



AGENDA

MONTHLY MEETING
Wednesday, April 15, 2026
1:30 PM

HYBRID MEETING
621 Woodland Square Loop SE, Lacey WA 98503
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Conference number: 564-999-2000
ID: 100581938#

- 1. **Call to Order**Kurt Beckett, EFSEC Chair
- 2. **Roll Call**Andrea Grantham, EFSEC Staff
- 3. **Proposed Agenda**Kurt Beckett, EFSEC Chair
- 4. **Minutes**Kurt Beckett, EFSEC Chair
 - March 18, 2026, monthly meeting minutes
- 5. **Projects**
 - a. **Ostrea Solar**
 - Construction updates.....Jon Voltz, Cypress Creek Renewables
 - b. **Columbia Solar**
 - Project update.....Sara Randolph, EFSEC Staff
 - Formal notification of amendment request
 - c. **Carriger Solar**
 - Project updates.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff
 - d. **Cascade Renewables Transmission**
 - Project updates.....Maria Belkina, EFSEC Staff
 - SEPA update.....Trevon Taylor, EFSEC Staff
 - e. **Horse Heaven**
 - Project updates.....Amy Moon, EFSEC Staff
 - f. **Hop Hill Solar**
 - Project updates.....John Barnes, EFSEC Staff
 - g. **Wallula Gap Solar**
 - Project updates.....John Barnes, EFSEC Staff

Notes: The following projects are not on the agenda due to lack of project activity: Wautoma Solar, Badger Mountain, High Top Solar, and Transmission PEIS
"FINAL ACTION" means a collective positive or negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of a governing body when sitting as a body or entity, upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance. RCW 42.30.020 This is not the final action on this application review, and there will be additional opportunities for public comment on this project.

h. Goldeneye BESS

- Project updates.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff

6. Other

- Director update.....Dave Walker, EFSEC Interim Director
 - New employee introduction
 - Budget update
 - Cost Allocation
- Tribal update.....Lisa McLean, EFSEC Staff

7. Adjourn.....Kurt Beckett, EFSEC Chair

NOTE: The following project updates are routine and available for review in the Council packet: Chehalis Generation Facility, Columbia Generating Station, WNP - 1/4, Grays Harbor Energy Center, Goose Prairie Solar, Kittitas Valley Wind, and Wild Horse Wind. Projects with non-routine updates will be discussed in the public Council meeting.

Notes: The following projects are not on the agenda due to lack of project activity: Wautoma Solar, Badger Mountain, and High Top Solar.

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In the Matter of:

EFSEC 2026 Monthly Meetings

MONTHLY MEETING

March 18, 2026

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WASHINGTON STATE

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

MONTHLY MEETING

March 18, 2026

Lacey, Washington

Reporter: John M.S. Botelho, CCR, RPR

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 APPEARANCES</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 STATE AGENCY MEMBERS:</p> <p>4 Kurt Beckett, Chair</p> <p>5 Elizabeth Osborne, Department of Commerce</p> <p>6 Blake Nelson, Department of Ecology</p> <p>7 Nate Pamplin, Department of Fish and Wildlife</p> <p>8 Kate Dean, Department of Natural Resources</p> <p>9 Brian Rybarik,</p> <p>10 Utilities & Transportation Commission</p> <p>11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OPTIONAL STATE AGENCIES:</p> <p>12 Hop Hill Solar:</p> <p>13 Paul Krupin, Benton County</p> <p>14 Goldeneye BESS:</p> <p>15 Robby Eckroth, Skagit County</p> <p>16 Cascade Renewable Transmission:</p> <p>17 Asa Leckie, Skamania County</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL:</p> <p>20 Jon Thompson</p> <p>21 Zack Packer</p> <p>22 Talia Thuet</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 MEETING INDEX</p> <p>2 EVENT: PAGE NO.</p> <p>3 Call to order 5</p> <p>4 Roll call 5</p> <p>5 New-member introduction 8</p> <p>6 Proposed agenda 9</p> <p>7 Minutes</p> <p>8 February 18, 2026, monthly meeting minutes 10</p> <p>9 Projects</p> <p>10 Ostrea Solar 13</p> <p>11 Columbia Solar 16</p> <p>12 Carriger Solar 17</p> <p>13 Cascade Renewables Transmission 19</p> <p>14 Transmission PEIS 24</p> <p>15 Horse Heaven 32</p> <p>16 Hop Hill Solar 34</p> <p>17 Wallula Gap Solar 35</p> <p>18 Goldeneye BESS 36</p> <p>19 Other</p> <p>20 Director update 37</p> <p>21 New-employee update 37</p> <p>22 Budget update 38</p> <p>23 Legislative update 40</p> <p>24 Rulemaking update 46</p> <p>25 Adjournment 50</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 APPEARANCES (Continuing)</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 COUNCIL STAFF:</p> <p>4 Dave Walker John Barnes</p> <p>5 Ami Hafkemeyer Joanne Snarski</p> <p>6 Amy Moon Maria Belkina</p> <p>7 Joan Owens Lisa McLean</p> <p>8 Andrea Grantham Gina Young</p> <p>9 Sean Greene</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12 OPERATIONAL UPDATES:</p> <p>13 Jon Voltz</p> <p>14 Ostrea Solar, Cypress Creek Renewables</p> <p>15</p> <p>16 COUNSEL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:</p> <p>17 Sarah Reyneveld</p> <p>18 Yuriy Korol</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 BE IT REMEMBERED that on Wednesday,</p> <p>2 March 18, 2026, at 621 Woodland Square Loop</p> <p>3 Southeast, Lacey, Washington, at 1:31 p.m., the</p> <p>4 following monthly meeting of the Washington State</p> <p>5 Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council was held, to</p> <p>6 wit:</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 <<<<<< >>>>>></p> <p>9</p> <p>10 CHAIR BECKETT: Good afternoon.</p> <p>11 This is Kurt Beckett, chair of EFSEC, calling our</p> <p>12 March 18th regular meeting to order.</p> <p>13 And, Ms. Grantham, if you'd call the roll,</p> <p>14 please.</p> <p>15 MS. GRANTHAM: Certainly, Chair.</p> <p>16 Department of Commerce.</p> <p>17 MS. OSBORNE: Elizabeth Osborne,</p> <p>18 present.</p> <p>19 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of</p> <p>20 Ecology.</p> <p>21 MR. NELSON: Blake Nelson, present.</p> <p>22 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Fish</p> <p>23 and Wildlife.</p> <p>24 MR. PAMPLIN: Nate Pamplin,</p> <p>25 present.</p>

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1 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Natural
 2 Resources.
 3 MS. DEAN: Kate Dean, present.
 4 MS. GRANTHAM: Utilities and
 5 Transportation Commission.
 6 MR. RYBARIK: Brian Rybarik,
 7 present.
 8 MS. GRANTHAM: For local government
 9 and optional State agencies.
 10 For the Hop Hill Solar Project, Benton County,
 11 Paul Krupin.
 12 For Wallula Gap, for Benton County, Adam Fyall.
 13 For Goldeneye BESS, for Skagit County, Robby
 14 Eckroth.
 15 MR. ECKROTH: Robby Eckroth,
 16 present.
 17 MS. GRANTHAM: Cascade Renewable
 18 Transmission Project, for Skamania County, Asa Leckie.
 19 MR. LECKIE: Present.
 20 MS. GRANTHAM: City of Stevenson,
 21 Jeff Breckel.
 22 And City of Camas, Jennifer Senescu.
 23 Moving on to assistant attorney generals.
 24 Jon Thompson.
 25 MR. THOMPSON: Present.

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1 MS. GRANTHAM: Zack Packer.
 2 MR. PACKER: Present.
 3 MS. GRANTHAM: Talia Thuet.
 4 MS. THUET: Present.
 5 MS. GRANTHAM: For Council staff:
 6 Dave Walker.
 7 MR. WALKER: Present.
 8 MS. GRANTHAM: One moment. Sorry.
 9 It was just a tad quiet in the room.
 10 Ami Hafkemeyer.
 11 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Present.
 12 MS. GRANTHAM: Amy Moon.
 13 MS. MOON: Present.
 14 MS. GRANTHAM: Sara Randolph.
 15 Sean Greene.
 16 MR. GREENE: Present.
 17 MS. GRANTHAM: John Barnes.
 18 MR. BARNES: Present.
 19 MS. GRANTHAM: Joanne Snarski.
 20 MS. SNARSKI: Present.
 21 MS. GRANTHAM: Maria Belkina.
 22 MS. BELKINA: Present.
 23 MS. GRANTHAM: Lisa McLean.
 24 MS. McLEAN: Present.
 25 MS. GRANTHAM: And Gina Young.

