

From: [Diann Yunker](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven hills windmill project
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 11:47:15 AM

Public comment #0101
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To whom it may concern:

As a resident of Benton county and in direct view of the hills I wish to express my opinion on this project. I would like to encourage those deciding to not co tinge as we the residents gain nothing from this and will be left with a blight of awful windmills as our new view. we do not want this.I am sure there are suitable windy areas on the west side so the residents there can enjoy their windmills.

A concerned citizen of Benton county.

Diann Yunker

Sent from my iPad

From: [Diann Yunker](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse heaven hills windmills project
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 11:52:20 AM

Public comment #0102
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To whom it may concern:

As a resident of Benton county and in direct view of the hills I wish to express my opinion on this project. I would like to encourage those deciding to not continue as we the residents of Benton county gain nothing from this and will be left with a blight of awful windmills as our new view. we do not want this. I am sure there are suitable windy areas on the west side so the residents there can enjoy their windmills.

A concerned citizen of Benton county.

Diann Yunker

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

From: [Norbert Rossi](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind Farm Comment
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 12:34:49 PM

Public comment #0103
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

We would like to state our position on the proposed Horse Heaven Hills wind farm project. My husband and I moved to Kennewick in June of 2020, but we intend to stay in this area for the foreseeable future. Our objections are as follows:

- Wind energy is a limited and unpredictable source of energy.
- Windmills are noisy and extremely detrimental to wildlife, especially migrating birds.
- They are ugly and inefficient.
- They are expensive to build and maintain.

These are our reasons for opposing the project. I hope you will listen to the public comments and abandon this idea.

Thank you for your time.

Norbert and Debora Rossi
2919 S Hartford Pl
Kennewick

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Rahickey50](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: wind farm in horse heaven hills comments
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 2:42:47 PM

Public comment #0104
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

As a resident of Tri Cities, Washington, I respectfully ask you to halt the development of the wind farm in the Horse Heaven Hills.

The terrain is uniquely beautiful. A wind farm will spoil the beauty of this landscape....forever.

The decimation to bird life is unacceptable.

The benefits of wind power provide a very poor return to this area. It is much more efficient to development and enhance hydro and nuclear power rather than wind. When it is needed, it's not windy here. There is a very poor return on investment.

We can look many directions right now and see turbines. Enough is enough.

Please do not develop this project here.

Thank you,

Ruth Ann Hickey

1214 Adair Dr

Richland, WA 99352

From: [Patti](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind Mills
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 3:11:58 PM

Public comment #0105
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I think the squeaky wheel gets the grease. Lots of people voicing objections regarding this matter. Then there are many, many of us that DO NOT have a problem with this idea. In fact my house faces the ridge where they will be in full view. I find them quite fascinating to watch and do not see them as an eye sore. I feel pride that we are looking toward our future and finding ways to pull away from fossil fuels that are killing our planet. Go forward with the plan, no objections here at our household.

Patti Bongers
Benton City

Owens, Joan (UTC)

From: Karen Richardson <zimbaz2910@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:01 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Wind Farms in Wa.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

External Email

https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.forbes.com%2Fsites%2Fjamesconca%2F2021%2F03%2F08%2Fwind-turbines-on-washingtons-horse-heaven-hills--how-not-to-pursue-a-green-new-deal%2F%3Fsh%3D72aa2e83508d%26fbclid%3DIwAR1f7-V9EuV7jQPGK01agx74Ua9bg8ZscgtPydYS9i4Uc_VqbGNQVYfUAHc&data=04%7C01%7Cefsec%40utc.wa.gov%7Ca858953ca6434958a4f208d8ea833f4d%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637517196861845618%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=F2nYHA0tsI7CBPN2EMYWz1hh4LqM%2F46%2BUG8XG59LXAY%3D&reserved=0

Karen R.

Owens, Joan (UTC)

From: Karen Richardson <zimbaz2910@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:02 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Wind Farms

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

External Email

https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.forbes.com%2Fsites%2Fjamesconca%2F2021%2F03%2F08%2Fwind-turbines-on-washingtons-horse-heaven-hills--how-not-to-pursue-a-green-new-deal%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR1LQHksCluP_w5luXpnhyjriRP5yB4wmjtTNZSsxm1Ufl-j2DdC_oiZz68&data=04%7C01%7Cefsec%40utc.wa.gov%7C53a885bce63b4c3f953808d8ea83694b%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637517197539583972%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=BAbzQAA1CW0ZHKXMewiHtO2TBx%2F6nlZsAir9gOgHfSM%3D&reserved=0

Karen R.

From: [J](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Cancel the Horse Heaven Wind Tower Project
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 12:20:32 AM

Public Comment #0108
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Dear EFSEC:

Please turn down the request to install wind turbines in the Horse Heaven area. There is near ZERO support among local citizens for this insult to our beautiful south eastern Washington landscape. Our energy dollars would be much better spent on efficient, reliable steady "carbon free" production methods like hydroelectric and nuclear. Wind farms are second only to solar when measuring environmental impact. The scar to such a massive land area is not worth the meager spurious power generating capability of wind turbines; and the impact to wildlife is unacceptable! To deny future generations the pleasure of viewing the vast unmolested hills of eastern Washington is nothing short of a crime! I cringe at the ugliness of wind turbines as I drive across what used to be beautiful landscape in eastern Washington and Oregon; and I am disgusted with the greed and intellectual dishonesty of wind turbine investments. It is truly a scam on the American people - designed to profit a few clever thieves at the expense of the taxpayer.

WE HAVE NO NEED FOR WIND FARMS!

Reinforce our aging hydroelectric capacity and invest in nuclear technology. Those are the only two reliable sources of energy capable of sustaining our society without destroying our environment.

Sincerely,
John Smart
Senior Mechanical Engineer, Project Manager, and City Council Member
West Richland, WA 99353

From: [Bruce Kerr](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: I support the Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 8:08:54 AM

Public Comment #0109
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To Whom It May Concern,

I support the Horse Heaven Wind Farm proposed in Benton County just south of the Tri-Cities. This project will bring many benefits to our region including affordable, clean energy, new jobs, and increased tax revenue. Benton County has a long history of energy development and generation, and I support this new opportunity.

I understand that the project will create hundreds of jobs during construction, as well as long-term family-wage positions once the facility begins operations. Further, the developer estimates that property tax revenues over the life of the project will generate millions of dollars for the local community. Under current allocations, the largest proportion of those funds would support local schools.

Please help us make these opportunities a reality by supporting the Horse Heaven Wind Farm.

Respectfully,

Bruce Kerr
1612 W 8th Pl
Kennewick, WA 99336

From: [Francisco Elquezabal](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Haven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 10:47:03 AM

Public Comment #0110
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

My name is Cisco and I'm in support of the Horse Haven Hills Wind Farm project. This would create many family wage jobs for local residents here ok n Benton County.

From: [DomKathy Sansotta](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Cc: [DomKathy Sansotta](#)
Subject: Comments for March 30, 2021 Land Use Hearing
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 12:28:17 PM
Attachments: [EFSEC Comments.pdf](#)

[Public Comment #0111](#)
[Horse Heaven Wind Farm](#)
[Docket #210011](#)

External Email

The attached comments are provided for the EFSEC March 30 Land Use Hearing for the application submitted by Scout Clean Energy for the Horse Heaven Hill Wind Farm proposed for Benton County, Washington. Your consideration of our comments is most appreciated.

Dom and Kathy Sansotta
Kennewick, WA

Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Project

We are writing to register our opposition to the Horse Heaven Hills wind farm project planned by Scout Clean Energy. We are long-time Kennewick residents who are fortunate to enjoy an unparalleled panoramic view of the Horse Heaven Hills from our home. This view served as a major contributor to our decision to purchase our home in 2017. As we look to the southeast from our home, we can see the wind turbines of the Nine Canyon wind farm and are dismayed as to how they scar the landscape and diminish what was once a serene, majestic view. It serves as a further reminder of how wind turbines have proliferated throughout the Pacific Northwest (PNW). Almost any road trip from the Tri-Cities involves an encounter with a wind or solar farm whether it be through the Columbia Gorge, I-84 east through Pendleton and the Blue Mountains, the vicinity of Ellensburg and Vantage, or a drive to Walla Walla on Hwy. 12. It is sad to see this "pollution" of the landscape on such a large scale.

