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*November 19, 2025*

### EFSEC 2025 Monthly Meetings v.

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WASHINGTON STATE

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL  
MONTHLY MEETING  
November 19, 2025

APPEARANCES

STATE AGENCY MEMBERS:

KURT BECKETT, Chair

BLAKE NELSON, Ecology

NATHAN PAMPLIN, Fish and Wildlife

MAVERICK RYAN, Natural Resources

BRIAN RYBARIK, Utilities & Transportation Commission

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OPTIONAL STATE AGENCIES:

MATT CHILES, Carriger Solar

ROBBY ECKROTH, Goldeneye BESS

JARRED CASEDAY, EDP Renewables

ERIC PACE, Grays Harbor Energy

JEREMY SMITH, Chehalis Generation

KELLY ELSETHAGEN, Energy Northwest

KATY ESPER, Greenbacker Capital

NELSON JIA, Brookfield Renewable

JON VOLTZ, Cypress Creek Renewables

JENNIFER GALBRAITH, Puget Sound Energy

PAUL KRUPIN, Hop Hill Solar

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL:

JON THOMPSON

ZACK PACKER

TALIA THUET

COUNCIL STAFF:

ADRIENNE BARKER

AMY MOON

SARA RANDOLPH

JOHN BARNES

JOANNE SNARSKI

MARIA BELKINA

ANDREA GRANTHAM

SONIA BUMPUS

AMI HAFKEMEYER

LISA MCLEAN

APPEARANCES CONTINUED

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COUNSEL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:  
SARAH REYNEVELD

ALSO PRESENT:  
VINCENT R.

TRANSCRIBED BY: Chris Ponce, CET # 4739  
B&A Litigation Services  
  
2208 North 30th Street, Suite 202  
Tacoma, Washington 98403  
  
253.627.6401  
transcription@balitigation.com

|    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 1  | GENERAL INDEX   |    |
| 2  | NOVEMBER 19, 2025.....                                | 5  |
| 3  | Meeting called to order.....                          | 5  |
| 4  | Roll call.....  | 5  |
| 5  | Motion to adopt the agenda.....                       | 11 |
| 6  | Motion to adopt the minutes.....                      | 12 |
| 7  | Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project.....               | 13 |
| 8  | Wild Horse Wind Power Project.....                    | 14 |
| 9  | Chehalis Generation Facility.....                     | 14 |
| 10 | Grays Harbor Energy Center.....                       | 15 |
| 11 | Wild Horse Wind Power Project.....                    | 16 |
| 12 | Grays Harbor Energy Center.....                       | 18 |
| 13 | Motion on NPDES Waste Discharge Permit WA0024916..... | 21 |
| 14 | Vote on NPDES Waste Discharge Permit WA0024916.....   | 25 |
| 15 | Columbia Solar.....                                   | 26 |
| 16 | Columbia Generating Station.....                      | 26 |
| 17 | Goose Prairie Solar.....                              | 26 |
| 18 | Ostrea Solar.....                                     | 26 |
| 19 | Carriger Solar.....                                   | 27 |
| 20 | Horse Heaven.....                                     | 28 |
| 21 | Hop Hill Solar.....                                   | 32 |
| 22 | Wallula Gap.....                                      | 35 |
| 23 | Goldeneye BESS.....                                   | 36 |
| 24 | Cascade Renewables Transmission.....                  | 37 |
| 25 | Hop Hill Solar.....                                   | 41 |

|    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 1  | GENERAL INDEX CONTINUED                                |    |
| 2  | Motion extending deadline for Hop Hill Solar.....      | 49 |
| 3  | Vote on deadline extension for Hop Hill Solar.....     | 53 |
| 4  | Policy 16-01 Updates.....                              | 54 |
| 5  | Motion to approve policy 16-01 amendments.....         | 57 |
| 6  | Vote on Motion to Approve Policy 16-01 Amendments..... | 58 |
| 7  |  |    |
| 8  |  |    |
| 9  |  |    |
| 10 |  |    |
| 11 |  |    |
| 12 |  |    |
| 13 |  |    |
| 14 |  |    |
| 15 |  |    |
| 16 |  |    |
| 17 |  |    |
| 18 |  |    |
| 19 |  |    |
| 20 |  |    |
| 21 |  |    |
| 22 |  |    |
| 23 |  |    |
| 24 |  |    |
| 25 |  |    |

1 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025

2 KURT BECKETT: Well, good afternoon. This  
3 is Kurt Beckett, Chair of the Energy Facility Site  
4 Evaluation Council, calling at 1:30 P.M. our November 19th  
5 regular council meeting to order.

6 And, Ms. Barker, would you please call the roll?

7 ADRIENNE BARKER: Certainly. Department of  
8 Commerce?

9 KURT BECKETT: Commerce is absent today, I  
10 believe.

11 ADRIENNE BARKER: Okay.

12 Department of Ecology.

13 BLAKE NELSON: Blake Nelson present.

14 ADRIENNE BARKER: Department of Fish and  
15 Wildlife.

16 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Nate Pamplin present.

17 ADRIENNE BARKER: Department of Natural  
18 Resources.

19 MAVERICK RYAN: Maverick Ryan present.

20 ADRIENNE BARKER: Utilities and  
21 Transportation Commission.

22 BRIAN RYBARIK: Brian Rybarik present.

23 ADRIENNE BARKER: Local Government and  
24 Optional State Agencies for the Hop Hill Project, Paul  
25 Krupin.

1 For the Carriger Solar project, Matt Chiles.  
2 MATT CHILES: Matt Chiles present.  
3 ADRIENNE BARKER: For the Wallula Gap  
4 project, Adam Fyall.

5 For the Goldeneye BESS project, Robby Eckroth.  
6 ROBBY ECKROTH: Robby Eckroth present.  
7 ADRIENNE BARKER: Assistant Attorney  
8 Generals, Jon Thompson.

9 JON THOMPSON: Present.  
10 ADRIENNE BARKER: Zack Packer.

11 ZACK PACKER: Present.  
12 ADRIENNE BARKER: Talia Thuet.

13 TALIA THUET: Present.  
14 ADRIENNE BARKER: For EFSEC staff, I will  
15 only call those anticipated to speak today.

16 Amy Moon.  
17 AMY MOON: I'm here. Present. Thank you.

18 ADRIENNE BARKER: Sara Randolph.  
19 SARA RANDOLPH: Present.

20 ADRIENNE BARKER: John Barnes.  
21 JOHN BARNES: Present.

22 ADRIENNE BARKER: Joanne Snarski?  
23 JOANNE SNARSKI: Joanne Snarski present.

24 ADRIENNE BARKER: Maria Belkina.  
25 MARIA BELKINA: Present.

1 ADRIENNE BARKER: For operational updates --  
2 oh -- no -- I'm sorry.

3 Lisa McLean.

4 For operational updates, Kittitas Valley Wind Project.

5 JARRED CASEDAY: Jarred Caseday present.

6 ADRIENNE BARKER: Wild Horse Wind Project.

7 Grays Harbor Energy Center.

8 ERIC PACE: Pace present.

9 ADRIENNE BARKER: Chehalis Generation

10 Facility.

11 JEREMY SMITH: Jeremy Smith present.

12 ADRIENNE BARKER: Columbia Generating

13 Station.

14 KELLY ELSETHAGEN: Kelly Elsethagen present.

15 ADRIENNE BARKER: Columbia Solar.

16 KATY ESPER: Katy Esper present.

17 ADRIENNE BARKER: Goose Prairie Solar.

18 NELSON JIA: Nelson Jia present.

19 ADRIENNE BARKER: Ostrea Solar.

20 JON VOLTZ: Jon Voltz present.

21 ADRIENNE BARKER: Is there anyone online for  
22 the Council for the Environment?

23 SARAH REYNEVELD: Sarah Reyneveld and Yuriy  
24 Korol are present.

25 ADRIENNE BARKER: Chair, there is a quorum

1 for all councils.

2 KURT BECKETT: Thank you, Ms. Parker.

3 ANDREA GRANTHAM: Chair? Chair, really  
4 quick.

5 This is Andrea Grantham.

6 I do want to see really quick if Sonia Bumpus and Ami  
7 Hafkemeyer are on the line as well. Sometimes they tend to  
8 speak at these meetings.

9 KURT BECKETT: Announce, Ms. Bumpus.

10 SONIA BUMPUS: Sonia Bumpus present.

11 AMI HAFKEMEYER: Ami Hafkemeyer present.

12 ANDREA GRANTHAM: Thank you.

13 KURT BECKETT: Thank you all.

14 I know today is an especially busy day here at EFSEC  
15 both internally and externally; so I will do our best to  
16 move this meeting through expeditiously. Obviously, we'll  
17 take time for any matters that we need to, but I will,  
18 again, move as long. So thanks for your understanding of  
19 that as well as support.