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1 MS. YOUNG: Present.
 2 MS. GRANTHAM: Operational updates.
 3 I'll call those who are anticipated to give an update
 4 today.
 5 For Ostrea Solar, Jon Voltz.
 6 MR. VOLTZ: Present.
 7 MS. GRANTHAM: And is there anyone
 8 present for the counsel for the environment?
 9 MS. REYNEVELD: Yes. Sara Reyneveld
 10 and Yuriy Korol are present.
 11 MS. GRANTHAM: Thank you.
 12 Chair, there is a quorum for all councils.
 13 CHAIR BECKETT: Very well. Thank
 14 you.
 15 Well, it's my honor to first, before we consider
 16 the agendas, Council, to introduce our newest member,
 17 Kate Dean, from Department of Natural Resources, who
 18 for the past year has been policy director, a year
 19 plus, at the Department and was a long-standing local
 20 elected official for many years prior to that.
 21 And so let me welcome Council Member Dean and also
 22 note on behalf of our other Council members -- who I've
 23 come, I think, well enough to know -- that they would
 24 be chagrined that they're not here in person today much
 25 as some often are. But in case Council wish -- other

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1 Council members wish to send a word of greetings after
 2 Kate's introduction, I'll just give you a heads-up on
 3 that.
 4 And without further ado, it's my pleasure to
 5 introduce Kate Dean, our newest Council member.
 6 MS. DEAN: Thank you, Chair Beckett.
 7 It's an honor to be serving in this role, I think in
 8 some of the most important issues of our time.
 9 As the chair said, I come from a background in
 10 local government and look forward to bringing that
 11 experience to this board. And I look forward to
 12 working with you all. Thank you.
 13 CHAIR BECKETT: Welcome again.
 14 And I'm sorry. I neglected to also wish our
 15 former Council member Maverick Ryan the best in his new
 16 endeavor, which I believe involves his work with tribal
 17 nations outside state government. So I appreciate his
 18 service on the Council as well, as well as the added
 19 transition within the Department of Natural Resources
 20 at the commissioner level.
 21 So with that, Council members, we have a very
 22 fairly straightforward agenda before us today. If
 23 there are any changes, please bring those forward as we
 24 adopt the agenda.
 25 And the chair would entertain a motion to adopt

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1 the agenda.
2 MS. DEAN: So moved, Chair.
3 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you.
4 Is there a second?
5 MR. PAMPLIN: Second.
6 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you.
7 All in favor of the agenda as proposed, please say
8 aye.
9 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.
10 CHAIR BECKETT: Opposed?
11 All right. Agenda is adopted.
12 Moving on to the minutes from our regular February
13 18th Council meeting.
14 I have a couple items I would note. But before I
15 do, were there any other edits or comments from other
16 Council members to the minutes?
17 All right.
18 MR. RYBARIK: None here.
19 CHAIR BECKETT: Okay. Thank you.
20 If I could call everyone's attention to two
21 changes.
22 On Page 30, actually 32, reading the upper
23 right-hand corner page numbers, "A consultation meeting
24 with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe that had been scheduled
25 was postponed and is now expected to occur in Everett."

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1 That should be April or late April, just to be more
2 specific. We have that change tracked.
3 And then moving on to the second and last one,
4 on -- actually going earlier into the minutes, on
5 Page 14. Again, page number in the upper right-hand
6 corner of this format. I believe on that exchange
7 between Council Rybarik and Ms. Hafkemeyer on the ORCAA
8 clean air permit for the Grays Harbor facility, there
9 on Line 21, it's referenced as Chair Beckett. I
10 believe that was Council Rybarik's comments --
11 MR. RYBARIK: Oh.
12 CHAIR BECKETT: -- not mine.
13 So just wanted to clarify for the record that
14 exchange.
15 MR. RYBARIK: Good catch. And I
16 agree with that. Yeah.
17 CHAIR BECKETT: Great. Was going to
18 say, let me double-check that with you, Council
19 Rybarik.
20 So with those two changes, again, are there any
21 others from Council?
22 All right. Hearing none --
23 MR. ECKROTH: Chair.
24 CHAIR BECKETT: -- then --
25 MR. ECKROTH: Chair Beckett, this is

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1 Robby Eckroth, Skagit County. I believe that the
2 minutes say I was not present. I just want to note
3 that I believe I was.
4 CHAIR BECKETT: Ah. Excellent.
5 Thank you for that correction.
6 We've got all three captured here by the staff.
7 So, with that, chair would entertain a motion to
8 adopt the minutes with those amendments.
9 MR. PAMPLIN: Mr. Chair --
10 MR. RYBARIK: So moved. Sorry.
11 MR. PAMPLIN: Somebody already did.
12 I'll second.
13 MR. RYBARIK: All right.
14 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you, Council.
15 We have a motion before us that has been seconded.
16 All in favor of adopting the minutes as amended,
17 please say aye.
18 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.
19 CHAIR BECKETT: Opposed?
20 MS. DEAN: I'll abstain.
21 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you, Council.
22 And with that, the minutes are adopted.
23 So we will move on to our project updates. And,
24 again, for the benefit of other outside folks that may
25 have not participated in the recent meeting or two, in

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1 general we have a new format that reflects projects
2 that have non- -- nonroutine updates will be those
3 focused in the public meeting here before us, whether
4 they're staff presentations or times outside like with
5 the soon-to-be Ostrea Solar update.
6 Other projects that are routine are in the same
7 public packet. They are the normal written reports
8 that we receive, but we have dispensed with the verbal
9 addition of that in terms of their presence in the
10 meeting.
11 So with that reminder on our new approach here,
12 with that we move to Ostrea Solar update.
13 And, Mr. Voltz, are you with us?
14 MR. VOLTZ: Yes, sir.
15 Good afternoon --
16 CHAIR BECKETT: Very well.
17 MR. VOLTZ: -- Chair Beckett. Oh,
18 sorry about that.
19 Good afternoon, Chair Beckett, Council members,
20 and staff. This is Jon Voltz with Cypress Creek
21 Renewables representing Ostrea Solar.
22 In the month of February, we continued the O&M
23 facility construction, began the utility testing with
24 Bonneville Power Administration, and submitted the
25 initial results for their review.

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1 They have now a certain time frame to review those
 2 results. And upon approval, we would be granted the
 3 ability to remove the curtailment limit of, I think
 4 we're at six-megawatt generation during the trial
 5 operations.
 6 And so commissioning works do continue. We are at
 7 a hold point until that curtailment is lifted, but we
 8 expect that to be very soon. Then we can proceed for
 9 the final commissioning.
 10 There were -- the major construction work is
 11 complete, and so there are some inspections taking
 12 place across the site as far as the -- the SWPPP
 13 maintenance, and so a couple items were identified that
 14 are listed here. They're ongoing to correct. But as
 15 no major construction is expected in the future, these
 16 should kind of be just touch-up works and monitoring
 17 moving forward.
 18 As operations is, I'll say imminent, we have
 19 submitted the operational compliance plans for SWPPP,
 20 spill control, vegetation, weed management, emergency
 21 plan to EFSEC for review. So that should be in your
 22 court or in EFSEC's court to approve those plans prior
 23 to the facility becoming operational.
 24 Other than that, there is nothing nonroutine to
 25 report for the period.

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1 CHAIR BECKETT: Very well. Thank
 2 you.
 3 And I would also thank you for the ongoing level
 4 of detail on the updates, which I think just helps put
 5 on display both for the Council and the public what it
 6 really takes for projects to ultimately come forward
 7 once they have been approved. So thanks for that added
 8 diligence.
 9 Council members, are there any other comments or
 10 questions on Ostrea?
 11 Hearing none.
 12 Moving on --
 13 MR. RYBARIK: Just --
 14 CHAIR BECKETT: -- to Columbia --
 15 MR. RYBARIK: -- real, real quick --
 16 CHAIR BECKETT: Please.
 17 MR. RYBARIK: -- Chair Beckett, if I
 18 might.
 19 And, Jon, you might have just said this, but I
 20 might have missed it. What is the expected, like, full
 21 online date for the project?
 22 CHAIR BECKETT: Thanks, Council
 23 Rybarik.
 24 MR. VOLTZ: Yes, the -- we don't
 25 have a current date. It is dependent on when

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1 Bonneville Power Administration approves the test
 2 results and issues us the "permission to operate
 3 commercially" letter. But we expect that to be -- I
 4 think the best-case scenario we're looking at is end of
 5 this month or early April.
 6 At that point, we will be generating fully.
 7 However, we will still be in the construction phase
 8 under the site certification agreement until we
 9 complete our final testing and vegetation restoration.
 10 And so it's kind of -- it doesn't exactly answer your
 11 question, but full generation, we do expect to be end
 12 of March, early April. And then transition into, you
 13 know, operational coverage versus construction is
 14 likely more May/June time frame.
 15 MR. RYBARIK: Very good. Appreciate
 16 it. Thanks.
 17 MR. VOLTZ: No problem.
 18 CHAIR BECKETT: Other questions?
 19 Hearing none.
 20 We'll move on to Columbia Solar. And Sara
 21 Randolph, I believe, will provide the update.
 22 MR. BARNES: Good afternoon. Thank
 23 you, Chair Beckett and Council members and staff. For
 24 the record, this is John Barnes on behalf of Sara
 25 Randolph, site specialist for the Columbia Solar.

