solar if solar is responsibly placed out of irrigated areas.

Sign _____



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Commenter Information (Please print)

Name: Matthew Cox Organization: (optional) _____

Street Address: 4020 Vintage Hwy Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt # _____ City: Elkensburg ☐ Yes ☐ No

State: _____ Zip Code: 98922 Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email: matthew@greenboxfarm.com ☒ Yes ☐ No

Comment subject/Issue: Farm land use

Comment:

Proponent of Solar Power but concerned about loss of quality farm land. Farm land that was irrigated through public funding. The public funded irrigation and farmland should stay in service to the public as farmland. There are many acres in the country that are suitable for solar but not for producing farming. These projects should be relocated to suitable land and not on farm land. Further many more of the proposed acres are in perennial grass that is able to absorb 60% of human produced carbon making them essential to clean air and water.

Sign [Signature]

(Please use reverse side if you run out of room)
Thank you for your participation!



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Commenter Information (Please print)

Name:

Susan Bangs

Organization: (optional)

Street Address:

751 Klocke Rd.

Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt #

City:

Ellensburg

☐ Yes ☐ No

Already on the list, thank you.

State:

WA

Zip Code:

98926

Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email:

susanbangs13@outlook.com

☐ Yes ☐ No

Comment subject/Issue:

TUUSSO projects

Comment:

Arable land must be preserved.

Sign

(Please use reverse side if you run out of room)
Thank you for your participation!



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Commenter Information (Please print)

Name: Ron Criddlebaugh

Organization: (optional) _____

Street Address: 5731 Faust Rd

Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt # _____ City: Ellensburg

☐ Yes ☐ No

State: WA Zip Code: 98926

Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email: rcriddlebaugh@Kvalley.com

☐ Yes ☐ No

Comment subject/Issue: _____

Comment:

I think this is a good project with minimal environmental impact. I hope you will approve the expedited process.

Sign

(Please use reverse side if you run out of room)

Thank you for your participation!



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Commenter Information (Please print)

Name: Elise Herman

Organization: (optional) _____

Street Address: 671 Brown Road

Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt # _____ City: Ellensburg

☐ Yes ☐ No

State: WA Zip Code: 98926

Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email: eherman@fairpoint.net

☒ Yes ☐ No

Comment subject/Issue: _____

Comment:

I am pro-solar but opposed to placing large solar projects on agricultural land. This is valuable farmland - and placing an industrial solar project in the proposed locations will not only mis-use the farmland, it will change the character + value of our beautiful valley. Please locate this project in a different location.

Sign

Elise Herman



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Commenter Information (Please print)

Name: Colleen Donovan

Organization: (optional) _____

Street Address: 401 weaver Rd

Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt # _____ City: Ellensburg

☒ Yes ☐ No

State: WA Zip Code: 98926

Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email: comodono@gmail.com

☒ Yes ☐ No

Comment subject/Issue: _____

Comment:

① Solar projects should not be located on land zoned for agriculture and in agricultural use.

② this project should not receive expedited process. Solar is not consistent with land use zoning. I don't care if applicant is in a hurry.

③ the EFSEC should have done an adequate job notifying - proactively and in writing - all property owners and residents about this land use hearing. the vast majority of people didn't know about meeting and this fact is unacceptable.

④ this project does not ~~we~~ directly benefit the people who live here.

⑤ the ^{applicants} power points were impossible to read.

(Please use reverse side if you run out of room)

Thank you for your participation!

Ellen G. Moore



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Commenter Information (Please print)

Name: Ralla Vickers

Organization: (optional) _____

Street Address: P.O. Box 1173

Add to Project mailing list? (If yes please provide mailing address)

Apt # _____ City: Ellensburg

☒ Yes ☐ No

State: Wa. Zip Code: 98926

Add to Project email list? (If yes please provide email address)

Email: _____

☐ Yes ☐ No

Comment subject/Issue: Solar increase

Comment:

I am very much in favor of increased solar development. It should serve our area first, then be sold elsewhere.

Sign _____

To: EFSEC

Re: Public Hearing and Land Use Consistency Hearing

The state mandated counties to comply with the Growth Management Act to preserve ag land and plan and control urban sprawl. King and other counties have taken steps to preserve ag land.

The placement of solar collectors on existing land eliminates that land for productive farm use. The limited acres in the TUUSSO current proposal is minimal acreage however once the precedent has been set the, there would be little justification to stop additional. There could be a patchwork of solar facilities over the entire county.

It seem irrational that counties are required to limit development on ag land under the GMA requirements but be forced to allow solar collectors (the term solar farms is ridiculous) to infringe on the same land.

The county should be allowed to establish the land use policy locally without the EFSEC overriding its decisions.

Thomas Ringer

5750 Number 6 Rd

Ellensburg, WA 98926