20 I will also give our newest re-joiner of the Council a  
21 quick word here.

22 Let me buy you a few seconds, Council Rybarik.

23 Brian Rybarik is the Chairman of the Utilities and  
24 Transportation Commission, and, as of November 1st, he has  
25 taken over from our previously very capable and ongoing

1 capable Stacy Brewster, who has been a welcome member from  
2 the UTC for many years. And, at the same time,  
3 Mr. Chairman, we certainly welcome you. And, as a member  
4 of the Council, Councilman, if you wanted to say a brief  
5 word. Again, welcome, and over to you, Mr. Rybarik.

6 BRIAN RYBARIK: Excuse me. Thanks. Thanks,  
7 Kurt.

8 And, recognizing we have a pretty full agenda here,  
9 thanks for that intro. And, you know, that is kind of the  
10 high points here.

11 And, first, did want to just take a moment from the UTC  
12 to thank Stacy for all the work that she's done on the  
13 EFSEC council prior. As you know, Stacy is still going to  
14 be working on these issues and supporting us in the UTC  
15 here.

16 I just thought, as I took the chairmanship of the UTC  
17 very important work that's going on at EFSEC, wanted to  
18 make sure I was also bringing the UTC perspective and my  
19 own perspective. A long history in the energy industry.  
20 Came to the UTC in March of this year. Very honored to  
21 have the Governor's appointment to do so. And looking  
22 forward to working on these issues at EFSEC from that UTC  
23 perspective.

24 So thanks, Mr. Chairman. And looking forward to  
25 working with you and all the Councilmembers. Gotten an,

1 you know, sort of early view of all the work that EFSEC's  
2 doing with this week being a pretty busy one. So let's  
3 jump into the agenda.

4 Thank you.

5 KURT BECKETT: Thank you very much.

6 And, again, on all our behalf, welcome.

7 So, with that, also let me note: Procedurally, we are  
8 all virtual today, and so I will do my best to keep track  
9 of hands and whatnot. But, if members of the Council are  
10 not being seen or heard, please go ahead and speak up.  
11 Again, Adrian and I will do our best to keep an eye on  
12 that.

13 Before us, councilmembers, we have a proposed agenda.  
14 If I could, the chair would entertain a motion for to adopt  
15 the agenda.

16 BRIAN RYBARIK: So moved.

17 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Second.

18 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

19 And, for the second, I believe from Council Pamplin.  
20 Councilmembers, the agenda is on the table.

21 Are there any amendments or additions to the agenda?

22 Hearing none, all in favor adopting the agenda as  
23 proposed, please say aye.

24 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Aye.

25 BRIAN RYBARIK: Aye.

1 KURT BECKETT: Aye.

2 BLAKE NELSON: Nay.

3 KURT BECKETT: Opposed? Did I hear an  
4 opposed?

5 Hearing none.

6 Agenda is adopted as proposed.

7 Moving on. Councilmembers, we have minutes from the  
8 October 15th regular council meeting that have been  
9 provided you for review and any edits. The Chair would  
10 entertain a motion to adopt the minutes.

11 BLAKE NELSON: I move we adopt the minutes.

12 KURT BECKETT: Thank you, Council Nelson.

13 Is there a second?

14 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Second.

15 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

16 Are there any edits?

17 So the minutes are on the table. Are there any  
18 proposed changes?

19 I have two. So, we'll take these in order, if others  
20 have additional ones.

21 If we could turn to pages -- well, starting with 33. I  
22 have two comments, one more substantive.

23 And, again, this is Page 33 of the minutes. Your PDF  
24 file may say differently; so thank you for pulling it up.

25 On line 23, "0.6 to two miles of foreign nest

1 locations," I've clarified with Ms. Moon that that was  
2 intended to be "four nests," and, given the importance of  
3 the PTAG work, I wanted to make sure that this was  
4 accurate. So that would be my proposed change, from  
5 foreign nest to the number four, F-O-U-R.

6 Any concern with that from anyone?

7 Hearing none.

8 The next is on the opposite page, Page 31. Bottom, on  
9 line 24. And I always appreciate a -- I don't know if this  
10 is a pun, but -- wordplay or whatnot. "A programmatic EIS  
11 is no small fete." This was from Council Pamplin.

12 Much as I don't think transmission will be feted any  
13 time soon, you were trying to call out the fact that the  
14 programmatic was published. And I believe you meant feat,  
15 "No small feat"; so fete should become feat, with Council  
16 Pamplin's agreement since it's his section.

17 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Yes. Thank you.

18 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

19 Are there other edits or changes to the minutes,  
20 Council?

21 VINCENT R.: Erin reads all that crap?

22 KURT BECKETT: I don't know if that was an  
23 edit or just an open mic. But any other changes?

24 All right. Council, then I will call the vote on  
25 adopting the minutes with the two suggested edits. All in

1 favor say aye.

2 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Aye.

3 BLAKE NELSON: Aye.

4 KURT BECKETT: Opposed?

5 Minutes are adopted.

6 Moving on to project updates. Our first is from the  
7 Kittitas Valley Wind Project.

8 Mr. Caseday, please proceed.

9 JARRED CASEDAY: Okay.

10 Good afternoon. Good afternoon, Chair Beckett.

11 EFSEC Council and staff, this is Jarred Caseday with  
12 EDP Renewables for the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project.

13 We had nothing nonroutine to report for the period.

14 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

15 Moving on to Wild Horse.

16 I don't know if Ms. Galbraith was on. I don't think  
17 she was on originally.

18 Are you with us?

19 SARA RANDOLPH: Hi.

20 KURT BECKETT: Here we go. Please proceed.  
21 Thank you.

22 SARA RANDOLPH: Chair Beckett, this is Sara  
23 Randolph.

24 I didn't hear Ms. Galbraith on the line either; so I'll  
25 give the update.

1 KURT BECKETT: Oh, great.

2 SARA RANDOLPH: Good afternoon, Chair  
3 Beckett, Councilmembers, and staff.

4 For the record, this is Sara Randolph, site specialist  
5 for Wild Horse.

6 The facility update is provided in your packet.  
7 Ms. Galbraith reported at the July Council meeting that  
8 there is a large tear in one of the base towers.

9 The turbine came down safely on October 22nd without  
10 incident onto the gravel turbine pad and access room.

11 Ecology visited the site on October 27th and is working  
12 with the facility on cleanup.

13 The access road will be closed until next year and Wild  
14 Horse will update us when it opens.

15 There's nothing further to report.

16 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

17 Can one of the staff please clarify whose hand is up  
18 and if that's something that we need to take now. And, in  
19 the meantime, if we could proceed to the Chehalis  
20 Generation Facility update.

21 Mr. Smith.

22 JEREMY SMITH: Good afternoon, Chair  
23 Beckett, Councilmembers, and staff.

24 This is Jeremy Smith, operations manager, representing  
25 the Chehalis Generation Facility.

1 I have nothing nonroutine to report for this reporting  
2 period.

3 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

4 Moving on to the Grays Harbor Energy Center for the  
5 update.

6 ERIC PACE: Good afternoon, Chair Beckett,  
7 EFSEC Council, and staff.

8 This is Eric Pace, representing the Grays Harbor Energy  
9 Center.

10 Grays Harbor Energy Center has nothing nonroutine to  
11 report for the period.

12 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

13 I know we're going to move next to an update on a  
14 permit issue and a potential action. Sara Randolph will be  
15 providing that update here momentarily. Again, though,  
16 first, are there other procedural matter? Whoever has  
17 their hand up, is that an issue we need to deal with?

18 Adrienne or Ms. Grantham?

19 ADRIENNE BARKER: Excuse me, Chair.

20 This is Adrienne Barker, for the record.

21 And the person with their hand raised is having audio  
22 issues; so we're helping them.

23 And also, for the record, I'd like to say that Jennifer  
24 Galbraith is online. You just can't hear her, she said.

25 JENNIFER GALBRAITH: I did call back in.

1 Can you hear me now?

2 ADRIENNE BARKER: Oh -- yes -- we can.

3 Thank you, Ms. Galbraith.

4 JENNIFER GALBRAITH: Okay. Someone  
5 suggested I go out and come back in again; so I did, and  
6 I'm back.

7 ADRIENNE BARKER: Yes. Thank you.

8 KURT BECKETT: Ms. Galbraith --

9 JENNIFER GALBRAITH: I'm happy to provide  
10 the update if you'd like.

11 KURT BECKETT: Sara Randolph did step in for  
12 you, but between you or her. Here quickly, if there's  
13 anything else that you'd like to supplement, that would be  
14 most welcome.

