Respondent No: 1
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 19, 2024 18:43:55 pm
Last Seen: Aug 19, 2024 18:43:55 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Dean Nester

Q2. **Email address** — mt-rainier@hotmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I AM AGAINST THE APPROVAL OF THIS PROJECT! Washington State will need more electrical power in the future - that is a given! However, to obtain this additional electrical power by means of this project is ridiculous. This project will drastically affect approximately 72,000 acres of prime rural land in Benton County. All for a "name-plate" generation rate of 1,150 MWH. Wind and solar generating facilities have relatively low capacity factors (i.e.: ~30% and ~20% respectively - at best). This would mean that the yearly generation rate would only be ~2.500MW. Compare this to the Columbia Generating Station (nuclear) which has a "name-plate" generation rate of 1,175MWH and capacity factor near 95%, yields ~9,780MW yearly. Almost four times as much, and all with a much smaller footprint. If we were in a true "climate crises" as Governor Inslee prognosticates to us on a daily basis, we would not be messing around with putting in wind and solar, and instead we would be going full steam-ahead with building more CARBON FREE nuclear power generation capacity. Respectfully, Dean Nester

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 2
Login: Tewstaf
Email: tewstaf@gmail.com

Responded At: Aug 20, 2024 20:27:10 pm
Last Seen: Aug 21, 2024 03:07:47 am
IP Address: 172.56.200.245

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Michael Stafford

Q2. **Email address** — tewstaf@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I would ask the council to reconsider this request, we are destroying our countryside with all of these windmills. They provide such little benefit to the power grid. If you honestly read the Q&A provided by the developer you will see that it is full of half truths. The community has spoken out about our rejection of this proposal and we have gone unheard. Please reconsider as if this was in your backyard. The local community already has large and giving power sources that we distribute to the rest of the state. These windmills will do very little to meet the coming power demand and we should concentrate on other alternatives. Expansion of nuclear power would more than meet our increasing demand, and we have a proven track record with it here in the Tri Cities.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 3
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 21, 2024 12:06:57 pm
Last Seen: Aug 21, 2024 12:06:57 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Ryan Compton

Q2. **Email address** rwccorps@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I believe that the councils revised approval is a much better balance between community inputs/local environmental considerations and global environmental considerations. Projects like these are critical to ensuring we even have a local ecosystem to protect. Washington must transition to clean energy ASAP while also providing for the increased power usage by not just the Puget Sound region but also all the new manufacturing and data centers coming to central and eastern Washington.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 4
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 21, 2024 17:20:20 pm
Last Seen: Aug 21, 2024 17:20:20 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Michael Minelli

Q2. **Email address** compari64@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

PRESS HEADLINE: Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project Completed: PREDETERMINED Conclusion Was Expected Thank you EFSEC for trying to limit this horrifying conclusion. As you are very aware the purpose of the biased policy was to provide a cover for approval as designed by Gov. Insley and carried out by Kathleen Drew. This biased approach included an unwritten opportunity to apply pressure on EFSEC to arrive at the "CORRECT" conclusion. Gov. Inslee showed his hand at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Egypt in Nov of 2022 by declaring on a World Stage: "REGULATORY REFORMS ARE NEEDED TO PREVENT LOCAL OPPONENTS FROM DELAYING PROJECTS" This statement was made almost 2 years prior to the EFSEC recommendation to him! Does this not undermine the legitimacy of EFSEC? Could the fact of a Predetermined Conclusion be any clearer? How can it be that one man can SILENCE "WE THE PEOPLE" IN A DEMOCRACY? As a legacy to Gov. Inslee the name of Horse Heaven Hills will be changed forever and renamed "Inslee Hills". Mike Minelli Tri Cities WA.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 5
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 07:49:59 am
Last Seen: Aug 22, 2024 07:49:59 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Kathy aahs

Q2. **Email address** kevkat98304@msn.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Do not let the Governor sway you from what is right. Large projects such as these need to accommodate the people of this state not the other way around. Considering how much this state touts to save the salmon is the ferruginous hawk some how less because is does not involve the tribes or making money. Some how picking one species over another in importance strikes me as being discriminating some thing that this state is all about . Let us not forget what the people who live here are saying , they believe this is TOO BIG and they should have more say so than a company whom is not even based in Washington does. Careful consideration is needed not barging ahead with out careful thought for the consequences