For the casual, passing observer the sight of hundreds of wind turbines along I-82 from Kennewick to Benton City may not be offensive as they know they will soon pass from view. However, for the many homeowners, such as ourselves, who would be forced to endure a constant view of the wind turbines in their full field of vision it would constitute an egregious assault on our willingness to support other clean energy initiatives in the state. Attached are photos of the view from our backyard and visual renderings extracted from the Scout Clean Energy application that appear most similar to our home view. You can clearly see the degree to which the proposed wind farm would dominate the view from our home.

We do not support the proposed Horse Heaven Hills wind farm or further development of wind power in the PNW. We believe, as stated in the Benton PUD, July 2020 paper, Wind Power and Clean Energy Policy Perspectives, continued investments in large-scale wind farm development in the PNW (*and the substantial cost of the Horse Heaven Hills wind farm*) will: (1) contribute very little to keeping the regional power grid reliable and will not help our local utility, the Benton PUD, solve our seasonal energy deficit problems; (2) contribute to the devaluation of hydro-generation assets and put upward pressure on retail rates the Benton PUD and other utilities charge its customers; (3) risk underinvestment

in needed dispatchable capacity today and future investments in visionary advancements in nuclear energy technology, such as small modular reactors (SMR); and (4) further sacrifice scenic hillsides, canyons and desert vistas in our region for little if any net environmental benefit.

We believe a far better alternative to the continued deployment of wind turbines in our region would be to maintain the existing Columbia Generating Station operations while expanding SMR technology research and development. We believe this will provide a much more efficient, effective and reliable energy approach to meeting our clean energy goals without further marring the scenic beauty of the PNW.

Again, we urge you to deny the Scout Clean Energy application for the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm project and look for other alternatives to further wind turbine development in the PNW.

Sincerely,

Dominic and Kathy Sansotta

6925 W. 23rd Ct.

Kennewick, WA 99338

Attachments: Photos - 4 pages

domkathy@hotmail.com

From: DomKathy Sansotta <domkathy@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 11:50 AM
To: DomKathy Sansotta
Subject: Home views



*View to the Southeast
from our home.*

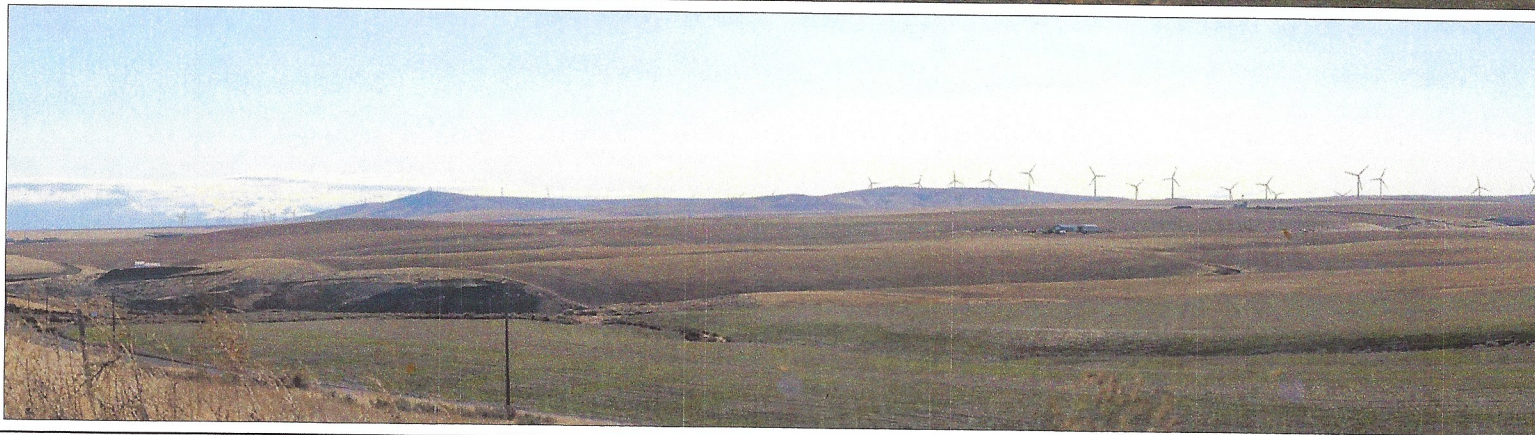
Existing Conditions



Project Simulation Option 1
244 WTG



Project Simulation Option 2
150 WTG



Horse Heaven Wind Project



Figure 2
Representative Viewpoint 2a
Existing Conditions
and Project Simulations

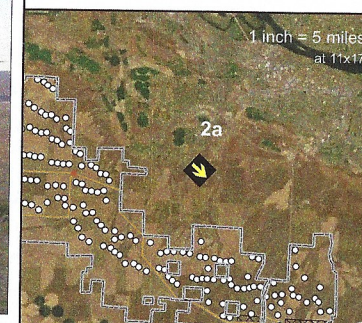
BENTON COUNTY, WA

-  Viewpoint Location and Photo Direction
-  Project Lease Boundary
-  Proposed Turbine Location
-  Proposed Substation
-  Proposed Transmission Line
-  Solar Siting Area

View direction (deg):	132
Horizontal field of view (deg):	57
Vertical field of view (deg):	15
Max. WTGs within field of view:	75 / 38
Max. Visible WTGs at tip height:	56 / 29
Max. Visible WTGs at hub height:	50 / 24
Closest WTG (mi):	3.9 / 4.8
Furthest WTG (mi):	13.4 / 13.0
Closest Solar Array (mi):	No view
Closest Transmission Line (mi):	No view

To approximate how the project will appear to a viewer in the natural setting, this sheet should be printed at 11 x 17 inches, full size with no scaling, and viewed at 8 inches from the eye. If viewed on a computer monitor, the document should be scaled at 100% and viewed at 8 inches from the eye.

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION





View to the South
From our home.

Existing Conditions
Project Simulation Option 1
244 WTG
Project Simulation Option 2
150 WTG



Horse Heaven Wind Project



Figure 3
Representative Viewpoint 2b
Existing Conditions
and Project Simulations

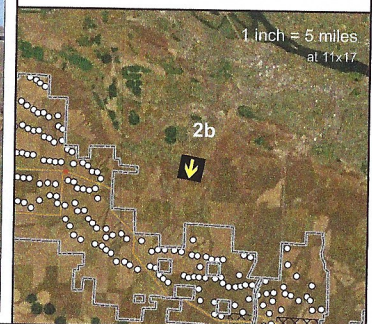
BENTON COUNTY, WA

- Viewpoint Location and Photo Direction
- Project Lease Boundary
- Proposed Turbine Location
- Proposed Substation
- Proposed Transmission Line
- Solar Siting Area

View direction (deg):	189
Horizontal field of view (deg):	57
Vertical field of view (deg):	15
Max. WTGs within field of view:	37 / 19
Max. Visible WTGs at tip height:	36 / 19
Max. Visible WTGs at hub height:	30 / 17
Closest WTG (mi):	3.0 / 3.5
Furthest WTG (mi):	6.2 / 5.9
Closest Solar Array (mi):	No view
Closest Transmission Line (mi):	No view

To approximate how the project will appear to a viewer in the natural setting, this sheet should be printed at 11 x 17 inches, full size with no scaling, and viewed at 8 inches from the eye. If viewed on a computer monitor, the document should be scaled at 100% and viewed at 8 inches from the eye.

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



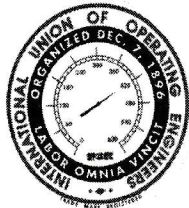
From: [Mike Bosse"](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Cc: [Swanson, Josh \(ESD Partner\); Daren Konopaski](#)
Subject: Docket No. EF-210011
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 12:29:42 PM
Attachments: [IMG_20210319_0002.pdf](#)

Public Comment #0112
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Dear Sonia Bumpus, please accept the attached letter as IUOE Local 302's public comments of support to the EFSEC on the Scout Clean Energy-Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project-Docket No. EF-210011. If you have any questions or wish for further comment, please let me know.

Michael L. Bosse'
Field Rep IUOE Local 302
District 5, Tri-Cities, WA
Cell (509)294-3824



International Union of Operating Engineers
LOCAL 302 • Washington, Idaho and Alaska • AFL-CIO
Daren Konopaski, *Business Manager and General Vice President*

March 19, 2021

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
Attn: Sonia Bumpus, EFSEC Manager
621 Woodland Square Loop
PO Box 43172
Olympia, WA 98501

Submitted Electronically: efsec@utc.wa.gov

Re: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project Comments

Ms. Bumpus:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 302 is in full support of the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project. In addition to the substantial tax incentives and economic stimulus this project would provide to the region, it would also produce a significant number of family wage jobs directly engaged with climate positive work. This is directly correlated with the Governor's priorities on green new jobs as well as an economic catalyst that is vital in response to the current Covid economy.