15 JENNIFER GALBRAITH: I did have an update  
16 from that update that was sent to the Council previously.

17 So the damaged wind turbine that we initially reported  
18 to the Council on July 14th -- actually, on October 22nd,  
19 Puget Sound Energy and Vestas were able to successfully  
20 fall the damaged wind turbine safely and without incident  
21 onto the associated gravel turbine pad and access road.

22 Following a preliminary investigation and safety  
23 assessment of the area, planning for recovery, cleanup, and  
24 removal of the turbine components and materials was  
25 initiated. Oil released from the collapsed turbine was

1 isolated to the gravel pad and, where exposed, was  
2 contained and covered with absorbent matting and tarps.  
3 Most of the spill was located under the turbine nacelle  
4 and, therefore, not exposed or visible.

5 The Department of Ecology visited the site on October  
6 27th to observe the spill area and discuss plans for  
7 cleanup. Spill remediation will begin following removal of  
8 all the turbine components as soon as the spill area is  
9 fully exposed and safely accessible. All spill cleanup  
10 activities will be completed in accordance with the Wild  
11 Horse Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan and  
12 in coordination with the Department of Ecology. And, as of  
13 today, approximately 75 percent of the turbine components  
14 have been removed and transported offsite for recycling or  
15 disposal.

16 PSE is working to complete a root cause analysis of  
17 what caused the initial damage to the tower, and we will  
18 keep the Council informed as we learn more and as cleanup  
19 activities progress.

20 And that's all I have.

21 KURT BECKETT: Excellent. Thank you for the  
22 update.

23 Given that ongoing issue, let me just briefly ask if  
24 other councilmembers have any questions on a particular  
25 project and topic.

1           Okay. See none.

2           Thank you again, Ms. Galbraith. We appreciate it.

3                       JENNIFER GALBRAITH: Thank you.

4                       KURT BECKETT: And we will now return to the  
5 Grays Harbor Energy Center. And, Sara Randolph, if you  
6 would help lead us off on your update and potential action  
7 here on the NPDES permit -- which I'm sure you will do us  
8 the favor of spelling out for me.

9                       SARA RANDOLPH: Yes. Thank you so much.

10           Chair Beckett, councilmembers, and staff, for the  
11 record, again, this is Sara Randolph, site specialist for  
12 Grays Harbor.

13           The facility update is provided in your packet. There  
14 are two items that will be discussed for the Council.  
15 First is the air operating permit, or the AOP. The AOP  
16 Title 5 was out for public comment October 6th through  
17 November 5th and had three comments, all of which expressed  
18 opposition to the permit. Staff are reviewing these  
19 comments in coordination with our contracted permit writer  
20 at the Olympic Clean Air Agency, or ORCAA.

21           Following the development of comment responses, the  
22 draft permit will go to the EPA for a 45-day review. Once  
23 that review is complete, staff will bring the permit to the  
24 Council to vote for issuance. We expect that to happen in  
25 January of 2026. Representatives from ORCAA are on the

1 line, should the Council have any questions.

2 Second is the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination  
3 System, or NPDES, permit.

4 Discussed last month, NPDES permit renewal application  
5 was out for public comment September 29th through October  
6 28th with zero comments. Staff now recommend that the  
7 Council vote to approve the draft NPDES permit and facts  
8 sheet for issuance.

9 There is nothing further to report.

10 KURT BECKETT: Thank you for the update.  
11 Councilmembers, do you have questions or comments? I guess  
12 let's take those two items in order. But, if you have  
13 comments or questions on either, please proceed, and we  
14 will do that before considering any action.

15 Council Pamplin.

16 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17 Ms. Randolph, thanks for the briefing here.

18 I just want to make sure I'm tracking what the request  
19 is for today as well as just how the facility has performed  
20 under the existing permits.

21 So, today, are you also looking for Council action on  
22 the air operating permit? That's the first question.

23 KURT BECKETT: We are not. I can jump in,  
24 but, if you can please confirm, Ms. Randolph, when you take  
25 up the rest of the Councilman's question. The action to be

1 considered today is only on the NPDES permit.

2 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Okay. Thank you.

3 And then, Ms. Randolph, could you just kind of walk  
4 through the performance by the facility in compliance with  
5 the current permit? Thanks.

6 KURT BECKETT: Ms. Randolph, you may be  
7 muted, if you are speaking.

8 SARA RANDOLPH: Sorry about that.

9 But they are compliant with the permit for both  
10 permits.

11 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Thanks, Ms. Randolph. You  
12 know, final follow-up, then.

13 Is there any changes or departures in this new permit  
14 from the previous one?

15 SARA RANDOLPH: Adding in the acid, the rain  
16 acid, into the AOP.

17 KURT BECKETT: That would be on the --

18 AMI HAFKEMEYER: Council -- correct.

19 For the record, this is Ami Hafkemeyer.

20 If I could jump in and add a little bit of detail. To  
21 echo what Ms. Randolph said, the previous issuance of an  
22 amended Title 5 was to reflect the changes in equipment  
23 following the previous SCA amendment that was issued by the  
24 Council.

25 With the renewal permit, the facility is realigning

1 their Title 5 and acid rain permit together so that they're  
2 on the same cycle. The previous issuance was an amendment  
3 and was only the Title 5. It was not the acid rain permit.  
4 So that is a little different from the previous issuance.

5 With respect to the NPDES permit, the only changes, if  
6 any, would be alignment with current emissions discharge  
7 standards.

8 KURT BECKETT: Great. Thank you.

9 Council, questions or comments?

10 All right, hearing none.

11 Councilmembers, staff have requested action on the  
12 NPDES permit issuance. And there was -- the Chair would  
13 entertain a motion for the Council to issue the NPDES Waste  
14 Discharge Permit WA0024916 for the Grays Harbor Energy  
15 Center. Is there a said motion?

16 Council Pamplin.

17 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Thanks, Mr. Chair.

18 I move that the Council issue NPDES Waste Discharge  
19 Permit WA0024916 to the Grays Harbor Energy Center.

20 Thanks.

21 KURT BECKETT: Thank you, Council.

22 Is there a second?

23 BRIAN RYBARIK: I will second. Brian  
24 Rybarik.

25 KURT BECKETT: Thank you, Council.

1 Council, the motions have been put on the table. Is  
2 there any further discussion or suggested changes to the  
3 action?

4 Seeing none, then I will call -- oh. Council Ryan,  
5 excuse me.

6 MAVERICK RYAN: Thank you, Chair.

7 Ms. Randolph, I think I am trying to recollect the  
8 first time I read the NPDES. And I am trying to recall. I  
9 thought that there was a monitoring period change for one  
10 of the items in Table 5.

11 Is that in alignment with what Ms. Hafkemeyer just  
12 stated? That's an update for the new technology at the  
13 site? Or am I misunderstanding?

14 AMI HAFKEMEYER: This is Ms. Hafkemeyer  
15 again.

16 The change in technology is reflected in the air  
17 operating permit, which is not this permit. Changes in the  
18 monitoring period would reflect conditions at the site and  
19 compliance with current water discharge regulations.

20 SONIA BUMPUS: This is Sonia Bumpus.  
21 Because just to add to Ms. Hafkemeyer's answer. Because  
22 the changes to the equipment at the facility, those were  
23 done for the Title 5s when Grays Harbor amended, which I  
24 think Amy Hafkemeyer talked about earlier.

25 Is that right, Ms. Hafkemeyer?

1 AMI HAFKEMEYER: Correct.

2 KURT BECKETT: Does that clarify the  
3 information for you, Council Ryan?

4 MAVERICK RYAN: Yeah, I believe so. Thank  
5 you.

6 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Mr. Chair, just an  
7 amendment to the motion. It sounds like, from the chat, it  
8 looks like I read the wrong permit number. And just to  
9 clarify that the permit number is WA0024916. Thank you.

10 KURT BECKETT: Can staff please clarify?  
11 Because I'm looking at 6-1; so -- thank you, by the way,  
12 Council Pamplin, obviously.

13 And, for the commenter, we appreciate getting the  
14 motion accurate. We are all online today with some  
15 different connectivity levels, I think; so I think that may  
16 be the issue.

17 NATHAN PAMPLIN: And, Mr. Chairman, I'm  
18 going off of an email that was provided with some draft  
19 language, and now, looking at the actual document, the  
20 email wording was incorrect. So I'm going to try this one  
21 more time. Third time will be the charm, folks. Stay with  
22 me.