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 6
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 11:23:40 am
Last Seen: Aug 22, 2024 11:23:40 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Julie Wilson

Q2. **Email address** — juliewilson@innovawest.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am strongly opposed to the HHH wind/solar farm. It is not part of the state's clean energy goals. It is part of the goal to build and energize more data centers. This farm (and no doubt the 19 that will follow) compromises our ability to fight wildfire, threatens wildlife and fragile ecosystems in the Columbia Basin. The Governor is slapping the faces of Eastern Washingtonians, telling us that our arid land is not an important ecological and cultural resource. Telling us that our limited underground water resources are up for grabs. I strongly encourage the EFSEC to STAND THEIR GROUND and not cave to the governor's requests. You have put so much effort into your recommendation to cut the farm essentially in half. Please stand up for your good work. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 7
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 13:35:38 pm
Last Seen: Aug 22, 2024 13:35:38 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Lisa R Davis

Q2. **Email address** — lisadavis1155@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am concerned that no one speaking on behalf of scout or Governor Inslee's team has spoken to the issue of disposal of retired parts of the windmills and solar panels related to the proposed Horse Heaven Hills Wind and Solar Farm project. While it may represent a huge money maker for all the above people, it is proposed under the auspices of "clean energy" requirements from Governor Inslee himself. So if the concern is truly clean energy and "saving the planet", why haven't we seen a plan addressing the back end of this project? It is true that every windmill will require replacement blades and every solar panel will require replacement panels and parts over time. What is the plan for disposing of these retired parts? The blades and panels cannot be taken to the local landfill. they cannot be "repurposed", or even repaired, due to the materials they are made with. The rare earth minerals mined for manufacturing these devices in China damage the same planet you are trying to "save", but just out of our line of sight. So front end damage and back end damage, while in the middle we see VERY minimal contribution to the actual energy requirements of the area they are proposed for construction. High cost, high front end damage, high back end damage, and MINIMAL demonstrable value to producing energy. This does not sound like a wise project to poor our tax dollars into, especially when we already have plenty of reliable sources of the clean energy we need in the Pacific Northwest.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 8
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 17:32:58 pm
Last Seen: Aug 22, 2024 17:32:58 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Albert Kegley

Q2. **Email address** — albertkegley@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

This is bad for wildlife and it pollutes the environment. I am against this.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 9
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 17:44:58 pm
Last Seen: Aug 22, 2024 17:44:58 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Patricia Montroy
Q2.	**Email address**	netprophet1253@gmail.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

My first objection to this proposed ‘wind farm’ is the danger to our local bird population as well as the ground animal population. These turbines are not only a non-productive eyesore but when they leak oils & fluids, as they do, they pollute our soil, air & waters. All over the country MLB has had to change names they have had forever because 1 or 2 Native Peoples have objected but this ground is part of their heritage and their objections are being dismissed. We who live in E. WA do not want any more of these useless, ugly & destructive wind machines on our horizon! We have enough issues with destructive fires, wind storms & leakage from the Hanford site.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/17baceb2c5505cea2f3ca9a38ad6939c586d3e9f/original/1724373825/f5856b97a75843cec8cd51cd8de84898_IMG_2258.jpeg?1724373825

Respondent No: 10
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 19:38:50 pm
Last Seen: Aug 22, 2024 19:38:50 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Carol Krona
Q2.	**Email address**	ckrona@comcast.net
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No
Q4.	**Share any comment**	STOP THE WIND & SOLAR FARMS!!!
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	not answered

Respondent No: 11
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 19:47:50 pm
Last Seen: Aug 22, 2024 19:47:50 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Mike Hoban

Q2. **Email address** — mkhoban@hotmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Wind and Solar farms should have the least environmental impact possible. Owls are few and far between - and should be protected. Fewer turbines and/or farther apart seems worth the effort for future generations.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 12
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 20:44:54 pm
Last Seen: Aug 22, 2024 20:44:54 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Jon M. Higley