We'd like to offer a few critical points that are both supportive of the project and responsive to the opponents of this effort.

1. Tax Incentives. This is an ideal project to utilize the Clean Energy tax incentives that were enacted by the state. In addition, there will also likely be federal incentives that will provided additional financial support in ensuring this project is able to capitalize on the expanded economic recovery efforts offered by the government.
2. Sustainable Infrastructure Investment. This new clean energy source will both provided much needed infrastructure capacity to our electrical grid and support various efforts for expanded electrification by the state. The opponents are suggesting that this new power will be sold to California but that is simply not the case.
3. Temporary Construction Employment. Construction is by its nature temporary but what this project does is provide much needed jobs to a struggling economy. Without this project moving forward these "temporary" jobs will not exist leaving a job availability hole and ensuring that more workers are further displaced and prolonged unemployment for the construction industry.

James Garrett, *Financial Secretary* • **Sean Jeffries**, *President* • **Jason Alward**, *Vice President*

18701 120th Avenue NE • Bothell, Washington 98011-9514

Washington Branches: Bellingham • Silverdale • Ellensburg Alaska Branches: Anchorage • Fairbanks •

4. Impact to the Wildlife. This project's placement is optimum for limited to no effect on the wildlife. Allegations of disruptions to migratory bird flight patterns along the Pacific Flyway are speculations as the Pacific Flyway reaches from the Pacific Ocean to the eastern borders of Montana, Wyoming, and Utah.
5. Property Values. This project brings jobs and demands on housing and not depleting values to the housing market. The housing market in this region is already undersupplied and an influx in employment will only increase demand whereby increasing value for the existing housing market.
6. Land Use. The opponents suggest that once the project is built they won't be able to access the land. This is private property that is currently not accessible to the general public.
7. Value for Investment. This project will have a capital investment of more than \$1.7 billion to the Tri-Cities region. Full build out of the project would result in millions of dollars in annual tax revenue. These fees would be retained locally and could be reinvested to support local schools and infrastructure.

Several hundred of our members live and work in the greater Tri-Cities area, and this project will afford many of them the opportunity to work in the area with which they call home. This is a project that is without the environmental consequences that many of the opponents are suggesting.

On behalf of the members of IUOE, Local 302 and their families, I urge you to take whatever actions that are necessary to see this project through to approval. Frankly, this is a project without a downside and with an enormous upside for the residents of the Tri-Cities and the state.

Please feel free to contact me at (509) 294-3824 if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mike Bosse
District 5 Field Representative

From: [Owens, Joan \(UTC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Comment on behalf of Lee from Kennewick on the Horse Heaven Wind Project
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 1:34:16 PM

Public Comment #0113
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

I spoke with Lee on the EFSEC main line a couple times trying to assist him to send an email/submit his comment in writing but he was having trouble and couldn't figure out how to send it so I took his comment over the phone.

His name is Lee, he didn't want to give his last name. He is from Kennewick Washington and will turn 70 in September. He believes wind mills ruin the environment, are an eyesore and he prefers hydrogen, solar or nuclear. He doesn't believe the power is needed and says NO to the Horse Heaven Wind Project.

Thanks,

~Joan Owens

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

Secretary Supervisor

Email: joan.owens@utc.wa.gov

Phone number: (360) 664-1920

EFSEC Email: efsec@utc.wa.gov

EFSEC phone number: (360) 664-1345

Address: 621 Woodland Square Loop SE, Lacey WA 98503-3172

Mailstop/P.O. Box: 43172

www.efsec.wa.gov

From: [GN 21](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Cc: [GN 21](#)
Subject: Don't approve Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project- it is a waste and blight for a greedy Colorado corporation
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 11:42:34 PM

Public Comment #0114
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
State of Washington

I make the following allegations. I'm a resident of Eastern Washington. **Like thousands of other people, I strongly oppose the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project in Benton County. Scout Clean Energy is an out of state Colorado greedy corporation that does not operate any wind farms and they only want to make millions of dollars in quick profit from federal subsidies when they build the "farm"- they don't care about people or animals.** When they realized the people of Benton County and other people nearby strongly oppose the project, they decided to switch gears and not apply to Benton County to permit the project but go to the state instead. This wind farm: would only produce electricity about 26% of the time i.e., not produce electricity 74% of the time, and not when electricity is most needed on very cold winter days and very hot summer days; would create a low-frequency humm sound and vibration that would damage the mental health of people; would have flashing red lights since some of the wind towers will be over 500 feet tall; would waste land; kill birds and endanger other wildlife; would produce high cost electricity and in effect be a regressive tax on low income household people; and, would contribute to an unstable electric grid. As the best means to produce reliable low cost electricity for all, the State of Washington should support the Columbia and Snake River Dams which are renewable and clean, and support nuclear power which does not emit greenhouse gases. WE DON'T WANT THESE WIND TURBINES. DON'T APPROVE AND PERMIT THE PROJECT. IT IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER IN THE MAKING.

If you like wind turbines, then locate them in Western Washington in Puget Sound and Seattle where most of the population resides, and you will see firsthand the many negatives of them [e.g., how they endanger wildlife including killer whales, how they blight the landscape, etc.].

From: [Richard Yrjanson](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Benton county Commissioners meeting on Scout App.
Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021 8:26:32 AM

Public Comment #0115
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

This is an article in the Tri-City Herald of a meeting on the Scout Application and my input being one of speakers which I would like to have entered into the record. Thank You

Richard E. Yrjanson
5207 W. 14th Ave
Kennewick WA 99338

509-783-2994

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



Tri-City Herald file

Union officials say a wind farm project proposed for south of Kennewick could mean temporary jobs for 1,000 workers. This 2002 file photo shows a wind turbine blade being lifted into place on another project.

Opponents line up at meeting to fight large wind farm project

BY ANNETTE CARY
acary@tricityherald.com

KENNEWICK, WA

A huge wind farm planned to stretch along the Horse Heaven Hills just south of the Tri-Cities would be a blight on the community, speaker after speaker said Tuesday at a town hall meeting.

Scout Clean Energy of Colorado has applied to the state of Washington for a permit to build the Horse Heaven Wind Farm project, which would include wind, solar and battery storage.

Although the Benton County Commission only has input into a state decision on whether to allow the project, it held a public meeting in Kennewick to gather

public opinion before commissioners submit comments to the Washington state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council.

The council and Gov. Jay Inslee have final say over the project.

About 80% of the speakers were opposed the project at the town hall meeting, with 44 signed up to speak in person and others calling in comments.

They used terms like "atrocious," "eyesore" and "grotesque." One woman came with a poster board saying the Horse Heaven Hills would need to be renamed the Horse Hell Hills.

Those who supported the project were mostly union members and officials, who said they spoke for many more than just themselves, who wanted the construction jobs the project would bring and then the limited number of maintenance jobs during the project's operation.

A representative of Laborers' Local 348 in Richland said the

SEE WIND, 7A

FROM PAGE 1A

WIND

project would give jobs to more than 1,000 construction workers.

"It's great for working men and women in our community," he said.

Scout Clean Energy is considering two options.

One would have 244 turbines standing up to almost 500 feet tall over about 10 square miles of the total 112 square miles to be used for the project.

The other option would be to install fewer, but taller, turbines. There would be 150 turbines standing up to 670 feet tall.

'SHOULD BE APPALLED'

"I understand the importance of green energy, but to have these massive towers right in our backyard is an atrocity in my opinion," said Matt Malin, a mechanical engineer, who lives two miles south of the Tri-Cities southern urban growth boundary.

The urban growth area covers the area where the Tri-Cities, Benton City and Prosser expect to grow over the next 20 years.

The leased land for the wind farms stretches along about 24 miles from south of Finley to south of Benton City.

"This project is not just in our urban growth area, it is our growth area," said Barry Bush, a Benton County Public Utility District commissioner, who said he was not representing the PUD at the meeting.

The PUD has opposed building more wind farms in Benton County, but has not taken a stand on this project.

"If you are a Realtor or a builder you should be appalled," Bush said.