23 The permit number that I'm asking that the Council  
24 issue, NPDES Waste Discharge Permit WA0024961 for the Grays  
25 Harbor Energy Center. Thank you.

1 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

2 And I would take a -- is there a second? Just to  
3 reintroduce that.

4 BRIAN RYBARIK: I'll re-second that. This  
5 is Brian Rybarik.

6 KURT BECKETT: Thank you very much.  
7 Council, the motion is on the table, and there has been  
8 discussion.

9 Is there any further discussion? And, if not, I will  
10 soon call the vote. Council Ryan.

11 MAVERICK RYAN: Thank you.

12 And I don't mean to belabor this. I'm asking the  
13 question for my own education here. In the process as  
14 described, the permit will go back to the EPA.

15 Will it be then subject to Section 508 consultation  
16 with -- 518? Under the Clean Water Act, is the EPA going  
17 to coordinate with tribes once we submit the approval?

18 AMI HAFKEMEYER: To clarify, the Title 5  
19 operating permit will go to the EPA for further review.  
20 The NPDES does not go to the EPA for further review. This  
21 action is for issuance.

22 MAVERICK RYAN: Okay. Thank you.

23 KURT BECKETT: So just to add a  
24 clarification, Council, that the NPDES permit that's on the  
25 table, which we'll call vote here very soon, is the one

1 item, the air-related permit and associated processes that  
2 you're asking about -- which are much appreciated -- will  
3 ultimately come back to us in the first of the year. So  
4 that'll be a second -- a separate subsequent consideration  
5 by the Council. So that was just nonetheless covered in  
6 the briefing up front as far as the two parts. And I don't  
7 know that -- you know, we can try and make that a little  
8 more part one and part two going forward. So appreciate  
9 your questions.

10 Any further discussion? Okay. With that, all in favor  
11 of approving the motion as made, please say aye.

12 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Aye.

13 BRIAN RYBARIK: Aye.

14 BLAKE NELSON: Aye.

15 MAVERICK RYAN: Aye.

16 KURT BECKETT: Opposed?

17 And any abstentions?

18 Okay. The action is adopted. Thank you.

19 All right. Moving on to our next item, the Columbia  
20 Solar Update.

21 Ms. Esper.

22 KATY ESPER: Thank you, Chair Beckett.

23 Good afternoon, Chair Beckett, EFSEC councilmembers,  
24 and staff.

25 This is Katie Esper for Columbia Solar reporting that

1 there is nothing nonroutine to report for the period.

2 KURT BECKETT: Thank you very much.

3 Next up, the Columbia Generating Station and WNP 1 and  
4 4 updates.

5 Ms. Elsethagen. Apologies if still getting that name  
6 wrong.

7 KELLY ELSETHAGEN: No. You actually got it  
8 just right.

9 Good afternoon, Chair Beckett, Councilmembers, and  
10 staff.

11 This is Kelly Elsethagen reporting for Columbia  
12 Generating Station. We have nothing nonroutine to report  
13 for the period.

14 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

15 Next up on Goose Prairie Solar.

16 Mr. Jia.

17 NELSON JIA: Good afternoon, everyone.  
18 Nelson here.

19 Everything on the operation side has been going well  
20 this last month; so no nonroutine events to report. Thank  
21 you.

22 KURT BECKETT: Next up, Ostrea Solar update.

23 Mr. Voltz.

24 JON VOLTZ: Good afternoon, Chair Beckett,  
25 EFSEC councilmembers, and staff.

1 This is Jon Voltz with Cypress Creek Renewables  
2 representing Ostrea Solar.

3 Construction continues to progress. We have fully  
4 completed all pile, racking, and module installation the  
5 month of October. We have a final wiring ongoing. AC and  
6 DC terminations are wrapping up, and two of the three  
7 circuits have been mechanically completed. The substation  
8 equipment is installed and cold commissioning works are  
9 underway.

10 Otherwise, there is nothing nonroutine to report for  
11 the period.

12 KURT BECKETT: Thank you very much.

13 Moving on to the Carriger Solar update. Ms. Snarski of  
14 the EFSEC staff.

15 JOANNE SNARSKI: Good afternoon, Chair  
16 Beckett and councilmembers.

17 For the record, this is Joanne Snarski, the siting  
18 specialist for Carriger Solar Facility in Klickitat County.

19 On October 21st, 2025, the Council held a special  
20 meeting on the proposed Carriger Solar facility. At that  
21 meeting the Council approved Resolution 360, that approved  
22 the revised draft site certification agreement to be sent  
23 to the Governor.

24 That agreement was provided to the Governor's office on  
25 October 24th, 2025 for his consideration. The Governor has

1 60 days to approve or deny the revised draft certification  
2 agreement, which would be December 23rd.

3 To date, we have not been contacted by his office.

4 May I answer any questions?

5 KURT BECKETT: Let me just note too that,  
6 given the inherent nature of EFSLA -- the statutory  
7 underlying of the agency, EFSEC -- the interaction between  
8 the Governor and not only the Council, but ultimately  
9 staff, as well, has very clear constraints around it. So,  
10 at the same time, just for the general public, just want to  
11 understand that there is some interaction there, but the  
12 absence of it is, you know, not to be misread in some one  
13 direction or another.

14 So, with that clarification, are there other questions  
15 or comments on the Carriger update?

16 Okay. Hearing none.

17 We will move on to the Horse Heaven update. And Amy  
18 Moon of the EFSEC staff will provide the update.

19 AMY MOON: Thank you. Good afternoon.

20 I am wondering who is the acting chair for the Horse  
21 Heaven project -- before I give you my update.

22 KURT BECKETT: As there's -- that's a fair  
23 question. As there is no action today, there is no change  
24 of chair. I continue to be recused on the project.

25 AMY MOON: Oh, okay.

1 KURT BECKETT: So we've not had that, any  
2 basis of needing to determine that. It's a very good  
3 question, but probably for a future moment; so thank you,  
4 though.

5 AMY MOON: Okay. Oh, you're welcome.  
6 Thanks for answering that and clarifying.

7 So good afternoon, councilmembers.

8 My update is as follows. The certificate holder has  
9 been working with the Preoperational Technical Advisory  
10 Group -- or the PTAG, P-T-A-G -- to receive technical  
11 advice related to wildlife and wildlife habitat  
12 specifically on predesign and preconstruction data  
13 collection requirements to address project mitigation  
14 measures and management plans.

15 As a result of this work, the certificate holder  
16 submitted facilitator reports on behalf of the PTAG to  
17 EFSEC for review.

18 We received and reviewed two facilitator reports thus  
19 far.

20 The first report includes a preconstruction wildlife  
21 survey plan to gather information on Species 1, or Spec 1,  
22 for the striped whip snake and sagebrush lizard; Spec 4,  
23 burrowing owl; Spec 8, prairie falcon; Spec 10,  
24 black-tailed jackrabbit and white-tailed jackrabbit; and  
25 Spec 12, Townsend's squirrel.

1 The second facilitator report is for Wild 10,  
2 preconstruction bat monitoring. And this facilitator  
3 report outlines the preconstruction bat survey plan.

4 EFSEC reviewed these two reports and provided comments  
5 to the certificate holder. The preconstruction wildlife  
6 surveys are required to identify wildlife population  
7 location and habitat used to inform buffer placement,  
8 mitigation measures to reduce potential loss of habitat,  
9 and the final project design.

10 The PTAG has also been working on implementation of a  
11 seasonal pronghorn antelope study as required under  
12 mitigation measure Spec 13 to identify the presence,  
13 abundance, and use of the pronghorn within the lease  
14 boundary.

15 EFSEC staff will continue to work with the certificate  
16 holder to review survey plans and PTAG facilitator reports.  
17 These plans have been delegated to Director Bumpus for  
18 their approval.

19 Does the Council have any questions?

20 KURT BECKETT: Councilmembers, any questions  
21 on the Horse Heaven update?

22 I don't see any. Last call.

23 We will move on to the Hop Hill Solar item and  
24 potential action. Let me note, at the outset, that this is  
25 one of the projects for which, when I became the chair, I

1 did recuse myself from; so I will continue to do so today,  
2 both in any deliberation as well as actual voting on the  
3 action. So, I will not be voting. Based on Council input,  
4 my ability to help facilitate as chair is within scope; so  
5 I will continue to do that.