Q2. **Email address** — jondolar2@comcast.net

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

This action by our outgoing Governor does not surprise me. He has implemented policies that have painted himself into a corner which conflicts with his professed values. However, he doesn't have to be concerned about it, because he's not returning to office and doesn't have to be worry about offending the environmentalists who kept him in office for 12 years. The hypocrisy if monumentally disgusting and reveals Inslee only cares about his legacy, and not the environment or those who financed his campaigns in the past. Damn to wildlife, fortunes for his friends must be made!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 13
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 21:04:06 pm
Last Seen: Aug 22, 2024 21:04:06 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Karen graff

Q2. **Email address** — karengraff2005@yahoo.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am against the wind farm. Nature has its rights to exist - referring to hawks along with any green energy. Wind turbines are wasteful (that is not “ green”) in the special oil needed that causes environmental damage. I just don’t see the reasoning to produce energy that actually causes damage to the environment

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 14
Login: Michael Roediger
Email: miketelleng@yahoo.com

Responded At: Aug 22, 2024 23:21:46 pm
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 02:38:26 am
IP Address: 166.199.8.42

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Michael Roediger
Q2.	**Email address**	miketelleng@yahoo.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

For the record, I am opposed to this project on several fronts. First, it is a misuse and abuse of public tax funds and trust and stewardship. Second, only a one week public comment period is a sham and an attempt to limit opposition. Third, the environmental hypocrisy. Anything other than a wind and solar project and a sensible development would be shut down or greatly hindered or made more costly or delayed or reduced in scope over an “endangered” beetle or “impact” to a kangaroo rat or some “rare” plant or other convenient excuse. But not with wind and solar. Ferruginous hawks are somehow unimportant because stopping, slowing or decreasing the scope of a “green” project is just not acceptable. Rules for thee but not for me. Fourth, “governor” Jay Inslee is playing politics and favourites, trying to influence the project to be built and not reduced in scope/impact. He wants the project to fit his wants, not what the tribes and general public (at least where the farm is proposed and most people in central and eastern Washington) want. Fifth, wind and solar are an intermittent (a.k.a. unreliable) source of energy. The power grid needs stable and reliable inputs so the complex and fragile interconnected grid can remain stable and usable. Wind and solar often provide power at the wrong times and/or not when needed. There is no good load balance as power production changes with the sun and wind and at its mercy and “schedule”. Sixth, the power generated will seldom reach the nameplate capacity of the turbines. This requires further turbines or other reliable sources like nuclear, coal, natural gas or hydro to ensure peak demands are met and load balance. And Washington State is actively pursuing removing or limiting theses stable/reliable sources like the lower Snake River dams and banning natural gas and new or expanded “fossil fuel” energy projects. There is also the occasional possibility of overproduction of wind and solar adding excessive energy to the grid craving imbalances. Seventh, the interconnection with the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) grid and all the timelines, regulations and bureaucracy involved. Eighth, potential compromises to the grid from intermittent/unreliable wind and solar energy inputs that especially during peak demands such as summer and winter could lead to cascading failures that impact the grid leading to brownouts or blackouts when power needed the most such as protecting people with air conditioning during a heat wave. Performance of wind goes down when temperatures are excessively high and low, defeating their purpose when power demand is highest. Plus solar has low production in winter when power needed most. Ninth, the cost to benefit ratio is well above unity, and lifecycle costs are not adequately accounted for, including disposal of aged out fibreglass composite turbine blades and disposal of solar panels with their rare earth and heavy metals. Also where the blades will be disposed of or if even possible to recycle or financially make sense. Tenth, the wind and solar farm and power lines are a great visual blight to the Horse Heaven Hills and beyond. Also a potential safety hazard for aircraft, not to mention birds and bats. Shows no respect to tribes and locals that have to deal with the consequences of the wind and solar farm. However “green” proponents (often western Washington located) get what they want and “feel good” and not have the project in their back yards (or front yards). Eleventh, why are we not hearing about the project costs, lifecycle costs and realistic numbers for how much this will cost the average Washingtonian and for how many years? Because they (“green” industry and proponents and Inslee) don’t want Washingtonians to know how bad it is and detrimental to their financial life. And follow the money of the Environmental (“green”) Industrial Complex. The real winners in this Horse Heaven Hills project (or any other “green” project) that is a game/farce are the environmental groups with vested interests and funded by the industry through taxpayers,, lobbyists, the solar and wind industry manufacturers, Chinese and other foreign suppliers, consultants, contractors, attorneys and the labour unions that will be guaranteed work. Follow the money. Meanwhile, the average Washingtonian will see an increase in their power bills, and may be asked or forced at times to have rationed power due to my previously described reasons. And a disproportionate percentage of income spent for power for those in financial distress and/or additional costs passed onto others (a.k.a. socialism) to subsidise those in financial distress. The financially distressed are already many and growing because of