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1 **A facility update is provided in your packet. We**
 2 **expect the facility to submit a formal transfer request**
 3 **to the Council. After such, staff will work to**
 4 **schedule an informational meeting on the amendment**
 5 **request. Following the informational meeting, the**
 6 **review of comments received by staff will prepare -- or**
 7 **staff will prepare documents to support the Council's**
 8 **actions on the request, which will be posted for public**
 9 **comment prior to Council's vote on the request.**
 10 **There are no nonroutine updates to report.**
 11 CHAIR BECKETT: Very well.
 12 Council members, are there comments or questions?
 13 Hearing none.
 14 Moving on to the Carriger Solar. Joanne Snarski
 15 will provide the update.
 16 MS. SNARSKI: Thank you, Chair
 17 Beckett and Council members. For the record, this is
 18 Joanne Snarski, the siting specialist for the Carriger
 19 Solar facility in Klickitat County.
 20 The process of current judicial review of this
 21 project with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the
 22 Yakama Nation has slowed down the progress of the
 23 applicant to draft the required plans and move forward
 24 with construction. However, EFSEC staff are continuing
 25 to discuss Carriger's timing for submitting the plans

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1 required in the site certification agreement.
2 That's all I have. Any questions?
3 CHAIR BECKETT: One question I would
4 have -- I suspect others may raise it too -- is if
5 there was any other appropriate update on litigation?
6 Knowing sometimes that's not in the public meeting, but
7 I assume we're still in process there.
8 MR. THOMPSON: Chair Beckett, this
9 is Jon Thompson.
10 Are you referring to the Carriger --
11 CHAIR BECKETT: I am.
12 MR. THOMPSON: -- specifically?
13 Well, the update is that we still need to transmit
14 the agency record and index to the Thurston County
15 Superior Court and working on that and coordinating
16 with the developer who's intervened in the case and
17 with Yakama Nation, who's the petitioner, to -- and
18 then we'll also have to make a motion to the court to
19 seal those records that are confidential.
20 So all these steps take a bit of time. So that's
21 what's -- that's what's going on right now.
22 CHAIR BECKETT: Okay. Appreciate
23 the quick update. Sorry to put you on the spot.
24 I think -- I suspect other Council -- certainly
25 I'll speak for myself. If there's anything that's

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1 impeding that progression, knowing things do take time,
2 but if there's anything that we can support to make
3 sure that that's as expeditious as is appropriate, but
4 especially in light of the governor's executive order
5 on several projects, including that one, Carriger,
6 obviously we want to make sure that we're advancing
7 that as quickly as feasible. So appreciate your
8 diligence in that regard.
9 Council members, other questions, comments?
10 Seeing none.
11 Moving on to the Cascade Renewables Transmission
12 Project. And Maria Belkina will provide the update, I
13 believe.
14 MS. BELKINA: Thank you, Chair
15 Beckett and Council members. For the record, my name
16 is Maria Belkina, siting specialist assigned to the
17 Cascade Renewable Transmission Project.
18 EFSEC is continuing to review the application for
19 site certification for compliance with WAC 463-60, with
20 the objective of determining whether the application
21 contains sufficient information to support the next
22 phase of review.
23 An initial data request has been issued to the
24 applicant -- to the applicant to support ongoing review
25 and preparation for the SEPA process. Given this scope

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1 of the request, we anticipate continued coordination
2 with the applicant regarding timing of responses.
3 Preparation is underway to initiate the SEPA
4 process, including an anticipated determination of
5 significance and scoping. Coordination is ongoing to
6 align EFSEC's SEPA process with the federal NEPA
7 process.
8 EFSEC continues coordination with federal and
9 state agencies, including the U.S. Army Corps of
10 Engineers, as well as Oregon agencies, to support
11 interagency alignment and information sharing.
12 We are also coordinated with -- coordinating with
13 Skamania County and the Columbia River Gorge Commission
14 regarding the National Scenic Area permitting
15 framework, including potential development of an
16 interlocal agreement to clarify roles and
17 responsibilities.
18 I would be happy to answer any questions. Thank
19 you.
20 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you for the
21 update.
22 Council members, do you have questions or need
23 anything reiterated from the update?
24 Council Pamplin.
25 MR. PAMPLIN: Yes, Mr. Chair.

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1 CHAIR BECKETT: Yes. Please.
2 Please go ahead. Thank you.
3 MR. PAMPLIN: Thanks, Mr. Chair. I
4 may have missed it in the update. But what is the
5 status of rounding out the Council participation, given
6 the different local governments that are -- that this
7 line transects, please? Thank you.
8 CHAIR BECKETT: Let me just add a
9 quick word before staff further jump in. But I wanted
10 to also acknowledge and thank Council Leckie from
11 Skamania, who's online with us today. Jeff Breckel
12 from Stevenson, who's been in prior meetings, but I
13 think, unless he logged in here recently, is absent
14 today. And then we do have a new named Council member,
15 Jennifer Senescu, from the city of Camas. There's, I
16 think, certainly a couple other open items, so
17 appreciate your question, Council Pamplin.
18 Ms. Belkina or Hafkemeyer, or --
19 MS. BELKINA: Yes.
20 CHAIR BECKETT: -- Thompson.
21 MS. BELKINA: We have two more on it
22 here. It will be on circle for Klickitat County for
23 next week -- next month. And the -- there isn't any
24 answer for Clark County.
25 CHAIR BECKETT: So Klickitat County

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1 is coming and likely with us by next month. And then
 2 still pending on Clark County. Is that correct?
 3 And as far as we know, that is -- that would then
 4 round out the known Council at that point, or do we
 5 still have other jurisdictions that we're sorting
 6 through? I know Port of Skamania, I believe, was one
 7 of those, by example.
 8 MS. HAFKEMEYER: For the record,
 9 this is Ami Hafkemeyer. We have had some additional
 10 conversations with some of the local governments, some
 11 cities. And we are expecting some follow-up
 12 information in writing as to whether or not, you know,
 13 some of those local jurisdictions that may have a very
 14 small portion of the line or maybe don't agree that the
 15 project falls within their city limits. We expect in
 16 the coming month to have some confirmation in writing
 17 as to whether or not they'll be appointing somebody to
 18 sit on the Council.
 19 CHAIR BECKETT: Appreciate that.
 20 Appreciate that.
 21 MR. PAMPLIN: Thank you.
 22 CHAIR BECKETT: Council Pamplin, any
 23 follow-up you wish?
 24 MR. PAMPLIN: No. That's helpful.
 25 Thank you, sir.

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1 CHAIR BECKETT: Yeah. Thank you. I
 2 would certainly just affirm, for the benefit of the
 3 public as well as a thanks to staff as well as local
 4 partners working through, if not the first, it's
 5 certainly been a long time, I think, since EFSEC's had
 6 this type of corridor project. And sorting through
 7 what are the local representatives to that Council
 8 becomes a little more complex when you get into the
 9 particulars, both under the law as well as under the
 10 physicality of the property involved.
 11 So appreciate that and as well as people's
 12 patience, you know, as we sort through those important
 13 details, so...
 14 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Looks like Council
 15 Leckie has a hand up.
 16 CHAIR BECKETT: Council Leckie.
 17 MR. LECKIE: Yeah. Yes. Thank you,
 18 Chair.
 19 Was there a process for North Bonneville, the city
 20 of North Bonneville also to get a representative? I
 21 thought I heard something about that, but I wasn't
 22 sure. Thank you.
 23 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Yes, we have had
 24 additional conversation with North Bonneville about
 25 both their appointment of a Council member as well as

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1 coordination with their planning department. So that
 2 is some of the information that we've identified as
 3 forthcoming.
 4 MR. LECKIE: Thank you.
 5 CHAIR BECKETT: Appreciate the
 6 question.
 7 Okay. I think we then -- looks like we're ready
 8 to move on to our transmission programmatic EIS. And
 9 Sean Greene will be providing that update.
 10 I do want to call out and thank both Ecology and
 11 EFSEC staff, and Sean in particular, for an integrated,
 12 I guess it was hypothetical project scenarios were one
 13 part of the exercise recently done. From what I could
 14 see, a good turnout from local county representatives
 15 and other staff that I'm sure Sean will expand on a
 16 little bit.
 17 But I listened in to that, albeit while I was in
 18 the car heading to Nespelem, so I may have missed a few
 19 things. But I just thought it was very well done and
 20 appreciated just all the effort it took to bring that
 21 forward.
 22 So, with that, Mr. Greene.
 23 MR. GREENE: Thank you.
 24 Good afternoon, Chair Beckett and Council members.
 25 This is Sean Greene, SEPA specialist for EFSEC.

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1 During the last Council meeting, I provided a
 2 walk-through of the e-programmatic digital interface
 3 that we have developed for EFSEC's transmission
 4 programmatic EIS. I can share today that the
 5 e-programmatic and its associated route analysis tool
 6 are now live and available for public use.
 7 To access the e-programmatic directly, users can
 8 go to the EFSEC website at EFSEC.wa.gov and either
 9 navigate to the programmatic EIS landing page under the
 10 "About EFSEC" and "Studies and Reports" drop-downs on
 11 the top right of the screen, or just type the word
 12 "programmatic" into the search bar. The programmatic
 13 EIS landing page on the EFSEC site includes a direct
 14 link to the e-programmatic.
 15 Additionally, EFSEC has completed the first in a
 16 series of at least three joint workshops with the
 17 Washington Department of Ecology in which we are
 18 sharing our programmatic EISs with planning staff from
 19 several different counties.
 20 Our first virtual workshop was held on February
 21 25th. It included an introduction on what programmatic
 22 EISs are and how they are structured and how -- and can
 23 be used to assist project-specific SEPA review us.
 24 We then worked with attendees on a case study of
 25 how our programmatic EISs would be applied to a

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1 hypothetical project submitted for review. The
2 workshop was fairly well attended, and we received a
3 lot of positive feedback from the County staff that
4 participated.
5 We will be holding an in-person workshop in Grant
6 County next week on March 25th and a second virtual
7 workshop on April 2nd.
8 Are there any questions?
9 CHAIR BECKETT: Council members?
10 None for today it looks like. You were due for an
11 easier go after last time's in-depth discussion, which,
12 again, was welcome and important.
13 I would note for the benefit of those
14 participating today in the meeting that the
15 programmatic link is also in the agenda, so you can go
16 straight to it if you have the agenda up. Just FYI.
17 MS. DEAN: If I may, Chair.
18 CHAIR BECKETT: Please.
19 MS. DEAN: One question. Has tribal
20 consultation taken place yet? Or what is the plan for
21 that?
22 MR. GREENE: For the programmatic
23 EIS?
24 MS. DEAN: Yes.
25 MR. GREENE: So we had discussions