6 While we will begin today with the project update and  
7 the extension request -- John Barnes, in a moment, will  
8 make that request -- I did want to also acknowledge and  
9 make sure that other councilmembers saw Project Council  
10 Krupin's email that came in sometime this morning. And  
11 I've had a chance to review that, Council Krupin. And just  
12 wanted to note that I expected you wanted to speak to that  
13 as well as just highlight it for the benefit of ~~council~~ <sup>counsel</sup> so  
14 that they can, you know, read it here while we're in  
15 motion.

16 After the update, I would intend to soon call on  
17 Council Krupin to, you know, speak to his email if he  
18 wishes.

19 With that, let's proceed to the update.

20 Mr. Barnes.

21 JOHN BARNES: Thank you. Chair Beckett and  
22 Councilmembers, this is John Barnes, EFSEC staff for the  
23 Hop Hill application.

24 This application is pending the receipt of a full  
25 cultural resource report from the applicant. This revised

1 report will include information previously submitted by the  
2 applicant as well as additional studies and reports that  
3 were gathered as a result of the project's expansion.  
4 These comprehensive reports as well as a revised and  
5 updated application are needed by the applicant for EFSEC  
6 to complete a SEPA review and determination for this  
7 application.

8 The applicant would also like to request additional  
9 time for application review. The additional time would  
10 allow the applicant to finish and submit an application  
11 addendum that includes details of project expansion. These  
12 supplemental materials will also allow for a full SEPA  
13 review and determination for this project.

14 The applicant has requested to extend the Hop Hill  
15 application from December 22nd, 2025, until December 22nd,  
16 2026.

17 **A public comment period was held for the application**  
18 **request prior to this November's Council meeting. The**  
19 **comment period began on October 29, 2025, and ended on**  
20 **November 11, 2025. One comment was received supporting the**  
21 **extension. There were no opposition comments received.**

22 **Are there any questions?**

23 KURT BECKETT: Let me just note that the  
24 councilmember's email from this morning would be in  
25 opposition to this request; so, out of transparency, want

1 to make sure that's clear. That is different than a member  
2 of the public submitting the comment, which is also  
3 accurate from Mr. Barnes statement.

4 With that, please let me -- well, let's see if we have  
5 any questions on the general update, and then let's turn to  
6 the extension request in just a moment.

7 So any questions from any councilmember on the general  
8 update first? Or comments? Okay.

9 Seeing none, I guess I would ask, ultimately, if staff  
10 had other feedback on Council Krupin's email, I think, you  
11 know, that would be important to hear. But, Council  
12 Krupin, if you'd like to speak to all of this first, we can  
13 do that. Or, if you'd prefer to hear from staff first, we  
14 can do that as an alternative. But I would really yield to  
15 your wishes on this one.

16 And I noted Council Krupin wasn't able to join, at  
17 least at the outset, so if anyone can help me out if that's  
18 still the case.

19 AMI HAFKEMEYER: Chair Beckett, this is Ami  
20 Hafkemeyer.

21 I did see a message in chat indicating that  
22 Councilmember Krupin was on the line; so I believe that he  
23 is here with us to be able to speak. And I see his hand  
24 up.

25 KURT BECKETT: Council Krupin, can you hear

1 us? And we don't hear you quite yet.

2 Are staff able to assist here in any way that you  
3 haven't necessarily already? I see we're having a little  
4 technical issue.

5 I'll suggest this, if it's okay, why don't we pause on  
6 Hop Hill and buy just a couple of minutes? And we would  
7 pick this up exactly where we're leaving it in order to  
8 make sure that we try and address the technical issue for  
9 our Council member.

10 SONIA BUMPUS: Chair Beckett, I just wanted  
11 to note -- this is Sonia Bumpus -- I would speak to it, but  
12 I do not believe I received the email from Paul Krupin. I  
13 just wanted to note that for the record.

14 KURT BECKETT: Anyone else help me out and  
15 forward that to staff -- especially Sonia -- to Ms. Bumpus.

16 BRIAN RYBARIK: I can do that right now,  
17 Kurt.

18 KURT BECKETT: Thank you. Thank you very  
19 much, Council.

20 Okay. So let's pause on Hop Hill. And, then, we will  
21 obviously come back, but let's go to the Wallula Gap Solar  
22 update.

23 Mr. Barnes.

24 JOHN BARNES: Thank you. Chair Beckett and  
25 councilmembers, this is John Barnes, EFSEC staff for the

1 Wallula Gap application.

2 We have received from the applicant supplemental  
3 wetland report materials to complete a previously submitted  
4 wetland report. This additional report includes added  
5 wetland areas that were identified and verified during  
6 multiple field visits by EFSEC, Department of Ecology, and  
7 the applicant's wetlands consultant.

8 This report has also been shared with the Department of  
9 Ecology for their wetland and waters review and  
10 determination for this project. A wetland and waters  
11 determination from the Department of Ecology is used in  
12 EFSEC's SEPA review and determination process.

13 NELSON JIA: Too grumpy for you? Too grumpy  
14 for you?

15 BRIAN RYBARIK: Somebody not on mute in  
16 here.

17 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

18 JOHN BARNES: We continue to coordinate with  
19 the applicant and the Yakama Nation cultural resource  
20 program staff following the receipt of the TCP study  
21 regarding identified impacts from the project and potential  
22 mitigation.

23 Are there any questions?

24 KURT BECKETT: Council, for the Wallula Gap  
25 Solar Project, are there questions or comments for staff?

1 Hearing none.

2 Let's go ahead and move to the Goldeneye BESS project  
3 update.

4 I believe Council Krupin is with us, but let's finish  
5 out our other updates first, and then we'll go back to Hop  
6 Hill, if that's all right.

7 And that means, Ms. Snarski, are you available to  
8 provide us the Goldeneye updates?

9 JOANNE SNARSKI: You bet. It's pretty  
10 brief.

11 Thank you, Chair Beckett.

12 Again, this is Joanne Snarski, the siting specialist  
13 for the proposed Goldeneye battery energy storage facility  
14 in Skagit County.

15 The applicant is currently working on a revised site  
16 plan for the facility to better accommodate the comments  
17 from supporting agencies on water resources on and adjacent  
18 to the proposed location. We anticipate the revisions  
19 sometime next week.

20 That's all I have. Any questions?

21 KURT BECKETT: Council, any questions on the  
22 Goldeneye project?

23 Okay. Hearing and seeing none.

24 Then, let's proceed to the Cascade Renewable  
25 Transmission project update.

1           As members of the public may be aware, but in case some  
2 are not, we are in the midst of public information and  
3 land-use consistency hearings three nights this week,  
4 tonight being the third night here on the Columbia Gorge.

5           So, with that, if we could have the update, please,  
6 brief as it may be.

7                       MARIA BELKINA: Thank you. Good afternoon,  
8 Chair Beckett and councilmembers.

9           For the record, my name is Maria Belkina, siting  
10 specialist assigned to and reporting on the Cascade  
11 Renewable Transmission project.

12           EFSEC staff received the application for site  
13 certification on October 6, 2025. And the completeness  
14 review is currently underway. Staff are evaluating the  
15 application with compliance with WAC 463-60. Staff have  
16 also engaged our consultant, TRC, and contracted agencies  
17 to begin their supporting review.

18           An additional data request is being prepared as we  
19 identify areas where additional information or  
20 clarification are needed. Public information and land-use  
21 consistency hearings are currently underway, taking place  
22 November 17th, 18th, and 19th, 2025, in Clarks, Skamania,  
23 and Klickitat counties respectively.

24           Notice we are finalized and coordinate with local  
25 jurisdictions in advance. EFSEC staff are supporting

1 logistics, public participation, and coordination. This  
2 commentary is representative throughout the three-day  
3 series of meetings. EFSEC continues to coordinate closely  
4 with the Oregon Department of Energy and the U.S. Army  
5 Corps of Engineers to ensure alignment across state,  
6 federal review processes.

7 Staff also preparing for ongoing tribal engagement and  
8 government-to-government consultation in accordance with  
9 the Centennial Accord and RCW 43.376. Relevant material  
10 and outreach steps are being coordinated with EFSEC's  
11 tribal liaison, Lisa McLean.

12 Thank you, and I'll be happy to answer any questions.

13 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

14 And I certainly know, as Council is aware, but just  
15 call out for transparency for the public in our meeting,  
16 I'm confident there's plenty of input that we are gathering  
17 that will further, you know, reflect not only the next  
18 update, but just any further evolutions that the Council  
19 may consider in -- just in that larger work ahead on the  
20 Cascade Renewables Transmission project.

21 Having said that, are there other comments or questions  
22 from the Cascade Renewable Council?

23 MATT CHILES: This is Matt Chiles from  
24 Klickitat County.

25 And I'm wondering if there's going to be any local

1 government representation for this project?