terrible Washington State policies/laws/ideas like this. Twelfth, governments have a terrible track record of picking winners and losers. Let the free market (that the state and feds have greatly hampered through government bureaucracy) drive innovations and new technologies and ideas. The private sector will find ways of doing it better, safer, greener, more efficiently, and for less cost. Washington State needs to be open minded to new technologies and ideas and not close minded to unscientific and irrational and irresponsible ideas that only wind and solar “renewables” are options. This is backwards and crooked thinking. Get the energy sector, universities, and ordinary citizens involved in creating new ideas. And by all means let the Washington State government get out of the way so ordinary people can ensure Washington State has a prosperous, happy and healthy future. The Horse Heaven Hills wind and solar project is a detour from success. Thirteenth, maintenance costs. Why is there no transparency on data? Please provide the numbers, and not just “financial data” from the wind and solar salespeople. Also the useable/functional service life of wind and solar components is significantly less than other modes such as nuclear, hydro and others. This creates the need for additional funding and maintenance and rebuilding of aged out components. If the current track record of maintenance and preservation of Washington State Department of Transportation assets is a good barometer of the financial and planning (or lack thereof) of Washington State, it should not be a surprise for the state to “discover” in a few years that Washington State has a maintenance and replacement crisis on its hands. Of course higher consumer power costs and more taxpayer funding/subsidising will be the “answer”. Even if the wind and solar farm is “privately” owned and operated. Fourteenth, the child labour and slave labour or inadequate and unfair wages in China, Africa and other foreign source countries for the rare earth minerals and exotic metals such as solar panel components and wind turbine magnets. But of course for the work done in Washington State, it must pay prevailing wages and be by unionised workers. Hypocrisy. Fifteenth, the non-existent or inadequate health and safety standards, protocols, resources and protections for these foreign workers. But of course the “green revolution” doesn’t care as long as it gets its “renewable energy” source for its EV and light rail and marijuana dispensaries, tatoo parlours and state government offices. These (foreign) people are not here in Washington State, so not “our problem” and they are expendable, just a “cost of doing business”. How sad our state government has such a poor view of humanity. Sixteenth, the environmental damage and disasters and health hazards of mining and manufacturing in these foreign countries. All so we (Washington State) can have its “green” and “renewable” energy. The environmental damage is “not in our back yard”, so it can be overlooked. How convenient. Especially ironic when on other matters than wind and solar, the entire planet is affected and needs to be considered environmentally and socially. The Horse Heaven Hills project is virtue signalling that we’re doing the “right thing” environmentally. Just don’t mention that somewhere else we’re indirectly aiding environmental destruction and disaster like sick or dying people, polluted water and loss of animal and plant habitat and lives. And some of the polluted water may cross the Pacific and reach our shores and into the food we eat. Seventeenth, this project will have very little good environmental impact/benefits for the planet. Washington State accounts for only about one out of every thousand people on the planet. This project has so little positive impact to make any statistically significant difference/impact/betterment. It is essentially as useful and effective as polishing a turd. The costs (not just financial) far exceed the benefits. Eighteenth, this entire project is built upon the structurally unsound foundation of false science and narrative that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses are poisoning the planet and “raising the temperature of the planet and threaten life”. This is a lie many are manufacturing or being deceived by. Plants need carbon dioxide. And plants then produce oxygen that we need. CO2 has been made a boogeyman to control the masses and enrich the privileged. Follow the money. This is the Environmental Industrial Complex. The environment is their cover. They really could care less. The government (the taxpayer actually paying the bill but not making the decisions) funds “scientific research” that, to obtain or continue receiving the funds requires/implies that the data fit the scenario wanted. The government agency “leadership” may have previously been a “consultant” or “scientist” in the company/industry contracted to do the work, or conversely will be offered a position at the company they administered the contract to. Shady ethics. This is the exact opposite of what the true scientific process reveals. True science per the dictionary is a body of facts or truths systematically arranged and showing the operation of general laws. The Environmental Industrial Complex is not using science. “Follow the science” mantra babbling is a lie and deception to fool and distract and discredit people. In the Bible in 1 Timothy 6:20, it reads, “O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoid profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:”. The foundation of the Horse Heaven Hills wind and solar project exactly fits this description of pseudo science. Nineteenth and lastly, I want to reiterate that I am opposed to the Horse Heaven Hills wind and solar project for the above reasons. In a nutshell, this project is going against the will of many of the people of central and eastern Washington and of some on the west side. It is not “democratic” but rather forced on the people. It is destroying the environment, adds an unreliable power source to our fragile interconnected power grid, will result in negative consequences to Washington State citizens including in power costs and reliability/availability. It demonstrates poor