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1 with multiple tribes when the programmatic EIS was
2 being developed. Some of them discussed the potential
3 for requesting consultation and further discussions.
4 Their concerns were -- they thought their concerns were
5 better addressed through a formal letter and response
6 from EFSEC when the programmatic EIS was being drafted.
7 So to my knowledge, at the moment, there's no plans for
8 formal consultation on the programmatic EIS, although
9 we are always open to having those consultations with
10 tribes if they are interested.
11 MS. DEAN: Thank you.
12 CHAIR BECKETT: And certainly
13 they've been included in the outreach efforts --
14 MR. GREENE: Yes.
15 CHAIR BECKETT: -- more recently in
16 addition to the development -- I don't know if they
17 would have called it consultation. That was a little
18 before my time probably. But certainly it's been
19 robust or certainly present throughout.
20 MS. DEAN: Mm-hmm.
21 CHAIR BECKETT: Knowing some of
22 those expectations are evolving as far as what's --
23 what's a best practice, you know, this year, in more
24 recent -- more recent years, so...
25 It also pains me, having remembered a moment

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1 ago -- it's a good segue from your question -- and it
2 pains me to go backwards, but let me go back to Cascade
3 renewable transmission project for just one moment.
4 I had -- in last month's meeting -- and you'll
5 find this in the minutes -- was noting as chair who's
6 under the current statute designated as the lead for
7 consultation on behalf of the Council, that I was
8 intending in recommending that we request consultation
9 on the Cascade renewable transmission project.
10 And so letters are basically prepared and soon to
11 go out requesting that as well as kind of, you know,
12 some broader ongoing engagement with the agency on some
13 of our broader initiatives beyond just CRT. So just
14 wanted to call that out in case there were any comments
15 from Council members about that intent. I believe the
16 record shows there's generally affirmation to go do so,
17 which is more of a informal discussion than some action
18 by the Council.
19 But I did want to highlight that for both the
20 public and for Council members today, that that -- that
21 intent is being acted upon. But since the letters
22 haven't gone out, now is your chance to add a word if
23 you wish.
24 So, again, sorry to roll us backwards in the
25 agenda. I just skipped over my note I had already

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1 written to bring that up.
2 So any comments on that?
3 Council Pamplin.
4 MR. PAMPLIN: Yeah. Thanks.
5 Thanks, Mr. Chair.
6 And so this would be for the tribal coordination
7 or consultation on CRT. I believe during the meeting
8 last month, there was, I think, like, three tribes
9 noted, or maybe four, with -- there was three treaty
10 tribes and as well as the Cowlitz Tribe. I just wanted
11 to make sure that -- and also I think the Columbia
12 River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.
13 And so I just wanted to make sure that on the
14 radar, that we had added Nez Perce, because they're
15 also a treaty tribe that has treaty fishing rights
16 within that portion of the Columbia main stem. And so
17 just kind of by count, I would -- I would recommend, at
18 minimum, consulting with Yakama Nation, Warm Springs,
19 Nez Perce, Umatilla, CRITFC, which is the consortium of
20 those four treaty tribes. And then I also had heard
21 that Cowlitz Indian Tribe was interested. Thank you.
22 CHAIR BECKETT: Yes would be the
23 quick answer on that intent. If anything, it's
24 probably at the moment a little more Oregon-oriented.
25 Not that that, I suppose, matters in the grander

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1 scheme, but it would be inclusive of the Washington
 2 tribes as well.
 3 I would also note, having learned this recently --
 4 well, actually two things.
 5 So first thing I learned a while back -- and this
 6 is standard practice for EFSEC -- that when EFSEC has a
 7 project or goes out, I believe we notify all the
 8 tribes --
 9 MS. McLEAN: Mm-hmm.
 10 CHAIR BECKETT: -- of Washington and
 11 those relevant from Oregon, just as general notice,
 12 whether it's likely to be very much, you know, a
 13 project in their -- in their usual and accustomed area
 14 or something they're more focused on. But that is the
 15 standard practice.
 16 And while that may seem a little broad to some on
 17 the face of it, the second thing that I learned more
 18 recently was, by example, the Makah Nation certainly
 19 weighs in on any number of species issues that pertain
 20 to those coming out of the Columbia, amongst other
 21 examples.
 22 So whether or not Makah chooses to consult on
 23 Cascade Renewable Transmission Project, I don't know.
 24 They've been notified in earlier times when the broad
 25 distribution first started. But nonetheless, you know,

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1 just some of the nature of it's sometimes hard to tell
 2 where you draw the circle on who all should be
 3 involved.
 4 So EFSEC tries to be pretty expansive in its
 5 conclusion when we get started, knowing that's probably
 6 a little broad, but we narrow in from there. So hope
 7 that helps put a little further specifics on how we do
 8 our work around here.
 9 MR. PAMPLIN: Yes. And thanks.
 10 Thanks, Mr. Chair. Really appreciate that addition as
 11 well as completely endorse that as the approach of just
 12 being inclusive and then allowing the -- the tribes
 13 that are, you know, notified they can self-select how
 14 much engagement that they provide. So thank you.
 15 CHAIR BECKETT: Yep.
 16 And I should clarify too, Cowlitz, the Cowlitz
 17 Tribe have requested consultation. And in this case,
 18 on behalf of the Council, we're sending these letters
 19 out asking for consultation of the others and hope to
 20 certainly, you know, have that engagement, much as some
 21 have weighed in in the record -- CRITFC, as I recall
 22 it -- as we, the Council, you know, proceeds in its
 23 objective review of this over time.
 24 So thanks for letting me unpack that a little
 25 further.

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1 And unless I see any other hands up, I will move
 2 us back. And now on to Horse Heaven.
 3 MS. MOON: Good afternoon --
 4 CHAIR BECKETT: Amy Moon will
 5 provide the update. Thank you.
 6 MS. MOON: Oh. Thank you.
 7 Good afternoon, Council Chair Beckett and EFSEC
 8 Council members. This is Amy Moon providing an update
 9 on Horse Heaven.
 10 In February, I reported that EFSEC received
 11 facilitator reports with preconstruction survey plans
 12 for several wildlife species, including a combined
 13 report for the striped whipsnake and sagebrush lizard,
 14 burrowing owl, prairie falcon, the black-tail
 15 jackrabbit, the white-tail jackrabbit, and the
 16 Townsend's ground squirrel. We also received the
 17 Wild-10 preconstruction bat monitoring plan and the
 18 Species-12 Townsend's ground squirrel mitigation and
 19 management plan. Those were all facilitator reports.
 20 I wanted to let the Council know that these
 21 documents have since been reviewed by EFSEC staff and
 22 approved by the acting EFSEC executive director.
 23 Staff continue to work with the certificate holder
 24 to review plans, including the Land & Shoreline Use, or
 25 LSU, Dryland Farming Management Plan as required by

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1 Mitigation Measure LSU-2 and the Livestock Management
 2 Plan required under Mitigation Measures LSU-1 and
 3 LSU-3, which were recently received from the
 4 certificate holder.
 5 The plans were developed as a framework for
 6 coordination with landowners and tenant farmers during
 7 project construction, operation, and decommissioning,
 8 with the objective to establish clear communication
 9 expectations, practical notice periods, and fieldwork
 10 protocols that reflect local practices.
 11 EFSEC staff are also evaluating a recent request
 12 to remove three trees consistent with Mitigation Veg-1,
 13 tree avoidance. This mitigation measure states that
 14 construction shall avoid removing or disturbing trees
 15 within the project lease boundary but also allows for
 16 the certificate holder to remove trees with EFSEC
 17 pre-approval where tree disturbance cannot be avoided
 18 by the project.
 19 The certificate holder reports that the three
 20 black walnut trees located at the intersection of
 21 Beightol Road -- and if I mispronounce that for locals,
 22 correct me at some point -- at the intersection of
 23 Beightol Road and County Well Road need to be removed
 24 to support siting and construction of a substation and
 25 point of interconnect, as the siting of the substation

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1 elsewhere cannot feasibly be done within the existing
 2 approved micro-siting corridor.
 3 Two of these trees are in poor condition, and one
 4 was confirmed dead last year in 2025. Mitigation for
 5 removal of the three trees would be replacement in kind
 6 with three native species that will have a higher
 7 probability of survival. Details of the tree
 8 replacement will be included in the revised Wildlife
 9 and Habitat Mitigation Plan prior to the start of
 10 construction.
 11 After receiving EFSEC approval of their Pronghorn
 12 GPS Collaring Protocol and the Pronghorn Capture &
 13 Handling Procedures, the certificate holder conducted
 14 two pronghorn collaring events on February 27th and
 15 March 13th. A total of 17 pronghorn have been collared
 16 and are being tracked by GPS, including 14 females and
 17 three males.
 18 Does the Council have any questions?
 19 CHAIR BECKETT: Council members,
 20 comments or questions?
 21 I see none.
 22 So we will say thank you on that update and move
 23 on to Hop Hill, which John Barnes will provide.
 24 MR. BARNES: Thank you, Chair
 25 Beckett and Council members. This is John Barnes,

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1 EFSEC staff, for the Hop Hill application.
 2 Staff are continuing to work with the applicant in
 3 the submission of additional application materials for
 4 the Hop Hill project. Staff are also working with the
 5 applicant and the Department of Ecology to schedule an
 6 April site visit to conduct verification of the
 7 wetlands and waters delineation reports for this
 8 project. This verification is required to support SEPA
 9 determination for the project.
 10 Are there any questions?
 11 CHAIR BECKETT: Council members?
 12 Seeing none.
 13 We will move on to Wallula Gap.
 14 MR. BARNES: Thank you, Chair
 15 Beckett and Council members. This is John Barnes,
 16 EFSEC staff, for the Wallula Gap application.
 17 Staff are continuing to work with the applicant
 18 OneEnergy, and the Yakama Nation Cultural Resource
 19 Program staff regarding impacts identified in the TCP,
 20 traditional cultural properties, study and report
 21 conducted by the Yakama Nation for this application.
 22 Staff have received the Department of Ecology
 23 final wetlands and waters report for this application.
 24 Staff will be working with the applicant to determine
 25 if project modifications are needed based on the

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1 information contained in this report. As a reminder,
 2 identification of potential project impacts and
 3 mitigations that can be resolved as part of the EFSEC
 4 SEPA determination process.
 5 Are there any questions?
 6 CHAIR BECKETT: Council members,
 7 comments, questions?
 8 Seeing none.
 9 We will move on to Goldeneye, and Joanne Snarski
 10 will provide the update.
 11 MS. SNARSKI: Thank you.
 12 Again, this is Joanne Snarski, the siting
 13 specialist for the proposed Goldeneye battery energy
 14 storage facility proposed in Skagit County.
 15 Staff are continuing to assess the potential
 16 impacts from the proposed project as required by the
 17 State Environmental Policy Act. We are working
 18 internally and with our supporting agency partners to
 19 evaluate potential impacts to determine if there will
 20 be any additional data needs to support our evaluation.
 21 Also, staff recently received a letter from the
 22 Upper Skagit Tribe identifying their ongoing concerns
 23 with the project location. We are evaluating best
 24 options for following up with them.
 25 May I answer any questions?