2 KURT BECKETT: Well, it's certainly  
3 welcome -- as well as, you know, required as far as options  
4 by statute -- and I believe we're welcoming but in the  
5 midst of confirming exactly, you know, representation  
6 across both county and city participation. And ,if  
7 Director Bumpus or others wanted to further, you know,  
8 supplement anything that I've already said, let me see if  
9 there's an added word you want to provide.

10 And, Council Chiles, let me come back to you in just a  
11 second, if there's other questions, but I think you get my  
12 general theme to answer that.

13 Anything to add from staff?

14 SONIA BUMPUS: This is Sonia Bumpus.

15 And Ami Hafkemeyer can certainly add to this. So the  
16 cities and counties were notified about the filing of the  
17 application prior to these hearings. And I'm referring to  
18 the land-use hearings that are being held in Clark,  
19 Skamania, and Klickitat. And the cities, as well, were  
20 notified about the filing of the application for site  
21 certification.

22 I believe, at this time, we've only received one  
23 notification from a county for participation. I don't  
24 believe we've seen any appointments or other interest from  
25 cities that were included in the distribution, notices that

1 went out about the filing of the application. But Ami  
2 Hafkemeyer can probably speak in more detail to that.

3 AMI HAFKEMEYER: Thank you.

4 I don't actually have a lot else to add. Only to echo  
5 that we've received confirmation of one local government  
6 appointee, and we expect more local government appointees  
7 for the different jurisdictions coming shortly.

8 KURT BECKETT: Council Chiles, I'll turn  
9 this back to you then, other than to just say, obviously,  
10 we're happy to follow up given your current role on behalf  
11 of Klickitat County in the Carriger project. So, if that's  
12 something you're further interested, while not our place --  
13 you know, it needs to come from the county or other local  
14 municipalities -- we certainly can follow up with you.

15 But, with that, please let me turn this back to you,  
16 Council Chiles.

17 MATT CHILES: Thank you, Chair Beckett.

18 Yeah. I understand that I am not the representative  
19 for Klickitat County nor am I seeking that position. So  
20 we, the Council, then, is awaiting various counties and  
21 cities to appoint their representatives.

22 Am I correct in that?

23 AMI HAFKEMEYER: Correct.

24 MATT CHILES: Thank you, Ami.

25 KURT BECKETT: Were there other questions or

1 comments on the Cascade Renewable Transmission Project?

2 Okay. Hearing none.

3 Then, let's conclude that item, and we will move back  
4 to the Hop Hill Solar not only update, but also potential  
5 action.

6 And, Council Krupin, if you would like to speak to your  
7 email first, that, I assume, is what we should do. But, if  
8 you wish to hear from staff, we could also start there; so  
9 that -- Council Krupin.

10 PAUL KRUPIN: John Barnes -- you can hear me  
11 now, I believe; correct?

12 KURT BECKETT: Yes. Welcome.

13 PAUL KRUPIN: Okay.

14 John Barnes gave an excellent summary. I don't know if  
15 we need to revisit that.

16 You asked me to briefly explain my letter and my  
17 comment. Basically, I just read the one-page letter from  
18 Kevin Martin. I think the date is October 28th. And I  
19 just felt like it's a little bit shy on the details which  
20 would allow the Council to make very, very informed  
21 decision as to, you know, the merits of continuing the  
22 extension another year.

23 So basically, I'm just looking for more detail. Much  
24 of it may come out of the information that John Barnes  
25 spoke to. There may be more. But I would like to see a

1 number of those key issues in the extension request  
2 expanded, and provide EFSEC with specific information  
3 before considering the approval.

4 That's my idea there. Thank you.

5 KURT BECKETT: Thank you for the  
6 communication as well as your participation here today in  
7 comment.

8 Director Bumpus -- or your designee, as appropriate,  
9 including Counsel Thompson, Associate Attorney General  
10 Thompson. Counsel with an S -- and in terms of just the  
11 process and when details, you know, normally come forward,  
12 I won't get into this further. I just ask that more as  
13 they, you know, are trying to clarify facts on the table.  
14 And, if Council Pamplin wanted to help further from here.  
15 If the discussion gets deeper, happy to turn my gavel over.

16 But, I think with that, let me turn this back to  
17 Director Bumpus.

18 SONIA BUMPUS: Thank you, Chair Beckett.

19 So, and I'm sure our legal counsel, Jon Thompson, can  
20 add the legalese to this.

21 But, essentially, this is an administrative action.  
22 It's under revised code of Washington 80.50.100 of EFSEC  
23 statute. And, basically, the statute just speaks to that  
24 there, you know, basically, is a mechanism for application  
25 extension and that it's essentially agreed upon between the

1 Council -- mutually agreed upon between the Council and the  
2 applicant.

3 There really isn't anything else in terms of  
4 requirements, information that's required for them to  
5 request an extension.

6 And I would just add to that that every project is  
7 different, and it's not uncommon, in EFSEC's history, for  
8 applicants to ask EFSEC to extend to allow more time to  
9 complete the process, the various milestones that have to  
10 be completed to get through the siting process. Sometimes  
11 it is because of things that are affecting the applicant's  
12 ability to move forward.

13 And so every project's different, and it's not at all  
14 uncommon for us to receive these types of extension  
15 requests to allow more time for the process to be  
16 completed.

17 So I'll leave it there, if there are other questions,  
18 and perhaps Jon Thompson wants to say something else as  
19 well.

20 KURT BECKETT: Counsel Thompson.

21 JON THOMPSON: Yeah.

22 I don't have anything to add to what Ms. Bumpus said.  
23 I'm happy to answer any questions councilmembers may have.

24 KURT BECKETT: So do you have questions and  
25 further discussion?

1 Council Rybarik.

2 BRIAN RYBARIK: Just one question perhaps  
3 Sonia or Jon to answer.

4 And, Sonia, I think you've kind of teed this up in your  
5 comments. But is this consistent with other requests that  
6 EFSEC has received in the past for extensions as far as the  
7 information provided here?

8 I tried to do a little independent research on that and  
9 found other extension requests that were similar in nature.  
10 But I just wonder if this has been kind of the common  
11 practice of a request like this with the level of  
12 information that's provided here.

13 SONIA BUMPUS: I would say that this letter  
14 and its level of detail is fairly consistent. There are  
15 times where the developer is able to provide more detailed  
16 information or may want to expand, particularly when there  
17 are things going on in their arena that they are  
18 specifically privy to, whether there's additional time  
19 needed to complete the SEPA process and things like that.  
20 That type of general statement is pretty consistent with  
21 some of the past extension requests that we've received.

22 KURT BECKETT: Any further questions?

23 Council Rybarik first, and then I'll take the next  
24 three hands in order.

25 BRIAN RYBARIK: No.

1           Just, Jon, anything to add to that answer from Counsel  
2 perspective?

3                         JON THOMPSON: No. I mean -- yeah -- I  
4 would agree that it's been fairly common to -- the  
5 statutory sort of deadline is 12 months from the receipt of  
6 an application to the recommendations to the Governor and,  
7 you know, "Except as agreed to by the Council and the  
8 applicant," as the statute reads. And so I would say it's  
9 very common for that to be extended.

10           Sometimes it might become a question if -- you know,  
11 you might wonder whether the applicant is making progress  
12 toward, you know, resolving any outstanding details. But  
13 it sounds as if there's an explanation of that here.

14           There's also sort of a disincentive for applicants to  
15 just sort of sit on an application because they have to pay  
16 for the privilege of having their application in front of  
17 EFSEC.

18           So -- yeah -- I mean, to my mind, this seems pretty  
19 consistent with past extension requests.

20                         BRIAN RYBARIK: Very good. Thank you.

21                         KURT BECKETT: Again, I'll take the hands in  
22 literally the number I've raised; so, Council Pamplin  
23 first.

24                         NATHAN PAMPLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25           This question is directed towards Mr. Barnes, please.

1 Mr. Barnes, in the letter we received from the project  
2 applicant, they're requesting the one-year extension out to  
3 December 22nd, 2026. And just wanted to check to see if  
4 that was also the staff recommendation, to go along with  
5 their request.

6 JOHN BARNES: Yeah. Just due to the level  
7 of work that's still needed to be completed for this  
8 application, I think 12 months would be sufficient to  
9 complete that work. So I think 12 months would be the --

10 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Okay. Thank you.