People are not going to want to buy homes that look out at wind turbines and it will not help the area's tourism industry, he said.

However, Scout Clean Energy said its project would be on land outside of the urban growth area that is designated for agriculture use.

Benton County officials said that if the 244 wind turbine option is pursued, more than 200 turbines

would be visible from some areas, some of them to the north of the project.

While the industrialization of the skyline to the south of the Tri-Cities would endure for decades, the local community would see little benefit, several people said.

Scout Clean Energy, the landowners and construction workers who get short-term jobs would benefit, said Doug Fearing of Kennewick, who has lived in Benton County for 72 years.

"We get to look at these things. That is what we get to do," he said.

He called the many wind turbines he sees when he drives to Portland and Walla Walla "butt ugly."

Others said they were concerned by the shadow flicker on nearby residents as the turbines rotate and also the night lighting required by the Federal Aviation Administration.

One person described the flickering red lights from another wind farm that she sees in the dark from her family's cabin in the Blue Mountains.

POWER GENERATION NEEDS

Several people said they expected power generated by the project to be sent south to California or possibly to the west side of Washington.

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council projects a need for 8,000 more megawatts by 2030 as demand rises and more than 4,400 megawatts of coal-fired and hydroelectric power generation is retired.

But Bush said Horse Heaven Wind Farm turbines would not provide a local benefit because more electricity is needed on the hottest and coldest days of the year when the wind is not blowing.

The energy complex would produce only 30% of its stated capacity and would need to be backed up with hydroelectric dams and nuclear plants that generate electricity more reliably, said Richard Yrjanson of Richland.

The project, including wind and solar, would have a generating capacity of up to 1,150 megawatts. At full capacity that is about the power required by a city the size of Seat-

tle.

Yrjanson called the project "a very expensive way to generate quite unreliable electricity."

MULTI-GENERATION FARMS

David Kobus, project manager for the Horse Heaven Wind Farm, said after the meeting that power production is an export economy, not unlike the wheat grown in the area and exported now.

Much of the land proposed for the project is now used for dryland wheat production and grazing.

"These property owners have the right to seek the fullest economic use of the land that has been in their families for generations," he told the county commissioners during the meeting.

Several people said that there were better uses of the land than wind and solar power production.

One person said the proposed project was just too big and too close to the Tri-Cities.

But Kobus said Scout Clean Energy picked the site based on factors such as being close to adequate transmission capacity and being near markets for the power.

Purchasers for the power have yet to be identified, with the project not yet having permits or starting construction.

Kobus said issues with turbine shadow flicker had been worked out on a one-by-one basis with the owners of the limited number of properties that could be affected.

The project, planned over two phases would generate almost \$20 million in property tax revenue during its first full year of operation, according to an economic impact analysis commissioned by Scout Clean Energy.

Over 35 years of operation, the project would pay nearly \$260 million in property taxes, much of that going to local schools, according to the company.

WASHINGTON STATE MEETING

Tri-Cities area residents and others will have a second chance to comment at a land use hearing before the Washington state Energy Facility Site

Evaluation Council at 5 p.m. March 30.

People will be allowed to comment on all issues surrounding the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Farm, according to the agency.

It will be held online via Skype at

bit.ly/EFSECmeetingHH and also will have telephone access at 360-407-3810. The meeting ID is 6702140#.

Officials will be available to answer questions from 5 to 5:30 p.m., followed by a presentation and then a public hearing.

To sign up to comment call 360-664-1345 before the meeting or email efsec@utc.wa.gov. Comments also may be emailed to that address.

Annette Cary:
509-582-1533,
@HanfordNews



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Richard E. Yrjanson Retired

5207 W. 14th Ave

Kennewick, WA 99338

Phone:509-783-2994 email dyrjanson@hotmail.com

County Commissioners and related agencies

Scout Clean Energy taken over by Quinbrook a global investment manager located In England I believe, as such it appears that any revenue collected after taking tax advantages and other government write offs, which was set to end this year will be extended by the present elected party and the “green” party of this state.

I am against the approval of the Scout Wind, Solar, and Battery Storage Complex being approved. It is not needed for the following reason:

1. It only produces 30 % of its stated capacity (1,150 megawatts) it is not able to provide peak services and needs backup by dams, nuclear, etc. We are paying extra cost for our elec. Bills due to the low performance. Our taxes also increased due to subsidies and tax benefits Scout enjoys. “A very expensive way to generate quite unreliable electricity.”
2. Visual eye pollution: You can’t drive 180 miles without seeing the 400 foot towers: “ we worked hard to eliminate bill boards near the highways, and we replaced them with wind generators”.

3. Winds unpredictability means it truly has no generating capacity value. Wind is simply an additional capital cost which increases the cost to the rate payer twice as much.

4. We are here today to discuss wind power, costs, reliability, and other critical approval processes. The minute we begin to fear the opinions of others and hesitate to tell the truth that is in us, and from motives of policy are silent when we should speak, the divine floods of light and life no longer flow into our souls. And I THANK YOU for the opportunity to speak.

From: [Donnie Dean](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021 11:37:33 AM

Public Comment #0116
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Anyone trying to shortcut the legal process is up to no good. The process is what it is for a reason.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dori Rhynalds](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Object to wind farm!
Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021 12:16:59 PM

Public Comment #0117
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am a resident of Benton County and I vehemently opposed putting the wind farms on Horse Haven Hills. This is a beautiful area and is part of our beloved and growing wine industry. The amount of chemical and materials used to make wind tunnels (which don't produce much power and are unreliable when its not windy) is not worth it- there are better ways of exploiting / adding clean energy (try nuclear!).

Meanwhile, this proposal is very selfish on the part of the West Side. Clearly they would not allow this to happen in their precious views. How about putting this at the top of Tiger Mountain on the Eastside? Obviously wont happen, not in your backyard....

We in Eastern WA need to have our voices heard. Governor Inslee, we vehemently don't want this!

Regards,
Dori Rhynalds
Benton County, WA

Sent from iDori Pad

From: [Fran Zelikovsky](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: wind project
Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021 2:26:41 PM

Public Comment #0118
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

It would be abhorrent to have those ugly wind turbines marring the landscape and the horizon for Tri City citizens. Please defeat this proposed plan. Fran Zelikovsky Richland, Wa. 99352

From: [Jocelyn Peterman](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heavens Windmills
Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:38:01 PM

Public Comment #0119
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To whom it concerns,

Please do NOT support the Horse Heavens Windmill project. This is lining the pockets of a very few with little benefit to all. Additionally, this is not suitable for this area to be looking at more windmills on our residential skyline. No where in Washington state are windmills present in sight of a metropolitan area other than south Kennewick. Quite frankly I'm appalled every time I look south and that's it's now even being considered adding more. The existing windmills should be torn down and moved. The proposed wind mills can be sited elsewhere period. Use common sense.

Alan and Jocelyn Peterman
Kennewick

From: [Rocky Smith](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Opposition to Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:39:27 PM

Public Comment #0120
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am adamantly opposed to the proposed wind farm for a litany of reasons. I won't list them all for brevity. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Rocky Ross
1820 Road 60
Pasco, WA. 99301
Sent from my iPhone

From: steve@sporthausnw.com
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout Energy Turbines
Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:42:16 PM

Public Comment #0121
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am opposed to the Scout Clean Energy wind turbine project near Kennewick Washington. We do not need this massive eye soars on our horizon. Look what happened in Texas. When you need their energy in cold conditions they failed.

Regards
Steve McConnell

Sporthaus
326 N. Columbia Ctr. Blvd.
Kennewick, WA 99336
steve@sporthausnw.com



From: lanirock@charter.net
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:43:14 PM

Public Comment #0122
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am strongly opposed to the proposed wind farm for many reasons. Please do NOT approve this project. Thank you.

Lannie Smith
1820 N. Road 60
Pasco, WA 99301

From: [Chris Powers](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind Turbine Project
Date: Sunday, March 21, 2021 12:39:22 PM

Public Comment #0123
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this e-mail to express my opposition to the proposed wind turbine project being considered along the Horse Heaven Hills above the Tri-Cities. This project would install over 200 turbines on 20+ miles of a prominent ridgeline in full view of virtually every Tri-City resident, including myself. The Tri-Cities is a long way from the significant load center along the I-5 corridor purportedly driving the need for this project. In my view such a project, if economically viable, should be located in close proximity to the load. If the turbines are deemed acceptable aesthetically for the residents of the Tri-Cities, then they should also be equally acceptable to residents of Puget Sound. If not, choose an off-shore site below the horizon. Proximity to load is a far more important criterion for siting than the perceived lower risk in receiving siting approval due to the need to convince a smaller, less "sophisticated" population "from the east side" to accept the project. Do not propose turbine installation in this area without first installing the necessary number of actual load driven turbines (not subsidy-driven projects) in Puget Sound.