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1 CHAIR BECKETT: Council, questions
 2 or comments for staff?
 3 Okay. Seeing none.
 4 I did want to note, as I think staff probably have
 5 captured, but, Council Krupin, I've seen your note here
 6 about asking for details on the Hop Hill site visit
 7 afterwards. So just capturing that for the record,
 8 Council Krupin.
 9 And with that, we will move on to our other agency
 10 updates, starting with Dave Walker.
 11 MR. WALKER: Yeah. Thank you, Chair
 12 Beckett. For the record, Dave Walker, interim director
 13 with EFSEC.
 14 I first wanted to start with a new-employee
 15 update. I wanted to introduce Gina Young. She started
 16 with us at the beginning of this month. Gina is part
 17 of our contracts and fiscal office and is a fantastic
 18 addition, and we very much appreciate her being aboard.
 19 She comes to us from Department of Health, and prior
 20 that -- prior to that, Employment Security. She'd been
 21 with the State for about four years now. So welcome,
 22 Gina.
 23 MS. YOUNG: Thank you.
 24 CHAIR BECKETT: Welcome.
 25 MR. WALKER: Next, I wanted to just

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1 give a quick budget update, now that the legislative
2 session is over. The budget bill is with the governor
3 currently for review. We do not have a signed budget
4 bill as of yet. Although what started to be -- started
5 out to be what we anticipated a 15 percent reduction in
6 our general funds, was greatly diminished as the
7 legislative session made its way through to conclusion.
8 With the numbers -- and it's really hard to say
9 quite yet where they're going to land. Obviously the
10 governor still needs to review and sign it, so it's
11 most likely premature for us to make any statements at
12 this point. Although we believe that the budget is in
13 good shape for EFSEC moving into the second half of
14 this fiscal year. So once we have a signed budget,
15 we'll certainly update the Council on any changes that
16 have occurred on that.
17 One thing I did want to bring forward was EFSEC's
18 work on the Executive Order 25-11. This is specific to
19 projects going -- going on across the state -- and
20 these are clean energy projects -- that EFSEC does have
21 jurisdiction over seven of those projects that we're
22 currently efforting with the acceleration team that was
23 created by Executive Order 25-11.
24 We have had a chance to go through and comb that
25 list, and we have brought it down to three, possibly

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1 four projects under EFSEC jurisdiction that will meet
2 the requirements and elements of the tax incentives as
3 put forth in the federal budget.
4 We are going to continue to work those obviously
5 with the acceleration team and internally to see if we
6 can bring three or possibly all four of these projects
7 to conclusion within the time frames, which is
8 operational, I believe -- and correct me if I'm wrong
9 on this one Ami -- they need to be operational by the
10 end of December 2029. Does that sound --
11 MS. HAFKEMEYER: I believe that's
12 correct.
13 MR. WALKER: -- correct? Okay.
14 So that's all we really have to talk about on this
15 particular subject at this time, but we'll certainly
16 keep the Council informed as we are continuing to move
17 forward on these acceleration efforts.
18 And with that, that was all I had from my updates.
19 CHAIR BECKETT: Okay.
20 MR. WALKER: I could hand it over to
21 Lisa if she --
22 CHAIR BECKETT: Let's see if Council
23 have questions or comments for you. Appreciate the
24 focus on the governor's executive order, of course.
25 And as noted on Carriger, I guess, by myself earlier.

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1 So, with that, Council members, questions or
2 discussion you'd wish to have about any of Dave's
3 updates?
4 None for now.
5 MR. WALKER: Okay.
6 MR. RYBARIK: Thanks for the update.
7 Welcome. Welcome, new folks.
8 CHAIR BECKETT: And with that, we
9 will move on to our legislative update and then
10 followed by the rulemaking update. That, again, is
11 rulemaking on preapplication, adjudication, and site
12 restoration overall. We may focus on less than all
13 those three today, but I'll turn it to Lisa.
14 MS. McLEAN: Thank you, Chair
15 Beckett, Council members. For the record, my name is
16 Lisa McLean, the legislative and policy manager and
17 tribal liaison for EFSEC.
18 Legislative and policies on the agenda for today.
19 Legislative update. We all know that the -- their sine
20 die was on Thursday. And our major -- the major piece
21 of legislation that we were tracking and trying to work
22 with the sponsors on was SHB 2496 concerning tribal
23 consultation conducted by EFSEC. That was sponsored by
24 Senator Sharon Shewmake and Representative Chris
25 Stearns. That passed.

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1 The legislature and now is waiting -- awaiting the
2 governor's signature. It was not agency-request
3 legislation, per se, but something that we were working
4 actively with Yakama, the Association of Washington
5 Businesses, and elected staff members and the
6 governor's office on.
7 To go into details about what that bill is going
8 to allow, it's going to allow the full Council to meet
9 with a tribal council at their request as part of the
10 government-to-government consultation process. Should
11 the number of Council members constitute a quorum, it
12 will not constitute a meeting under the Open Public
13 Meetings Act provided that there is no deliberation
14 between members of the EFSEC Council and there are no
15 assurances or commitments made by members of the EFSEC
16 Council at the meeting.
17 The goal of the consultation is to hear from the
18 tribes, to enable them to provide us information
19 regarding tribal resources and rights that might be
20 affected by the project, and also as a way for them to
21 give us their proposals for minimizing, avoiding, or
22 mitigating any adverse effects.
23 Also our statute already required us to provide a
24 summary of the G2G consultation process to the
25 governor. Now, as per the amendments that have been

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1 made, any report summarizing that G2G consultation
2 process should be given in advance to the tribe, who
3 should be given 30 days to request any corrections or
4 provide a summary of its own.
5 This is important -- this bill is important
6 because of the fact that some of the tribes want to
7 meet with all the decision-makers, not just the chair,
8 as it was before. And so that's important to them.
9 And they also want to be able to see whether -- how we
10 are characterizing to the governor the consultation
11 process.
12 The business community has some concerns. We work
13 with Association of Business -- Association of
14 Washington Businesses. They were worried about
15 discussions that are out of the public eye that might
16 exclude them from the discussion and worried that maybe
17 some mitigation measures would be agreed to behind
18 closed doors. And they also were concerned about the
19 ability of the tribe to submit their own summary of the
20 consultation process.
21 We worked closely with AWB. They were not pro,
22 but they were neutral. And we did -- there's nuanced
23 language in the amendments that were approved that seek
24 to address some of those concerns.
25 We welcome -- overall, we welcome the change to

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1 our statute and hope that it serves as an important
2 step in keeping our ability to learn and engage in
3 meaningful dialogue with our tribal partners as we
4 pursue the agency's responsibilities.
5 So that's my legislative update. If there are any
6 questions about that. Or anything.
7 CHAIR BECKETT: Turn this to the
8 Council, see if there were any comments or questions on
9 the legislative item.
10 I would just quickly say thank you. I would also
11 highlight and celebrate our staff's work with the
12 Yakama Nation staff as well as that with the
13 Association of Washington Business and appreciate that
14 organization trying to work, you know, through to a
15 solution, knowing they had concerns, which seems to be
16 not quite done yet in terms of the governor's
17 consideration and signature, but well on its way, and
18 appreciate our legislative leaders you mentioned who
19 were a part of that.
20 I will just note, should that be signed into law,
21 today I feel at times sometimes, you know, we're not
22 always ensuring we're hearing one another, especially
23 in some of the conversations and within our
24 consultation. And where that can be a more fulsome
25 hearing of one another's needs and impacts or concerns,

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1 like on the Cascade renewable transmission project, at
2 the beginning, rather than when it's currently allowed,
3 far later in adjudication, in a more, you know, legal
4 and appropriate setting, knowing some projects need
5 adjudication, that's one of the hopefully benefits that
6 ultimately won't change the public's full review and
7 input ultimately as the Council does its work and
8 eventually reaches, you know, conclusion on any
9 project.
10 So I think that's part of the experiment here
11 that's underway, but I think well -- coming from a good
12 place. So, with that added context, thanks, Council,
13 for allowing me to expand on that.
14 And so, Council Nelson, please.
15 MR. NELSON: Thank you, Chair
16 Beckett. You know, this -- this thought might not be
17 fully cooked, but I just want to express it because
18 we're having this -- this discussion with Department of
19 Ecology.
20 So if this is signed into law, if -- if a tribe,
21 tribal government, requests a G2G with an agency -- and
22 in the G2Gs I've been into, there's often been, like, a
23 full agenda, multiple topics, you know. But even if a
24 site's being permitted through EFSEC, you know, they
25 can still talk to an agency about concerns.