11 JOHN BARNES: Yep.

12 KURT BECKETT: Ms. Hafkemeyer.

13 AMI HAFKEMEYER: Thank you.

14 I just wanted to add a little bit more information in  
15 respect to Council Rybarik's question.

16 Frequently, the level of detail in the letter is  
17 reflective of the scope of remaining work. As the  
18 applicant has indicated here, in this letter, they are  
19 preparing information for supplementing their application  
20 and associated studies.

21 Generally, when a project is closer to milestones or  
22 closer to a final Council recommendation, and the scope of  
23 the remaining work is narrower, we do tend to see more  
24 detail in those. But, given the scope of the project work,  
25 the level of detail in the current letter is pretty

1 consistent.

2 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

3 Council Krupin.

4 PAUL KRUPIN: Well, yeah.

5 I certainly want to thank everybody for the attention  
6 and the discussion here. I just would like to point out  
7 that -- at least in this case, especially to my voting  
8 member of Benton County status here -- I felt that there  
9 were a couple of areas that deserved a little bit more  
10 detail. And one of them had to do with the proposed  
11 addition of 2,900 acres, and the other one had to do with  
12 the continued analysis of the Benton County land-use  
13 determinations and the coordination that may or may not be  
14 taking place to resolve those types of issues.

15 I was just hoping that some sort of discussion of key  
16 issues like that, as well as the ongoing continued work  
17 towards completing all the environmental studies and  
18 working on the ASC and EIS, that sort of thing, I thought  
19 some of that additional information would have been very,  
20 very helpful. And I still feel that way. And I  
21 understand, from looking at the history of extension  
22 requests in the past, EFSEC has never actually denied one.  
23 That's to my knowledge. And this type of letter is  
24 definitely the pattern.

25 I did feel like, the present situation as being the

1 third request, as standard as it might be from an operating  
2 procedure to approve it, the additional detail would be  
3 well-warranted.

4 Thank you.

5 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

6 We appreciate the added depth of thought and comment on  
7 it in particular.

8 Council Pamplin.

9 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10 Mr. Krupin, I appreciate your comments.

11 Another question for Mr. Barnes that was triggered by  
12 what Mr. Krupin offered.

13 Would the addition of an additional 2,900 acres trigger  
14 another land-use consistency hearing?

15 Thank you.

16 JOHN BARNES: I would defer that to Jon  
17 Thompson. I'm not sure if that would trigger another.

18 JON THOMPSON: It's a good question.

19 Yeah. Procedurally that would be a significant, sounds  
20 like, amendment of the application. I think, if presented  
21 with that, we'd certainly need to think about which of kind  
22 of the threshold requirements might need to be repeated. I  
23 suspect it's within the same zoning district, I mean --  
24 yeah -- without having reviewed it.

25 So, you know, I mean, the answer would probably be the

1 same, which in this case, was a finding of inconsistency,  
2 as I recall. So that would be something we'd definitely  
3 need to take up at the point of if that's proposed.

4 JOHN BARNES: Okay. Thank you.

5 KURT BECKETT: Other comments or questions  
6 based on the discussion?

7 So Councilmembers who would be in a position to take  
8 action on the request in this case, to extend the  
9 application for Hop Hill Solar, what does the Council wish  
10 to do in terms of taking up the action? Or, well, taking  
11 it up at all and then determining what you want to do with  
12 it still.

13 And I think someone can help up as opposed to down and  
14 back up, but, assuming that's the case, I would turn this  
15 to Council Pamplin. Thank you.

16 Council Pamplin.

17 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Okay. Great. Thank you,  
18 Mr. Chair.

19 Yes. I would like to move that the Council agree to  
20 extend the deadline for the Council to make its  
21 recommendation to the Governor on the Hop Hill Solar  
22 project application to December 26, 2026; and further  
23 request that staff analyze the additional 2900 acres to  
24 determine if a subsequent land-use consistency hearing is  
25 required.

1 Thank you.

2 KURT BECKETT: Councilmembers?

3 BRIAN RYBARIK: I plan to second that, but  
4 just a quick friendly amendment suggestion.

5 Did you say December 26th, 2026, or December 22nd? I  
6 think the request was for 22nd.

7 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Boy, am I struggling with  
8 numbers today.

9 Thank you, Councilman Rybarik.

10 I hope I said December 22nd, 2026.

11 BRIAN RYBARIK: I may have misheard, but now  
12 we've got it clarified.

13 I will second that motion.

14 And I guess we can move into discussion, but did just  
15 want to reflect that I appreciate the issues brought up  
16 here, particularly whether or not we have this additional  
17 land-use hearing triggered by this action. But also  
18 appreciate Councilmember Krupin's identification here that,  
19 well, this has been past practice.

20 And I think that is important to recognize here, if  
21 there is additional information that we, as a Council,  
22 think is important as we review these in the future, just  
23 to make sure we keep that on our plates and think that  
24 through of how we'd approach that for the future.

25 But I think I'm comfortable with this action today.

1 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

2 I will kind of recap where we're at, and then we'll  
3 turn to Sonia Bumpus, who has her hand up.

4 Council have spoken to the interest in moving forward,  
5 and that has then come forward in the form of a motion to  
6 take the action. And there is a second. We've started to  
7 move into discussion. And so let me first turn to Sonia  
8 Bumpus for any comments she would like to add, and then we  
9 can go back to the Council who will be voting on this,  
10 which I will not be.

11 If there's further discussion, you can certainly bring  
12 that back up here momentarily.

13 Director Bumpus.

14 SONIA BUMPUS: Thank you, Chair Beckett.

15 I just wanted to make sure, as the Council was taking  
16 action on this item, that we're all clear on where we are  
17 with regard to the, if you will, an expansion or change in  
18 the project application. My understanding is that we  
19 haven't received an amended application at this point in  
20 time.

21 Is that correct, Ami Hafkemeyer?

22 AMI HAFKEMEYER: That is correct.

23 We have indication from the applicant that, one, an  
24 amendment is in work. That has yet to be filed.

25 SONIA BUMPUS: Okay. Thank you. Thank you,

1 Ms. Hafkemeyer.

2 I just wanted to make sure we were clear with the  
3 Council on that because, until we receive an amended  
4 application for site certification that includes all of the  
5 changes that they're going to make -- including the one  
6 that we've already talked about -- but how will that affect  
7 other components of the project? We're going to need to  
8 look at that. And so I appreciate the question to staff  
9 about determining at such time that we receive an amended  
10 application whether we need to do another land-use  
11 consistency hearing, public informational meeting, perhaps.

12 Just to clarify for the Council that we formally do not  
13 have that proposal before us; so we're continuing to work  
14 with the application that we do have until such time that  
15 they file an amended application. And that is the point in  
16 time that we would look at the application in its entirety  
17 to determine how much it has changed from the application  
18 that we have before us today, if that makes sense.

19 I hope that clarification is helpful. Thank you.

20 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Mr. Chair, Ms. Bumpus, that  
21 clarification is incredibly helpful. Thank you.

22 And I think it's still consistent with the motion to  
23 grant the extension to December 22nd, 2026, and assess  
24 whether or not additional work is needed once we receive --  
25 or if we receive a supplement to the ASC.

1 Thank you.

2 KURT BECKETT: Further discussion from  
3 Council?

4 Seeing and hearing none.

5 Then, I will move to call the vote as moved, as far as  
6 the action. All in favor, please say aye.

7 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Aye.

8 BRIAN RYBARIK: Aye.

9 BLAKE NELSON: Aye.

10 KURT BECKETT: Opposed?

11 And abstentions?

12 I abstain.

13 MAVERICK RYAN: Council Ryan. I abstain.

14 KURT BECKETT: Two abstentions. Thank you.

15 The action is adopted as made by Council Pamplin,  
16 seconded by Council Rybarik.

17 And we will then move on to the other section of our  
18 agenda.

19 And we have the additional revision to policy 16-01,  
20 which is the delegation of authority between the Council  
21 and the agency director. And Lisa McLean is here to  
22 provide that update.

23 And, again, this is a potential action. Let's receive  
24 the update first, and then actually we will be recessing  
25 this meeting to move into a short executive session. The

1 Council will leave this meeting when we move into executive  
2 session. And I will state the times that we anticipate,  
3 and then we will return to this public same link, for those  
4 of you online, shortly thereafter and further take up  
5 discussion and any action if Council wishes to take it; so,  
6 Ms. McLean.

7 LISA MCLEAN: Thank you.

8 Can you hear me?

9 KURT BECKETT: We can.

10 LISA MCLEAN: Okay. Good. No.

11 People didn't hear me when I said present before; so I  
12 wanted to doublecheck since we have been having problems  
13 today.

14 Anyway, thank you, Chair Beckett and councilmembers.  
15 For the record, this is Lisa McLean. I'm the legislative  
16 and policy manager.

