Horse Heaven Wind Project EFSEC Review
Data Request No. 3
July 22, 2021

Data Request 3 Item ID	Code Citation Application Section	Item	Question or Information Request.	Applicant Response
Wildlife-22	WAC: 463-60-332 Appendix M	Appendix M. Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy	The data in Appendix M appears to only use 150 meters or the Rotor Swept Height (RSH) exposure criteria. Provide exposure criteria for the 200-meter and 205-meter turbines. Confirm where the data for the larger machines came from.	
Wildlife-23	WAC: 463-60-332 Appendix M	Wildlife Survey	A portion of Horse Heaven West only had 3-months of surveys conducted, particularly in the Webber Canyon area, as shown on the Project maps. If a full year's worth of data was not collected, provide rationale for why a 3-month survey period is sufficient to analyze impacts to wildlife in this area.	
Wildlife-24	WAC: 463-60-332 Section: 3.4.2.3	Avian	When an avian species is flying within the RSH), and there is a five deep turbine array that must be traversed, does that change the exposure rate, and is that included in the calculation? Is it intuitive that a bird flying through a wind turbine project arrayed as a single ridge top turbine row would have less exposure than a bird flying through an array that is five or six turbines deep?	
Wildlife-25	WAC: 463-60-332 Section: 3.4.3	Avian	A public scoping comment noted that "In my May 2021 edition of Reader's Digest it was reported that a nine-year study at a wind farm in Smola, Norway revealed, "that bird strikes can be cut by more than 70 percent simply by painting one blade of a wind turbine black." Advise on the efficacy of this mitigation, whether it was considered for the Project, and if not provide rationale for why it is not applicable.	
Wildlife-26	WAC: 463-60-332 Section: 3.4.3	Avian	The status of the Ferruginous hawk in Washington may change, requiring additional buffers and mitigation. Explain how the Project can apply appropriate mitigation and setback for Ferruginous hawk if it is listed as Endangered.	
Wildlife-27	WAC: 463-60-332 Sections 3.4.2 and 3.4.3 Appendix M	Pronghorn	Provide information on pronghorn antelope presence and use of the Project area, Project-related impacts, and mitigation.	
Wildlife-28	WAC: 463-60-332 Section 3.4.2.1 Appendix M	Wildlife Corridors	Provide information on terrestrial wildlife corridors (east/west as well as north/south) within the Project area and how the Project will maintain connectivity. Advise how the Project would potentially impact the connectivity along the ridgeline.	
Wildlife-29	WAC: 463-60-332 Appendix L	Wildlife	Discuss how the Applicant will avoid or minimize construction and operation impacts and activities in the canyons/draws within and in proximity to the Project area.	

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Noise-1	WAC: 463-60-352 Appendix O Addendum	Noise Baseline Measurement Methodology Appendix states a 3.5-inch windscreen was used, but Table 2-1 states a 7-inch screen was used.	Confirm which windscreen was used and what speed it mitigates self-generated wind noise.	
Noise-2	WAC: 463-60-352 Appendix O Addendum	Noise Baseline Measurement Methodology Measurements were not collected in the entire Project Area (northwest and north of the Project). These areas include the communities south of East Badger Road to the north of the Project and near the community of Kiona of Benton City to the northwest of the Project.	Provide baseline analysis, similar to the analysis provided for other areas in Appendix O, for existing conditions northwest and north of the Project Area.	
Noise-3	WAC: 463-60-352 Appendix O Addendum	Noise Baseline Measurement Methodology	Confirm the on-site MET station tower height and what instrumentation was used to collect the wind speed data.	
Noise-4	WAC: 463-60-352 Section 4.1.1.2	Construction Noise Impacts	Quantify construction noise levels at noise sensitive receptors (NSRs). NSRs are identified in Figure 4.1.1-1 from the Application for Site Certification (February 2021) and meet land use standards outlined in WAC 173-60-30 for Class A lands. Confirm that NSRs would be considered Class A lands.	
Noise-5	WAC: 463-60-352 WAC: 463-62-030 Section 4.1.1.2	Noise Impacts Energy facilities shall meet the noise standards established in chapter 70.107 RCW, the Noise Control Act of 1974; and state rules adopted to implement those requirements in chapter 173-60 WAC, Maximum environmental noise levels.	Include noise levels at the boundary in the modeling assessment as boundary locations and compare to WAC limits.	
Noise-6	WAC: 463-60-352 Section 4.1.1.2	Noise Impacts	Include discussion on conditions, such as baseline and operational noise levels, when wind conditions indicate turbines will be operating.	
Noise-7	WAC: 463-60-352 Section 4.1.1.2	Noise Impacts	Address blasting noise as a type of noise and quantify and discuss its impact level. Address Low Frequency Noise (LFN) generated by the wind turbine blades.	
Noise-8	WAC: 463-60-352 Section 4.1.1.2	Noise Source Data	Clarify exactly what equipment/sources the following statement from Page 4-16 of the application applies to: “Sound source level details cannot be disclosed because that information is considered proprietary to the Turbine manufacturers.”	
Noise-9	WAC: 463-60-352 Section 4.1.1.2	Noise Source Data	Include all the source octave band data used in the operational noise modeling scenarios. If octave band data was not used in the model, define the sources and explain in detail how those sources were set up in the model.	

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Recreation-1	WAC: 463-12-145 Section 4.2.4	Ice Age Flood – National Geologic Trail (IAF-NGT)	Comments were received concerning impacts to the IAF-NGT and hiking trails within the vicinity of the Project. Provide data related to the features of the IAF-NGT and hiking trails and their proximity to the Project. Provide potential impacts to the IAF-NGT and hiking trails within the vicinity of the Project.	