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1 So I was just wondering as a Council member what
2 are, under the judicial ethics laws that we're -- you
3 know, that we have to have a hold to, what if any our
4 role could then be in those G2Gs within our agencies,
5 you know, if a site that was going through EFSEC was on
6 the agenda.
7 So that's something that I plan to seek guidance
8 on. Just wanted to throw that out there.
9 CHAIR BECKETT: So let me try to
10 make sure I heard you: That if you're involved in a
11 consultation within Ecology, if Ecology is consulting?
12 MR. NELSON: Yes. So previously,
13 you know, it just would have been the EFSEC chair
14 participating in a G2G with the tribe. And now if
15 there's Council members present and then we also are
16 called into, you know, a separate G2G at our agency
17 regarding -- you know, and if they're an energy
18 facility that is going to go through EFSEC or isn't in
19 the process through EFSEC is on that agenda, if we
20 should recuse ourselves, you know, or if we -- if that
21 would have any impact on -- on those standards we need
22 to uphold about not talking about specific projects
23 outside of this process.
24 CHAIR BECKETT: Sure. Well, we may
25 need to follow up with you to just get a little further

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1 detail and clarity to make sure we're answering the
2 question fully and correctly.
3 Generally the operating condition is that the
4 Council only does work as the Council. And, hence, if
5 you're, you know, exposed on a EFSEC project within
6 other agency work, that's where you would need to not
7 be present, per se, is the, I think, simple answer.
8 But we may need to dig in a little offline, which we're
9 happy to do with Counsel Thompson as well.
10 MR. NELSON: I was going to say,
11 thank you, Chair Beckett. Due to my personal liability
12 in the matter, that is the stance I am currently
13 taking. But it is an open discussion, so I just want
14 to make sure I get it right.
15 CHAIR BECKETT: Appreciate that.
16 Well, the conditions do evolve with each -- with each
17 item, so there's not always common answers across --
18 across that same question. So appreciate your
19 diligence in raising it.
20 Any other hands?
21 With that, then we will move to rulemaking.
22 MS. McLEAN: Moving to rulemaking.
23 As you will recall, we filed a preproposal statement of
24 inquiry in November for amending three chapters:
25 Chapters related to adjudicative proceedings, related

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1 to application process, and related to site restoration
2 and preservation.
3 The adjudicative proceeding and site restoration
4 and preservation is an attempt to update the language
5 to the current practice that we use. And the
6 application process is about adding detail about the
7 preapplication process into the rules.
8 So we had hoped to have draft amendments to you in
9 February for Council review, but unfortunately, due to
10 legislative session, onboarding of our new rules and
11 policy coordinator, and other things, we have somewhat
12 slowed in this process.
13 However, in the last couple weeks, we've made a
14 lot, a lot of progress. And we believe that we are on
15 the verge of sharing the draft amended language with
16 our legal counsels for review. And depending upon
17 their availability, given their other responsibilities
18 towards the Council, we see a realistic schedule could
19 maybe be that we present to you the language for
20 approval in April 15th and come back to you for final
21 approval on July 15th with the new rules taking effect
22 on August 15th, or alternatively, we may have to -- we
23 may not be ready till May 20th, whereupon you would be
24 approving in May 20th the language to go in front of
25 the people for a hearing, and then the Council would

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1 approve the final version on August 19th, and it would
2 take effect on September 14th.
3 Having said all of that, as all of you are members
4 of your own agencies and probably have participated in
5 rules, this all assumes that we file language, we have
6 a hearing, and we don't make any huge, substantive
7 amendments that require us to refile the language and
8 have another hearing.
9 So if it's all smooth, then we might have rules by
10 September at the latest. But, you know, we never can
11 say. So stay tuned. We are working on it. Hopefully
12 we'll have something for you soon.
13 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you for the
14 update.
15 MS. McLEAN: Yeah.
16 CHAIR BECKETT: Council, let me
17 turn -- I have a comment, but let me turn to my fellow
18 Council members first for any questions or comments
19 they may wish.
20 I would just -- I guess, thanks. Then I would
21 add, as the person who's always pushing to move with
22 time-certain outcomes and with -- I wouldn't say always
23 with speed, but again, with, you know, more certainty
24 around our path, I also appreciate that quickly we'll
25 be at year end if we don't keep moving here.

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1 But at the same juncture, I do think, given the
2 topics and just kind of the general path ahead for
3 EFSEC, whatever clarifications, improvements, changes
4 we're making, we need to do our best work and get it,
5 you know, as constructively clear as we can. And if
6 that takes a little more time to do that, ultimately I
7 think, you know, we can do a little bit of both there
8 as you bring that schedule forward. So we'll look
9 forward to more evolutions as you've already updated,
10 so soon.
11 With that, that concludes our main agenda. If
12 there are closing comments or any questions, et cetera,
13 from Council members, let me call for that, or soon we
14 will be -- we will be finished.
15 MR. RYBARIK: Very quickly, Chair
16 Beckett, want to go back to the beginning of our agenda
17 and just welcome Kate Dean to the Council. Welcome
18 aboard. Sorry I couldn't be there with you in person
19 today at the -- at the UTC/EFSEC building but will meet
20 you soon and looking forward to working with you.
21 MS. DEAN: Thank you, Council
22 Rybarik. I'm sorry to say that you're all missing "Pie
23 Day" here. And there's quite a selection of pie, just
24 to rub it in.
25 MR. RYBARIK: Maybe we'll have to

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1 have Pizza Pie Day for a future meeting. But very
2 good. Thank you.
3 CHAIR BECKETT: Both were
4 represented, just so you know.
5 MR. RYBARIK: Ah. All right. Very
6 good.
7 CHAIR BECKETT: All right. Well,
8 thank you, all, and especially our Council members, for
9 your time and participation, engagement today. And
10 with that, at 2:22, we are adjourned.
11 (Meeting adjourned at
12 2:22 p.m.)
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1 STATE OF WASHINGTON) I, John M.S. Botelho, CCR, RPR,
) ss a certified court reporter
2 County of Pierce) in the State of Washington, do
 hereby certify:
3
4
5 That the foregoing monthly meeting of the Washington
6 State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council was conducted
7 in my presence and adjourned on March 18, 2026, and
8 thereafter was transcribed under my direction; that the
9 transcript is a full, true and complete transcript of the
10 said meeting, transcribed to the best of my ability;
11 That I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel
12 of any party to this matter or relative or employee of any
13 such attorney or counsel and that I am not financially
14 interested in the said matter or the outcome thereof;
15
16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
17 this 1st day of April, 2026.
18
19
20
21
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25

/s/John M.S. Botelho, CCR, RPR
Certified Court Reporter No. 2976
(Certification expires 5/26/2026.)

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Ostrea Solar

Operator: Cypress Creek Renewables

Report Date: 4/3/2026

Reporting Period: 3/1/2026-3/31/2026

Site Contact: Fred Hageman

Facility SCA Status: Construction

Construction Status (only applicable for projects under construction)

- O&M facility setup ongoing, establishment of power, water, septic, internet services
- Utility testing results deemed passing by Bonneville Power Administration, pending to receive Permission to Operate letter that will authorize full generation
- Commissioning works and final testing of the facility on hold until full generation is authorized

Operations & Maintenance (only applicable for operating facilities)

- Not yet operational.
-

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

Environmental Compliance

-Permit status if any changes.

- N/A

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

- BMP installations per Exhibits continue

-Any EFSEC-related inspections that occurred.

- Site inspections performed on a bi-weekly basis

-Any EFSEC-related complaints or violations that occurred.

- Sediment accumulation in BA-1A swell
- Straw mats needing repair/maintenance
- Vehicle drippings behind O&M facility – remediated
- Missing label on waste material – remediated
- Straw waddle in the eastern property is buried and requires remediation

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

- None

Safety Compliance

- Nothing to report in the month of March.

Current or Upcoming Projects

-Planned site improvements

- Current:
 - O&M shop completion
 - Commissioning works of the SCADA
 - Fiber communication installation

- Upcoming Projects
 - Aerial and field IR scanning
 - Performance testing
 - Installation of final BMPs

-Upcoming permit renewals.

- None.

-Additional mitigation improvements or milestones.

- Active BMP monitoring and remediation ongoing
- Preparation for vegetation site survey and final BMP installation

Other

-Current events of note.

- N/A

-Personnel changes as they may relate to EFSEC facility contacts:

- None, operational personnel will be identified in the coming weeks

-Public outreach of interest

- None.

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update Format

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

Operator: ACT Power Services (*Formerly Tuusso Energy, LLC*)

Report Date: April 10, 2026

Reporting Period: 31 Days, Ending March 31, 2026

Site Contact: James Lara (James.Lara@altuspower.com)

Facility SCA Status: Operation

Construction Status

- Penstemon
 - Currently operational
 - Total Generation during the month was 917 Megawatt hours

- Camas
 - Currently operational
 - Total Generation during the month was 875 Megawatt hours

- Urtica
 - Currently operational
 - Total Generation during the month was 955 Megawatt hours

April 6, 2026

Via Overnight Mail and Email

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Olympia, WA 98504
Attention: Sara Randolph, Energy Facility Site Specialist
Email: Sara.Randolph@efsec.wa.gov

Re: Change in Site Control

To whom it may concern:

Reference is made to those certain (i) Site Certification Agreement for the Columbia Solar Project, Camas Solar Site, Kittitas County, Washington, dated as of August 21, 2018, owned and operated by TE - Camas, LLC, (ii) Site Certification Agreement for the Columbia Solar Project, Penstemon Solar Site, Kittitas County, Washington, dated as of August 21, 2018, owned and operated by TE – Penstemon, LLC, and (iii) Site Certification Agreement for the Columbia Solar Project, Urtica Solar Site, Kittitas County, Washington, dated as of August 21, 2018, owned and operated by TE – Urtica, LLC (collectively, the “Site Certification Agreements”). Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Site Certification Agreements.