Respectfully,
Chris Powers
509-554-1968

From: [surfingmiller](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout Clean Energy Plan -- Comment
Date: Sunday, March 21, 2021 2:00:33 PM

Public Comment #0124
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

The words below were included in today's Tri-City Herald editorial regarding the Scout Clean Energy Plan, and I think similar words were expressed in a local meeting held recently for residents of the area to provide input to this plan:

“To Tri-Citians, the Horse Heaven Hills are a special scenic area.”

As a Tri-Citian of about 49 years, I would not say that I consider these hills to be a special scenic area. I don't know how broadly held the Tri-City Herald's editorial opinion is. I personally do not have a problem with the Scout Clean Energy Plan for locating windmills, solar panels, and a battery storage facility in the planned area.

From: [Richard Yrjanon](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Sunday Paper Tri-City Herald Article Editorial Board Enter into hearing on Horse Heaven Hills Application
Date: Sunday, March 21, 2021 4:02:57 PM
Attachments: [60340A550500418491135170F5B61356.png](#)

Public Comment #0125
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

On wind turbine plan, Inslee should listen to Tri-Cities

BY THE TRI-CITY HERALD
EDITORIAL BOARD

The thought of turning our beloved Horse Heaven Hills into a pin cushion for massive wind turbines breaks the hearts of most Tri-Citians.

Yet, in the end, will our sadness be a factor when Gov. Jay Inslee decides whether to approve Scout Clean Energy's application for its wind project?

That's the big question. Inslee is known for his clean-energy goals, and while we support fighting climate change and reducing carbon emissions, many of us in Eastern Washington are tired of feeling like we're the sacrificial spot for that agenda.

We realize wind projects are bound to be built in our state, but must a project of this magnitude

be constructed so close to a major population center?

And, we might add, it's a population center that relies heavily on the wine industry and the tourism that it brings. Beautiful vineyards, rolling hills and spectacular vistas are what bring people to Tri-Cities' wine country.

No one will be impressed by a skyline scarred by monolithic structures. More wind turbines will most certainly ruin the view.

At a two-hour public hearing held with Benton County commissioners Tuesday, citizens complained repeatedly that the turbines would be an eyesore and an atrocity in our backyard.

As discussion of this project moves forward, we would like to remind the governor that there is a precedent for heavily

weighing the affect wind turbines have on a scenic landscape.

In 2004, the Whistling Ridge Energy Project would have placed wind turbines on a prominent ridgeline near the town of White Salmon, a community along the Columbia River.

While not in the boundaries of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the proposed wind farm was near the line.

Opposition to the plan was fierce, and in the end Washington state decided the project must be scaled down, which eventually led project managers to abandon the plan altogether.

The arguments against the Whistling Ridge wind project were that it would "mar world-class scenery" with "little to no benefit to

the state of Washington's citizens," according to the Friends of the Columbia Gorge. It also would "harm the local tourism economy and negatively affect property values in surrounding communities."

Sounds a lot like the same arguments Tri-Citians are making.

The Friends of the Columbia Gorge also say that: "Icons of the Pacific Northwest, like the Columbia River Gorge, Mount Rainier, and the Olympic Mountains, should be off-limits to large-scale energy development. We can combat climate change without having to sacrifice our most special places and our core values."

We completely agree. Eastern Washington is not devoid of natural beauty. To Tri-Citians, the

Horse Heaven Hills are a special scenic area. Why should it be valued any less than other remarkable sites in Washington state?

To add to the concern, the wind turbines planned by Scout Clean Energy are massive. The Colorado-based company is considering two options — and both include wind turbines comparable to the height of the Seattle Space Needle, where the observation deck is at 520 feet.

One proposal puts 244 turbines at almost 500 feet tall over about 10 square miles. The other option would be to install 150 turbines at 670 feet tall. The leased farm land for the project stretches about 24 miles from south of Finley to the south of Benton City.

If the application were up to Benton County officials, it likely would be dead on arrival. At the public hearing, Commissioners Shon Small and Will McKay voiced opposition to it before the meeting even started.

But the decision won't

be made at the local level.

Scout Clean Energy has filed its application with the Washington state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council instead.

Company officials claimed the scale and scope of the project would create a burden on county staff, but to Tri-Citians it feels like an end-run around the local community.

The final decision on whether to allow the project will be decided by the evaluation council and Inslee. The state council plans its own public hearing on the Scout Clean Energy plan on Tuesday, March 30. To register to comment, call 360-664-1345 before the meeting or email efsec@utc.wa.gov.

And then hope that council officials and Gov. Jay Inslee pay attention and truly listen to local input.

The views of the citizens who will be most affected by their decision should not be easily dismissed.

From: [June Killmer](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind turbines in Tri Cities
Date: Sunday, March 21, 2021 4:12:44 PM

Public Comment #0126
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

The TriCities does NOT want turbines in the Horse Heaven Hills. Keep them on the West side of the state....there is plenty of wind off the ocean! This area has worked very hard over many years to build the “wine country” tourism industry. This has been a financial diversification from Hanford, plus it brings in substantial taxes and recognition to the State. Looking at massive turbines all along the ridge line of this “vineyard focused” topography is simply appalling!

There is a lot of nothing between Connell and Spokane....look there or keep them on the West side of this state.....the East side is primarily agricultural based!!

June Killmer

Sent from my iPad

From: [Elinor WOEHLER](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Sunday, March 21, 2021 6:45:10 PM

Public Comment #0127
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Please do not build the proposed wind farm. Our local area is not in need of additional energy. We do not want wind turbines on our hills. I strongly urge you to reject the wind farms.

Elinor Woehler

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kay Sisson](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind farm proposal SE WA
Date: Sunday, March 21, 2021 7:45:39 PM

Public Comment #0128
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to express my opposition to the Scout Clean Energy Wind Farm proposal for the Horse Heaven Hills area. This area is not optimal for wind energy; it would replace renewable energy; it would be unsightly (they would no longer be the Horse Heavens, or anyone else's heaven).

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Sisson

6306 W 16th Ave

Kennewick, WA 99338

509 735-7475

From: jantkids@aol.com
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Windfarm
Date: Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:01:13 PM

Public Comment #0129
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am a citizen of Richland, WA in Benton County and I am writing to OPPOSE the Horse Heaven Hills Windfarm proposed by Scout Clean Energy. First their name is not even what they represent, as the tremendous carbon foot print this windfarm will have is NOT clean. It takes a large amount of fossil fuel to transport these pieces to the final resting spot, a tremendous amount of cement that will be trucked in with fossil fuel, and a life span that has no appropriate way for disposal of the lithium storage batteries, amount of concrete and the blades and other parts of the structure. Second they have not been honest about where the energy will go, since we do not need energy in our area it will go to Seattle or CA and there is no question about that. Third, the impact report is not honest and has outright lies in it in regards to the birds, first these windmills proposed will be as tall as the Space Needle. They are right in the path of migratory birds flyway and to count dead birds on the ground even in a week period is completely inaccurate as the wild life, ie coyotes eat the carcasses so they will not have an accurate count unless some one counted every single morning by sun up, which would only happen AFTER they are built and that will be a travesty for raptors, hawks, falcons, and sandhill cranes that are known to frequent the hills south of Kennewick. This is not a good solution for our area to have to limit it's urban growth, wine industry and travel so California and Seattle can have some electricity. I have heard there are many reports about what will happen in the area in regards to affecting humans and wildlife from the windmills, but have no first hand knowledge of that, but what I do know is that they will bring in skilled labor from outside of this area, as I know people travel to work on windfarms. So the economic impact may have some short term benefit, but in the long term the financial impact I believe has been way over exaggerated in order to sell their idea to our county and state. The impact for 50 years into the future for a lack of growth in our travel, winery and growth will impact far more than a few hundreds of thousands of tax dollars revenue for what they have proposed.

Please, deny this request for this permit.