17 I wanted to provide the Council and the public with a  
18 short brief on the proposed amendments to delegation of  
19 authority policy, policy number 16-01, which was approved  
20 on June 25th of this year.

21 At the Council meeting last month, the director of  
22 setting compliance, Ami Hafkemeyer, informed the Council  
23 that staff would be recommending additional clarifying  
24 language to policy 16-01 to make EFSEC's practices around  
25 preconstruction and preoperational plan reviews more

1 transparent.

2 As a result, a paragraph was added to the policy noting  
3 that staff will provide updates to the Council when a  
4 certificate holder submits a plan to the director for  
5 approval. The Council would then be able to decide to  
6 elevate EFSEC's plan approval from the director to the  
7 Council by making a motion that would receive a majority  
8 vote.

9 In addition, to ensure that the public is aware of any  
10 plans approved by the director or the Council, staff would  
11 post the approved plan on the -- any approved plans on the  
12 website and send a notification to the subscribers, to the  
13 website in general, or to the project facility  
14 specifically.

15 These changes were published on the website for public  
16 comment on Monday, November 3rd. And public had until  
17 November 16th to submit comments.

18 As of November 16th, we'd received three comments,  
19 which were provided to councilmembers and primarily  
20 expressed sentiments that the policy has the effect of  
21 bypassing opportunities for public and tribal input.

22 It is now in your hands to take final action to approve  
23 or reject the proposed revisions.

24 Are there any questions?

25 KURT BECKETT: Do you have questions for

1 Ms. McLean on her update at this point?

2 Seeing none.

3 And, certainly, we will have time for further  
4 discussion when we return.

5 So, with that, let me note that we will be moving to  
6 executive session. We will recess our regular meeting for  
7 15 minutes. And, if time is needed, I will return and  
8 potentially extend that time, but I expect that we will be  
9 able to cover this item in 15 minutes from 2:42 P.M.

10 So, with that, if councilmembers, the permanent  
11 councilmembers, would please exit this meeting and enter  
12 the executive session Teams meeting. Thank you.

13 (Recess.)

14 KURT BECKETT: We're back up. Members of  
15 the Council are returning. I did pop on just briefly to  
16 extend our executive session. And now we are going to soon  
17 return to the main regular Council meeting.

18 So, members of the Council and public, again, this is  
19 Kurt Beckett, the chair of the EFSEC Council.

20 We are coming back into our active regular meeting at  
21 3:04 P.M. And, with that, members of the permanent  
22 Council, there's been discussion and a potential action,  
23 which I will not be participating in other than  
24 facilitating here.

25 What is the wishes of the Council on the topic as well

1 as the request by the staff for action on policy 16-01?

2 And, again, we can't take further discussion up if  
3 there is to be a motion after a motion and the second, but,  
4 if you have any opening guidance, that would be most  
5 welcome.

6 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Mr. Chair.

7 KURT BECKETT: Thank you.

8 Go ahead, Council Pamplin.

9 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Yeah.

10 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 I move that the Council approve the proposed amendments  
12 to policy number 16-01, delegating certain plan approvals  
13 to the EFSEC director. And, if there's a second, I would  
14 like to speak to that motion, please.

15 BRIAN RYBARIK: I will second that motion.

16 KURT BECKETT: Thank you, Council Pamplin  
17 and Council Rybarik.

18 We have a motion and a second, and the action is on the  
19 table. Discussion, please. I believe Council Pamplin had  
20 asked for that privilege first; so please proceed.

21 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 And thank you for the second.

23 I just want to note that I really have appreciated the  
24 amount of work that Council staff has done on this memo and  
25 bringing this up to, kind of, the current state of affairs.

1 And, really, a lot of that work was done through the  
2 revision that was adopted on July 16th of this year.

3 Further, I think the proposed addition that was out for  
4 public comment helps provide additional clarity. And,  
5 where there's plans that the Council has otherwise directed  
6 for the director approval, there's that visibility for the  
7 Council -- for, then, the Council to then act and take that  
8 responsibility to adopt those plans.

9 So, for those reasons, I really appreciate all the work  
10 that was done, and hope that we approve this amended  
11 policy.

12 Thank you.

13 KURT BECKETT: Thank you, Council Pamplin.

14 Other comments or questions?

15 Okay. Last chance.

16 All right. Then I will call for the vote.

17 So all those in favor of approving the motion as  
18 made -- in this case, policy 16-01 -- please say aye.

19 NATHAN PAMPLIN: Aye.

20 BRIAN RYBARIK: Aye.

21 MAVERICK RYAN: Aye.

22 BLAKE NELSON: Aye.

23 KURT BECKETT: Opposed?

24 Abstain?

25 I do.

1 And the action carries; so policy 16-01 is adopted as  
2 amended.

3 Director Bumpus -- I'm sorry. Any closing comments  
4 from Council on this item?

5 Seeing none.

6 Director Bumpus, any comments or closing items you want  
7 to communicate to the Council or the public today?

8 SONIA BUMPUS: Yes.

9 Thank you, Chair Beckett.

10 And good afternoon, councilmembers.

11 Typically, I would put this as a director update, but I  
12 did see that that was not on the agenda. And so I just  
13 wanted to provide a few updates about some of our plans for  
14 the December Council meeting.

15 Council members have heard me talk a little bit about  
16 some of the work that EFSEC is doing on public comment  
17 process. So we've been working diligently to refine our  
18 public comment process specifically under the requirements  
19 of the Open Public Meetings Act. And we've talked about  
20 that in past meetings, and I'll continue to provide  
21 updates.

22 I wanted to specifically flag that, for the December  
23 Council meeting -- with the work that's happened with the  
24 public comment process refinements and the various other  
25 accomplishments for EFSEC this year, the revamping of our

1 EFSEC website -- we are also having internal discussions  
2 about Council meeting process improvements, which really  
3 have benefited from input from some of our councilmembers.  
4 Councilmember Pamplin has provided some really helpful  
5 insight, and we've had input from our Chair and others  
6 about ways that we can improve the Council meeting agenda  
7 with more focus on atypical operational updates and  
8 application updates.

9 And so a lot of those discussions are underway. So the  
10 point is lots of things happening have been completed, are  
11 being completed in the near term. And so, in December, the  
12 staff would like to do basically a wrap up of the year --  
13 all of EFSEC's accomplishments, everything that we've done.

14 And we will also provide some updates about this  
15 revision to the Council meeting agenda, which I think the  
16 timeline for that is I think, like, we will implement that  
17 probably in January, February of 2026. But that's -- we  
18 can include that in our achievements -- what I'm calling  
19 achievements update -- to wrap up year 2025.

20 So just let me know if you have any questions.

21 And, Chair Beckett, please let me know -- and,  
22 councilmembers, if you feel like there's anything else I  
23 should include in that update for December.

24 Thank you.

25 KURT BECKETT: Councilmembers, any comment

1 or further feedback for Sonia?

2 I think, "Thank you for the update would probably be a  
3 general feeling," I should have started with; so -- all  
4 right.

5 Council, well, I know it's a busy week and a very busy  
6 day. Thank you all, as well as members of the public, for  
7 tuning in.

8 Councilmembers, are there any final comments you wish  
9 to add?

10 Okay. And I will add one. Director Bumpus and Ami  
11 Hafkemeyer, I just wanted to loop back on our transmission  
12 programmatic EIS.

13 And when we last talked about that in our October  
14 meeting, as far as the tool, the online platform, it would  
15 be good to maybe have that spoken also in -- spoken to in  
16 the December meeting. I know the -- when that's available  
17 was really the main question; so if we could have just a  
18 quick update on how that's coming and when it might be  
19 available. I think we have a number of, you know, related  
20 issues that it would be good to have a sense of that going  
21 into the new year -- which is frighteningly, but  
22 beneficially here.

23 So --

24 SONIA BUMPUS: Certainly.

25 KURT BECKETT: With that -- appreciate that.

1 All right. Council, unless anyone raises their hand,  
2 I'm going to adjourn us at 3:13 P.M.

3 We are adjourned. Thank you all.

4 (End of recording.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Christopher Ponce, certify that the foregoing transcript is a full, true and accurate transcription of the proceedings and testimony taken in the matter of the above-entitled cause.

That the foregoing was transcribed from audio recording received from Andrea Grantham. The foregoing was transcribed to the best of my ability, taking into consideration poor sound quality, simultaneous speaking, background noise, quality of second-party telephone, audio, video recordings.

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my signature on the 25th day of November, 2025.

/s/CHRISTOPHER L PONCE, CET  
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