As you have been made aware, on December 17, 2025, Greenbacker Renewable Energy Corporation, or a subsidiary thereto, sold and assigned the membership interests in the TE – Camas, LLC, TE – Penstemon, LLC and TE – Urtica, LLC to Altus Power, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (“Altus”). Altus has the means to provide the required financial assurance, and as of the date hereof, the Letter of Credit in place for each project has in fact been replaced with a Letter of Credit provided on behalf of Altus. Other than the upstream change in ownership there are no other changes contemplated with respect to the Site Certification Agreements and all terms and conditions will continue to be met by Altus.

We respectfully request that Council review and approve the change in ownership and are happy to answer any follow up questions as needed.

Regards,

GREENBACKER RENEWABLE ENERGY CORPORATION

By:  _____

ALTUS POWER, LLC

By:  _____

Carriger Solar Project

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

Location: Unincorporated Klickitat County. Approximately 2 miles west of Goldendale.

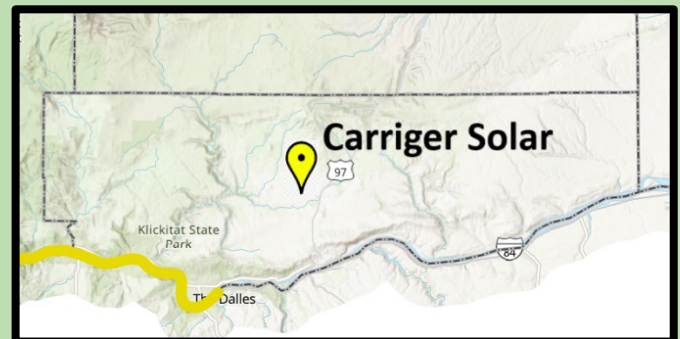
Applicant: Carriger Solar LLC

- Milestone Dates:**
- February 10, 2023, Original ASC Submitted
 - September 25, 2023, Council issues Order No. 889 Granting a Finding of Land Use Consistency.
 - April 7, 2025, SEPA Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance published.
 - May 5, 2025, Council granted Expedited Process.
 - June 25, 2025, Council approved Draft Site Certification Agreement (SCA) be sent to the Governor for approval.
 - August 22, 2025 Governor Ferguson remanded the SCA to EFSEC for further consideration.
 - October 21, 2025 Council approved Revised Draft SCA for re-submission to Governor Ferguson.
 - On December 2, 2025 the Governor approved the SCA for execution.

Status:

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

Location Map:



Cascade Renewable Transmission Project

General Description:

Request to construct and operate a high-voltage direct current (HVDC) (400-kilovolt [kV]), 1,100-megawatt (MW) electric transmission facility. The facility would interconnect the existing Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Big Eddy substation, located near The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon (Eastern Interconnection), and the existing Portland General Electric (PGE) Harborton substation, located in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon (Western Interconnection). The Project would be constructed primarily in the bed of the Columbia River in both Oregon and Washington, with approximately 40.2 route miles located in Washington and approximately 58 route miles and two converter stations located in Oregon. The Project includes exiting and re-entering the Columbia River in Washington to place approximately 7.6 miles of overland buried transmission cable in Washington, primarily in road ROW, to avoid the Bonneville Locks and Dam.

Location:

Skamania, Klickitat, and Clark Counties, Washington.

Applicant:

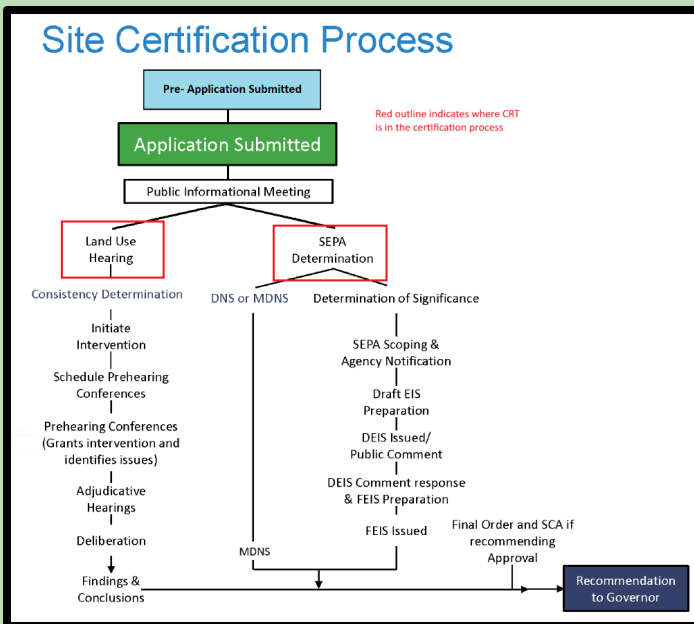
Cascade Renewable Transmission, LLC.

Milestone Dates:

- October 6, 2025, Original ASC Submitted
- November 17-19, 2025, Public Informational Meetings and Land Use Consistency Hearings

Status:

Location Map:



Horse Heaven Wind Project

General Description:

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

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

Location:

Unincorporated Central Benton County south of the Tri-Cities.

Applicant:

Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC.

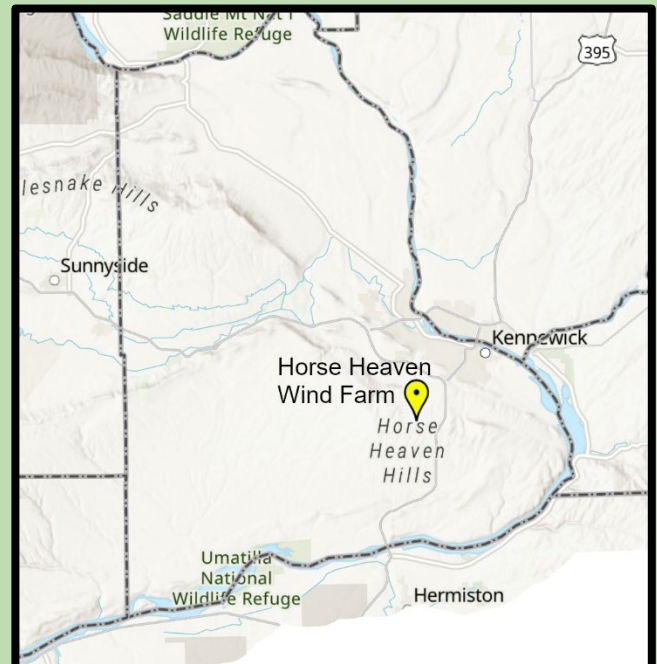
Milestone Dates:

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

Status:

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

Location Map:



Hop Hill Solar Energy Project

General Description:

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

Location:

Benton County, Washington.

Applicant:

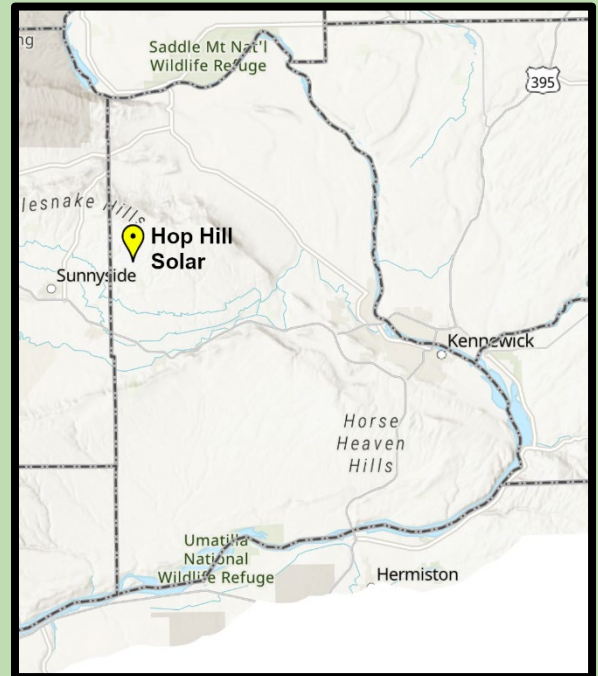
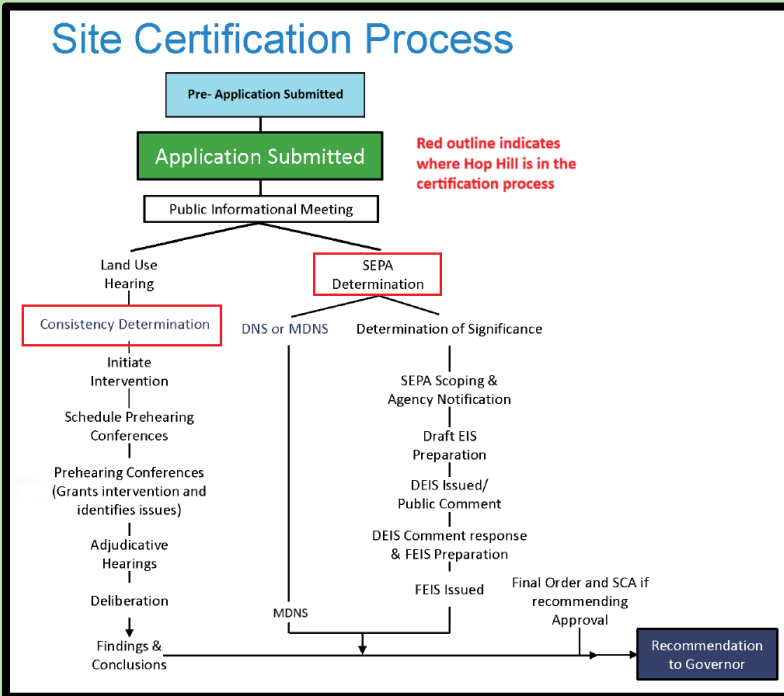
BrightNight, LLC.