Thank you,

Janice & Stephen Taylor
720 Shockley Rd
Richland, WA 99352

From: [Drew, Kathleen \(UTC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: Makeup of the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
Date: Sunday, March 21, 2021 11:29:20 PM

Public Comment #0130
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Wayne Slater <cozeehome@yahoo.com>
Date: March 21, 2021 at 12:04:01 PM PDT
Subject: Makeup of the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
To: Drew, Kathleen (UTC) <kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov>

External Email

Ms Drew:

In an effort to become more informed concerning the proposed Horse Heaven Hills wind energy project in Benton county and the role the Council plays in approving the project, it would be helpful to know the makeup of the Council. Could you provide the names of the current Council members and the organizations or constituencies they represent, or refer me to a location I might find this information?

Thank you

H. Wayne Slater

215 Enterprise Dr.

Richland, WA 99354

From: [Melanie Gould](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout Clean Energy Wind Turbines
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 9:32:57 AM

Public Comment #0131
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Governor Jay Inslee,

My family reside in the Tri-City area, Prosser and West Richland. All voted for you, yes in right wing Benton county. It is time to please listen and represent the individuals in this area regarding the Scout Clean Energy application/plan to place wind turbines in the Horse Heaven Hills. The wind turbines will destroy the beautiful view, both during the day and at night. When recently returning from Walla Walla at night, all in the vehicle were horrified with the Blinking Red Lights coming from wind turbines, let alone the day time total disruption of the fantastic view and natural landscape. Please deny this application. The wildlife affected will be extensive, the wind turbines cannot be allowed. My view from our home is the Horse Heaven Hills, I would not trade it for the world. I understand the West Side individuals loving the green trees, mountains, and Puget Sound. **LIKEWISE**, the people living on the East Side greatly value the our OPEN landscape, the multiple bird species (bald eagles, hawks, and additional wildlife. You represent all individuals in Washington State. Please listen to our voices and the voices of the Benton County officials.

Sincerely,
Melanie Gould RNC
Benton County
Prosser Washington

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

From: [Melanie Gould](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: Scout Clean Energy Wind Turbines
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 9:35:18 AM

Public Comment #0132
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Melanie Gould <melaniesgould@gmail.com>
Date: March 22, 2021 at 8:41:16 AM PDT
To: ofsec@utc.wa.gov
Subject: Scout Clean Energy Wind Turbines

Governor Jay Inslee,
My family reside in the Tri-City area, Prosser and West Richland. All voted for you, yes in right wing Benton county. It is time to please listen and represent the individuals in this area regarding the Scout Clean Energy application/plan to place wind turbines in the Horse Heaven Hills. The wind turbines will destroy the beautiful view, both during the day and at night. When recently returning from Walla Walla at night, all in the vehicle were horrified with the Blinking Red Lights coming from wind turbines, let alone the day time total disruption of the fantastic view and natural landscape. Please deny this application. The wildlife affected will be extensive, the wind turbines cannot be allowed. My view from our home is the Horse Heaven Hills, I would not trade it for the world. I understand the West Side individuals loving the green trees, mountains, and Puget Sound. LIKEWISE, the people living on the East Side greatly value the our OPEN landscape, the multiple bird species (bald eagles, hawks, and additional wildlife. You represent all individuals in Washington State. Please listen to our voices and the voices of the Benton County officials.

Sincerely,
Melanie Gould RNC
Benton County
Prosser Washington

Sent from my iPad

From: [Ed Koellermeier](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse heaven wind
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 10:55:15 AM

Public Comment #0133
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I object to planned wind farm

From KOELLYS iPhone

From: [Andrew Gallatin](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: I support the Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 11:07:59 AM

Public Comment #0134
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To Whom It May Concern,

I support the Horse Heaven Wind Farm proposed in Benton County just south of the Tri-Cities. This project will bring many benefits to our region including affordable, clean energy, new jobs, and increased tax revenue. Benton County has a long history of energy development and generation, and I support this new opportunity.

I understand that the project will create hundreds of jobs during construction, as well as long-term family-wage positions once the facility begins operations. Further, the developer estimates that property tax revenues over the life of the project will generate millions of dollars for the local community. Under current allocations, the largest proportion of those funds would support local schools.

Please help us make these opportunities a reality by supporting the Horse Heaven Wind Farm.

Respectfully,

Andrew Gallatin
3001 Riverbend Dr
Richland, WA 99354

From: [Karen Richardson](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: Wind Farm Town Hall Comments
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 4:27:48 PM

Public Comment #0135
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Karen R.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karen Richardson <zimbaz2910@gmail.com>
Date: March 15, 2021 at 11:45:45 AM PDT
Subject: Fwd: Wind Farm Town Hall Comments

Karen R.

zimbaz2910@gmail.com

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karen Richardson <zimbaz2910@gmail.com>
Date: March 15, 2021 at 11:41:37 AM PDT
To: Commissioners@co.benton.wa.us
Subject: Wind Farm Town Hall Comments

Karen R.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Karen Richardson <zimbaz2910@gmail.com>
Date: March 14, 2021 at 1:04:01 PM PDT
To: efsec@utc.wa.gov
Subject: Save Our Ridges

To Whom It May Concern,

As a neighbor in this area, I am definitely OPPOSED to this HUGE WIND TURBINE FARM!!!! We moved to our home with an older and younger generation because it was a place with wide , open spaces. Clean air and less traffic!! We love the migratory birds that fly over head and less noise pollution!! Not everyone wants to live on top of each other like in the big cities!!

We will not be able to use the energy developed by these turbines!!!!!!

I'm not opposed to Green Energy. What do you call Hydro-Electricity?? We use our energy generated by the dams on our rivers, the Columbia and Snake, and from the Nuclear power developed at the Hanford Nuclear reservation which I believe should be reintroduced here because we embrace it instead of opposing it!!! Our Benton County PUD opposes these wind farms also!!! You could move this WIND FARM to other OPEN spaces where there aren't any homes, but this area is the ONLY SPACE LEFT FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO GO!!!

There are new homes being built out here right now!!

This is the only space left for Kennewick to build homes, raise families, and generate a Bigger Tax Base!!! No one will move here because of the sheer SIZE of these turbines! They're not exactly small!!!! !!PLEASE

DON'T SIGN THAT PERMIT FOR SCOUT CLEAN ENERGY!!!

AND PLEASE LOOK FOR OTHER UNPOPULATED AREAS FOR THESE TURBINES!!!

THANK YOU!

Karen R.

From: [Glen Daily](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout Energy Proposed Wind Farm in E. WA.
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 5:14:30 PM

Public Comment #0136
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

My husband and I are very strongly opposed to the Scout Energy Wind Farm project. Scout has sidestepped input from the community and filed with the EFSEC. We understand this is their right but it demonstrates a total disregard for our community. We believe they knew their project would be very ill received here in our area and chose what we consider to be as a cowardly, quick and dirty route. It's quite obvious that our opinion is irrelevant to them. Is this really the kind of business you will choose to do business with?

As was stated repeatedly at the Benton County Town Hall, the damage will be irreparable in so many ways. As we look to address future energy needs of our region there are numerous alternatives to wind turbines, all of which are much more acceptable in our community.

We sincerely request that you listen to our communities- both Benton and Franklin Counties and deny the Scout Energy Project.

Thank you.

Cheryl and Glen Daily
509-440-2141

From: [Heidi Heineman](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse heaven wind turbine project
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 5:20:46 PM

Public Comment #0137
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Please read my letter to those attending the March 30th meeting.

This projected wind farm does absolutely nothing positive for the Horse Heaven Hills and surrounding areas of Eastern Washington. All the generated power and green savings credits are going to Western Washington. Why is that?

Eastern Washington Resident will not receive any reduced rates of electricity. Eastern Washington residents will however be plunged into another unfair crisis without any area representation. Again, why is that? Everyone on the voting board is from Western Washington. No one from Eastern Washington.

How is this even allowed? People from Western Washington are to decide our views, our landscapes our values based on their consumption of energy? Western Washington residents are given the opportunity to rape and pillage our Horse Heaven Hills with no consequence. Instead they get green credits and consume even more power.

If western Washington needs power and wants wind turbines - then cut down some of their precious trees and put these turbine on the foothills of the Cascades or Olympics.

This is a extreme example of why there is such a divide between Western and Eastern Washington. The governor needs to step in and realize this is nothing but Wrong Wrong Wrong.

Why are Eastern Washington Residents not given a voice? Representation? Why was the developer able to circumvent the application process to their advantage?

The Horse Heaven Hills are not sale. They are an ever-changing steppe landscape with steep ravines and jagged canyons. The original wildlife was ravaged by hunters. The Wild bison is gone. A few wild horses and pronghorn remain.

Stop this wind farm. It is not a farm. A farm produces a product that is available to all. This "wind farm" is a political earthquake. Shake it off. Not in Eastern Washington!!!!

All the Best,
Heidi Heineman
Benefits Account
Coord. Specialist
Aflac -WA OR CA ID
206 940 2042

From: [Brandy Scott](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Project
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 5:36:51 PM

Public Comment #0138
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To whom it may concern,

Please consider our opposition to this project. We are Benton County (Kennewick) voters.

Thank you,
Jon and Brandy Scott

From: [Karen Richardson](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 6:18:53 PM

Public Comment #0139
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I emphatically am opposed to the Scout "Clean" Energy Wind Farm! I live directly in the view of the proposed facility!

Right now I look out my window and see beautiful views. Rolling hills and fields that used to be farmland filled with birds; Eagles, Cooper Hawks, Redtailed Hawk, which has an endangered mating area attached, Sandhill cranes, doves, pheasants and more. Also deer, coyotes and Badgers of course!! Now the farmers are tilling up the land and replacing brown fields with houses! Wide open views that new people can enjoy!

The Scout Energy Farm would be mingling in and out of new homes! How can that work? These turbines leak oil and catch fire. This area is always fighting wild sagebrush fires that happen mostly from lightning storms!! The land I live on caught fire before we built our home. Burnt the whole hillside from Badger Canyon to Clodfelter rd. all the way to Locust rd. The exact area the wind farm would be. I sat and watched lightning strikes start huge land scorching fires!!! A BIG REASON why it's sparsely populated!

What happens if one of these turbines catch's fire? We aren't going to let that happen without lawsuits and litigation for years!! Do they have fantastic insurance???

This area is also prone to HUGE AMOUNTS OF SNOW!! Some times 18-20 ft. of snow that succumbs to HUGE SNOW DRIFTS! It's drifted to the point roads get closed all the way to the Columbia Gorge!! Semi-trucks have tried to get thru and gotten disabled and have needed rescuing from our community. Our temperatures have dropped to 15 degrees and below. Look at what happened to the Texas countryside! Just because our maps say we're a desert arid area, doesn't mean we don't have frigid winters!

There are MANY REASONS TO REJECT THOS FARM!!! Logistical Reasons are that this is the wrong place for the wind turbine farm!!!!!!

Karen R.

Karen R.

From: [Mark Wilk](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: How does this project benefit the local folks?
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 7:35:15 PM

Public Comment #0140
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

The below statement was provided by the HOA:

The project is expected to generate almost \$20 million in property taxes during its first full year of operation. Over the 35-year planned operation of the project, about \$260 million in property taxes would be paid, according to Scout Clean Energy.

This is a vague statement. **Will my property taxes be lower? I would like verification in writing.**

I also understand that this region power sources already meet, in surplus, this area power needs. It is intended for other areas of those who suck the marrow of others because they are unwilling to bear their burden.

Will my **electric rate be lower? I would like verification in writing.**

In addition, how does this meet the Biden administration stated DOE goal of environmental justice?

Based on the Biden administration golden rule of environmental justice, how is justice meet for this community?

Is the Biden DOJ / EPA / DOE aware of your apparent violation??

I would like verification in writing how this proposed project is in alignment with Biden administration directives.

Failure to provide written verification means the provided statements are propaganda.

There is an iconic phrase from the 1980's, "Where's the beef?" How does this project benefit me and my neighbors? Why isn't this farm in Beaverton, OR? Or Bainbridge, WA?

Mark A. Wilk
wilkm@uw.edu
(682) 220-3584

From: [brian.severson](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Against Horse Heaven Hills Wind farm
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 8:12:34 PM

Public Comment #0141
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To whom it concerns,

I have lived in the badger canyon area if the tri cities for the last 10 years. I have a gorgeous view of the horse heaven hills from my door step.

I want to voice my opposition for a project that has limited short term benefits to the local community, but ling term repercussions.

The projected capacity factor is only 30 percent. As such the carbon free energy gained us negligible, especially when you account for the the fact that peak energy consumption periods are when the wind is at the lightest, mid summer, and mid winter.

The wind mills we be a blight on an outdoor oriented community that depends on the wine and tourism industry.

Sincerely
Brian Severson

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Lia Minelli](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Opposed to the Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 8:20:25 PM

Public Comment #0142
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Hello Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

This letter is to emphasize my opposition to the Horse Heaven Wind Farm as a homeowner and resident of the tri cities. Having grown up in Richland then attended the Univ of Washington and now back in the tri cities as an owner of 4 residential properties, it's disheartening to see a wind farm proposed and allowed to impact our beautiful tri cities ridges, which will have a major impact on property values for residents in the area. Why would we as a state and a community allow such a misstep for property owners, locals, and the value of their real estate? Please help.

Lia Minelli McClure

From: [Scott Pettitt](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Haven Wind Project
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 11:03:12 PM

Public Comment #0143
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Greetings,

It still amazes me that our state is willing to use subsidized energy projects that due not provide a reliable source of energy to enrich the 1% elite with these subsidized projects.

Science has shown that a wind platform creates a huge carbon footprint, is unreliable, creates massive toxic emission in the production of the magnets (in China of course so we don't have to acknowledge it), and takes more than 260 times the land footprint of a nuclear plant that has no toxic emissions.

In fact if we got away from the lobbyist and high dollar nuclear plants and started using Thorium Sulfide nuclear plants like the Germans used during WWII, we would have extremely cheap energy with a nuclear source that is so safe that if a problem occurred you could dump it on the ground without any adverse environmental or public health effect. Such plants have been promoted by the Alliance of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers but are ignored because of low profit margins for government contractors who want o build the more complex reactors with all the required safety measures.

Anyhow, I oppose all wind projects in Washington and in all the US as theft. If you can build these projects and create require revenue without ANY subsidy then fine. If you use any subsidy, then you are a thief, stealing money from other citizens where wind farms will never be used to enrich power companies here. Theft is Theft.

I will consult with my law firm to determine best way to initiate a class action law suit to recover subsidized money here, and potentially throughout the US from all wind power producers. I spend a little, it costs you millions. Don't build a wind farm in my back yard. Keep them FAR away from cities. Don't use subsidies.....that makes the CEO, entire board of directors, and stockholders thieves. If it can't stand alone without subsidies it doesn't make economic sense. (Wind and Solar farms are, currently, until technology advances, a loss to the taxpayer).

Give it some time. When storage system technology advances, then that may be the time.

Let true economic principles guide development. Don't steal from the taxpayers. I, and all I know, consider the developers of wind power projects in WA and elsewhere to be immoral people. Change your ways.

Regards,

Scott Pettitt

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Mike and Judi Dahl](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven hills wind farms
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 7:35:39 AM

Public Comment #0144
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am writing you regarding the proposed wind farms near Kennewick, Washington. I have done research and have seen the eyesore these enormous wind farms are doing to our beautiful landscapes, wildlife, and native plants. The cost is outrageous for what little energy they produce,. I have lived in Richland for over sixty-three years and continue to live here for the beauty of our surrounding hills, sunrises, and sunsets. I travel throughout the Pacific Northwest and see what these hideous wind turbine farms are doing to our once beautiful landscapes. It saddens me and my family of how many migratory birds they kill each year. Do your research on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services website and do the right thing PLEASE!

NO TO THE HORSE HEAVEN WIND FARMS.

Judi Dahl
509-554-3103
Richland, WA

From: [Paul Cardelli](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Con: HHH Wind Farm - March 30th
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 7:40:36 AM

Public Comment #0145
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

This is in regards to the Horse Haven Wind farm project being proposed by the non-Washington firm Scout Clean Energy.

Objections

- no local PUD needs their power “they already said NO”, they have Washington State based energy company’s already working on plans for clean carbon power generation.
- will negatively impact the landscape for 30 plus years for the region, and will only be running when the wind blows and there is demand. Currently there is no contract to buy the power locally.
- power will likely be transported out of state and not used locally.
- migratory birds travel through this region at the same times the farm would be operational which is during season changes killing endangered fowl.
- would result in unreliable power assumptions from a company that does not understand our unique power needs and challenges.
- would complicate local energy planning already in process by local generation providers, BPA, and PUDs.