Milestone Dates:

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

Status:

Location Map:



Wallula Gap Solar Energy Project

General Description:

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

Location:

Unincorporated community of Plymouth, Benton County, Washington.

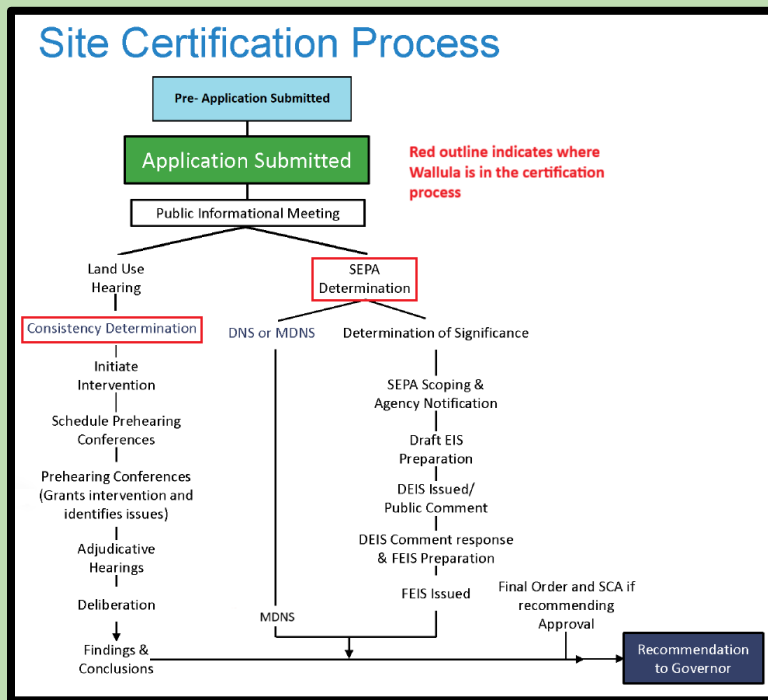
Applicant:

OneEnergy Development LLC

Milestone Dates:

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

Status:



Location Map:



Goldeneye Battery Storage Project

General Description:

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

Location:

Unincorporated Skagit County, Washington.

Applicant:

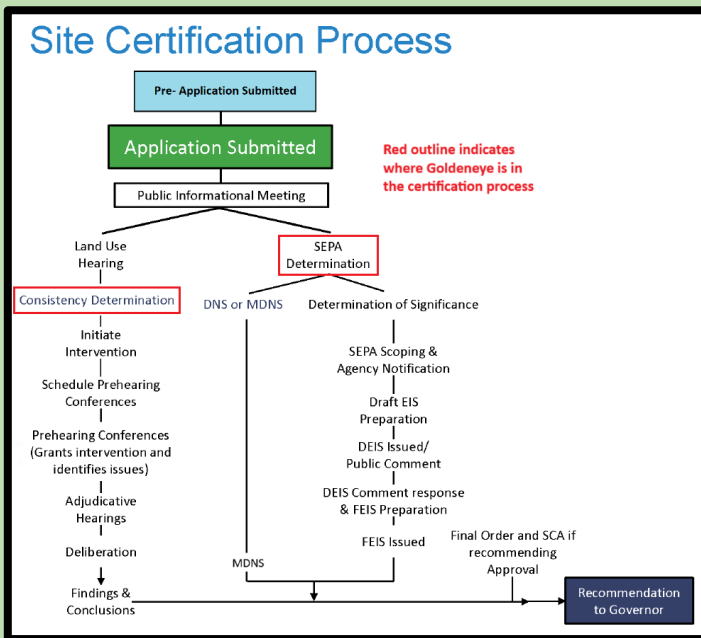
Goldeneye Battery Storage, LLC.

Milestone Dates:

- June 27, 2024, Original ASC Submitted
- August 13, 2024, Public Information Meeting and Land Use Consistency Hearing.
- February 19, 2025, Council approved Order 898 for project's Land Use Consistency

Status:

Location Map:



Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

Non-Direct Cost Allocation for 4th Quarter FY 2026

April 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026

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

Using the procedures for developing cost allocation, and allowance for new projects, the following percentages shall be used to allocate EFSEC's non direct costs for the 4th quarter of FY 2026.

Columbia Generating Station	20%
Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project	10%
Cascade Renewable Transmission	8%
Chehalis Generation Project	6%
Grays Harbor 1&2	6%
Carriger Solar	6%
Goldeneye	5%
Wallula Gap	5%
Hop Hill	5%
Columbia Solar	4%
CCR Ostrea	4%
Goose Prairie Solar Project	4%
Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project	4%
Wild Horse Wind Power Project	4%
WNP-1	3%
Wautoma Solar Project	2%
Badger Mountain	2%
CCR High Top	2%

David Walker
Dave Walker, EFSEC interim Director

Date: 4/9/26

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Chehalis Generation Facility
Operator: PacifiCorp
Report Date: April 1, 2026
Reporting Period: March 2026
Site Contact: Jeremy Smith, Operations Manager
Facility SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance

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

- 182,599 net MWhrs generated in the reporting period for a capacity factor of 48.90%
-

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

Environmental Compliance

-Monthly Water Usage: 2,148,256 gallons

- No changes

-Monthly Wastewater Returned: 957,470 gallons

-Permit status if any changes.

- No changes.

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

- Nothing to report

-Any EFSEC-related inspections that occurred.

- Nothing to report.

-Any EFSEC-related complaints or violations that occurred.

- Nothing to report

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

- Nothing to report

Safety Compliance

-Safety training or improvements that relate to SCA conditions.

- Zero injuries this reporting period for a total of 3,896 days without a Lost Time Accident.

Current or Upcoming Projects

-Planned site improvements.

- No planned changes.

-Upcoming permit renewals.

- Nothing to report.

-Additional mitigation improvements or milestones.

- Nothing to report.

Other

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

- Nothing to report.

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

- Nothing to report.

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

- Nothing to report.

Respectfully,



Jeremy Smith
Gas Plant Operations Manager
Chehalis Generation Facility

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting

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

Operator: **Energy Northwest**

Report Date: **April 6, 2026**

Reporting Period: **March 2026**

Site Contact: **Kelly Elsethagen**

Facility SCA Status: **Operational**

CGS Net Electrical Generation for **March 2026: 839,779.44 Mega Watt-Hours.**

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

Environmental Compliance:

No update.

Safety Compliance

No update.

Current or Upcoming Projects

No update.

Other

No update.

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Grays Harbor Energy Center

Operator: Grays Harbor Energy LLC

Report Date: April 15, 2026

Reporting Period: March 2026

Site Contact: Eric Pace

Facility SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance

-GHEC generated 0 MWh during the month and 6,411MWh YTD.

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

Environmental Compliance

-There weren't any outfall or stormwater deviations during the month.

-Routine monthly, quarterly, and annual reporting submissions to EFSEC Staff.

- Monthly Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR).
- Annual Emission Inventory Report
- Site Certification Agreement Base Flow Report
- Semi Annual Compliance Report
- Annual Compliance Report

Safety Compliance

- None.

Current or Upcoming Projects

- Annual Maintenance Outage May 1-22

Other

-None.

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update Format

Facility Name: Goose Prairie Solar

Operator: Brookfield Power US Asset Management

Report Date: 4/6/2026

Reporting Period: 3/1/2026 to 3/31/2026

Asset Manager: Nelson Jia

Facility SCA Status: [Operational](#)

Operations & Maintenance

- Total generation for the month of February-2026 was approximately 15,135 MWh
- Sheep grazing began on 3/4/2026

Goose BESS Construction

- None
-

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

Environmental Compliance

Permit status if any changes.

- No change but working to modify SWPPP parameters to support current outstanding construction items that relate to the BESS

Update on progress or completion of any mitigation measures identified.

- No Discharge on the site reported

Any EFSEC-related inspections that occurred.

- None

Any EFSEC-related complaints or violations that occurred.

- None

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

- None

Safety Compliance

- There were no non-routine events to report during this period.

Current or Upcoming Projects

- None

Other

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

- None

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

- None

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

- None

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update Format

Facility Name: Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project

Operator: EDP Renewables

Report Date: April 08, 2026

Reporting Period: March 2026

Site Contact: Jarred Caseday, Operations Manager

Facility SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance (only applicable for operating facilities)

- Power generated: 23,366 MWH.
 - Wind speed: 7.12 m/s.
 - Capacity Factor: 31.20 %.
-

Environmental Compliance

- No incidents

Safety Compliance

- Nothing to report

Current or Upcoming Projects

- Nothing to report

Other

- No sound complaints
- No shadow flicker complaints

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Wild Horse Wind Facility
Operator: Puget Sound Energy
Report Date: April 6, 2026
Report Period: March 2026
Site Contact: Jennifer Galbraith
SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance

March generation totaled 81,766 MWh for an average capacity factor of 40.32%.

Environmental Compliance

Nothing to report.

Safety Compliance

Nothing to report.

Current or Upcoming Projects

Nothing to report.

Other

Nothing to report.