Please refuse to approve project related to the Horde Haven Wind Project.

Best Regards

Paul Cardelli
24905 S Clodfelter Rd
Kennewick WA 99338

Ph 509-987-7448

From: [Moon, Amy \(UTC\)](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Letter
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 8:11:42 AM

Public Comment #0146
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

See below.

From: Georgia Huthmacher <ghuthmacher@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 7:14 AM
To: Moon, Amy (UTC) <amy.moon@utc.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Letter

External Email

That is 1-mile to close! Totally ruins the value of my property.. Please enter this as a protest . Those ugly monsters are visable for miles, one mile is literally on top of my property. We don't need the meager wattage these ugly monsters generate. Please when your agency makes a decision put yourselves in our place. We have an investment up there and it will be worthless if this project is okayed. I protest mightily as a tax payer and land owner do your job and represent us accordingly.
Georgia Huthmacher

On Mon, Mar 22, 2021 at 3:55 PM Moon, Amy (UTC) <amy.moon@utc.wa.gov> wrote:

Georgia-

You were identified as a landowner within 1-mile of the proposed project, not as a property located within the proposed project footprint.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Amy I. Moon

Energy Facility Site Specialist | Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council | Utilities and Transportation Commission | (360)664-1362 | amy.moon@utc.wa.gov

From: [Mike Minelli](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: EFSEC Questions For Scout
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 9:56:34 AM

Public Comment #0147
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

ADLS Why have you not offered Aircraft Detection Lighting Systems to reduce the night time effect across the Tri Cities Metro area?

EXPEDITE Why have you been studying the HHHills for the past several years then upon submitting the application immediately request the EFSEC to expedite the approval? Why?

BYPASSED Why have you chosen to bypass the Tri Cities (the people most affected) and the Benton County Commissioners?

\$=? Why have you spent such a huge amount of money yet so few very people know about the project? Doesn't your study indicate that among those who say they are familiar only recall general information?

LEGAL QUESTIONS Why have you hired Tetra Tech when they have a well documented and extensive history of major project lawsuits.

FOR OR AGAINST? What are your thoughts about the large survey difference for the % against the Wind Farm project?
Scout Survey Against (12/20) 35% Benton County Survey Against (3/21) 90%

UNCLEAR PHOTOS Why do the photos of the turbines appear to be in a light fog? Also, wouldn't a night time photo of the red lights be important? Finally would a simulated view from a terrifying number of homes and subdivisions within a .5 to 3 mile distance give an honest look?

Once the towers are going up and 24 miles of red lights are turned on,,, there will be thousands of upset people with many questions and much finger pointing.... but it will be too late. Please make the right decision and say no to the Wind Farm on HHH.

Respectfully, Mike Minelli

Owens, Joan (UTC)

From: Karen Richardson <zimbaz2910@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 10:27 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Horse Heave Hills Ava

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

External Email

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.americanwineryguide.com%2Fregions%2Fhorse-heaven-hills-ava-wineries%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cefsec%40utc.wa.gov%7Ccbb58b029c3043762f3d08d8ee20e6f7%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637521173120347270%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=ex7t975WpNu75ZKGnpMfaYAghZ%2FsaEwK%2FGHi0o0gMS0%3D&reserved=0>

To the EFSEC,

This is the MOST IMPORTANT REASON TO STOP THE WIND TURBINE FARM!!! We are a Listed AVA area in Wa. State!! We've been listed in magazine articles in the American Winery Guide, we are in the Columbia Gorge Winegrowers Assn.

I can't imagine that it would be legal to build Wind Farms in this designated Wine Grape Growing area!!

I believe that Mr. Dan Newhouse has a Winery on the Eastside of the Cascade Mts. He may have some great insight about our area!! Along with Horse Heaven Hills AVA, there is also RattleSnake Hills AVA, Red Mt. AVA, and Columbia Valley AVA. Chateau St. Michelle has a vineyard just miles to the west of us and there are more vineyards going in every day! There are 50 varietals of wine here alone!! Please help us to preserve the areas we have been granted for our wine industry!! It's part of our heritage!!!

AGAIN HORSE HEAVEN HILLS AVA IS THE MOST IMPORTANT REASON TO SHUT DOWN THIS WIND FARM!! Thank you!!

Karen R.

From: [Patricia Heasler](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Against Proposed Scout Energy Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 10:31:40 AM

Public Comment #0149
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Please confirm receipt of this correspondence to you.
Thank you.

Please be advised that the attached column written by scientist Jim Conca that appeared in Sunday's Tri-City Herald March 14, 2021 against the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Farm overlooking the Tri-Cities is factual. The article expresses many of the reasons why many of us in Benton and Franklin counties are in opposition to the Siting of the Wind Farm as currently proposed. There are better places to site this Wind Farm in Benton County or other places in the State than on the ridges overlooking the Tri-Cities.

For the reasons writer Jim Conca states, and many more, like the majority of people who live in Benton and Franklin counties I am opposed to the Wind Farm. It would be more acceptable if placed outside the view of people who live in the Tri-Cities.

Article from Tri-City Herald 3/14/2021

Wind turbines don't belong on Washington's Horse Heaven Hills | Guest Opinion

BY JIM CONCA
MARCH 15, 2021 08:53 AM

A company out of Boulder, Colorado called Scout Clean Energy has applied for a permit to build a massive turbine wind farm in Washington State on the Horse Heaven Hills, extending from the town of Benton City, through the Tri-Cities, to the town of Finley. The wind farm will have upwards of 250 turbines that are 500 feet tall and cover about 6,500 acres (over 10 square

miles).

But the Pacific Northwest is a lousy place to build wind turbines for two very good reasons. The power will not displace any fossil fuels but will only displace hydro, another renewable. And wind in this region just doesn't produce much energy, only 30% of its total capacity.

There is a growing opposition to this project in the region, just for these reasons.

Certification by going
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oping that the state's
rough against them.

ig this wind farm in the

Tornado Alley is the optimal place for wind turbines in the United States, pushing capacity factors to 50%, and has made wind the second largest generator of electricity in Kansas, South Dakota and Iowa, where they actually displace coal power.

The capacity factor is the percentage of the time a system is supplying its nameplate or installed capacity. The nameplate capacity times the capacity factor equals the actual output of the generating system.

According to the Scout Clean Energy plan, the new farm's nameplate capacity will be 1,150 MW. Since the capacity factor for this wind farm is only 30%, the generation will actually be only 345 MW operationally. Wind turbines in this area have an average capacity factor of only 27%.

In comparison, the capacity factor for the Columbia Generating Station, our local nuclear power plant, is 98%. With a nameplate capacity of 1,207 MW, it's producing about 1,180 MW continuously, over 3 times that of the similarly-sized proposed wind farm.

Scout Clean Energy claims that this wind farm will offset 3.5 million tons of CO₂, but that's not true either. There is little fossil fuel in Washington State, which is 70% hydro, 8% nuclear, 13% renewables (mostly wind), 5% gas and 4% coal, the latter from a single coal plant scheduled to be retired in 2025.

From: [pam minelli](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: No to Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 11:33:44 AM

Public Comment #0150
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Dear EFSEC Members,

As a Benton County resident, I adamantly oppose the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Farm.

Although I support clean energy, placing this enormous wind farm so near our homes and communities and across valuable agricultural land is a bad idea. Already the Tri Cities area enjoys carbon free sources of energy making this wind farm of no environmental benefit to our area.

These gigantic wind turbines will be seen for miles by visitors and residents alike. They will scar our scenic ridges forever and leave us with a 24-mile-long eyesore. Their **red flashing lights** will ruin the **dark night sky** many nearby neighborhoods have worked hard to preserve.

The Tri Cities is a rapidly growing area providing valuable agricultural products and taxes for Washington State. With this wind farm planned close to the urban growth areas of Kennewick and Richland, will these communities be **landlocked and unable to grow**? Will **farmers** continue to work their Horse Heaven Hills land with the noise and flicker of up to 244 huge wind turbines?

All this **local loss and minimal gain** for an unreliable power source that will cost taxpayers millions of dollars. Our communities will be left with an ugly local eyesore that will produce electricity only at 30% efficiency...for power that will be used outside our area.

Build wind farms where they are wanted and needed. 244 Space Needle-sized turbines with flashing red lights and spinning blades towering over our homes and community make this wind farm a tragedy for our area.

Say NO to the Horse Heaven Wind Farm.

Pam Minelli
Kennewick, WA