stewardship and financial incompetence of the government, and it is a pet project of Jay Inslee, out of touch environmentalists, and a goldmine for special interest groups. The project would create a negative view aesthetically for the area, and socially the view of the people will be soured by this irresponsible, irrational and destructive project. This project must be denied permits and rejected permission to proceed whether as originally planned or scaled to a different scope. This project would have negative generational impacts on Washingtonians and their future children and families. And finally, I would like to receive by US mail a copy of all the comments on the Horse Heaven Hills wind and solar project. Please send care of Mike Roediger to 2007 S 84th Ave, Yakima, WA 98903. Thank you.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 15
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 05:37:54 am
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 05:37:54 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** David Montague

Q2. **Email address** montague.d@charter.net

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I have a very strong feeling that any comments that oppose the project will not make a difference. Inslee wants this project for his "green" legacy and is going to approve it regardless of how the people that have to live with it feel about the project. The feeling increased when he went against the committee's recommendation, against the hawk breading ground argument, and even against his traditionally supportive Indian Tribes. I wonder if he would alienate the Tribes if he was trying to be reelected? No, he is going to approve the project and doesn't care what anyone thinks. Asking for comments is a little disingenuous because in his mind the decision has been made. We are just going through the motions.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 16
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 06:49:20 am
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 06:49:20 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Michael Novakovich
Q2.	**Email address**	mike.novakovich@gmail.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Fire concerns are significant in the Horse Heaven Hills, and preserving the option to have all firefighting equipment available is necessary, including large planes that would be unable to be utilized if Scout Clean Energy is allowed to build their wind farm on the Horse Heaven Hills ridgeline as proposed. In 2018 (see pictures) the Horse Heaven Hills caught on fire. This picture was taken from my backyard, which includes a helicopter retrieving buckets of water out of the canal below. Fire agencies from multiple counties were called in to fight the fire. Residents in on our road were fearful we would be evacuated as the fire spread across the ridgeline. We had fire crews spending the night at the mid-point on our private rough (Glenn Miller PRSE) and at the top of our road where it meets Locus Grove Road to ensure the fire didn't spread further and impact the homes located here in the Horse Heaven Hills. I respectfully ask that EFSEC's original recommendation to the Governor be preserved, limiting the number of wind turbines that can be sited to preserve and protect the residents, homes and natural habitats that exist in the Horse Heaven Hills. Respectfully, Michael Novakovich

Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/7fc9b064080ae09d30d1e1ce1538530d824d526b/original/1724420273/2903e412be82300c55a33b42db85ff7b_HHH_Fire.jpg?1724420273

Respondent No: 17
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 07:22:41 am
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 07:22:41 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** BARBARA CHASE

Q2. **Email address** cozycabin49@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

This comment is meant for Governor Inslee. I have supported and voted for you for WA state governor ever since you first ran for the position. It is my opinion that the great people of the Tri-Cities helped you get elected over and over again. As your final days as Governor of this state come to an end, I feel you have literally kicked your Tri-Cities supporters as you exit !!!! You have ignored the STRONG wishes of the people, Counties, Utility Providers, Irrigation Leaders and many many more people who have pleaded with you to limit the number and location of these proposed turbines. You have even ignored the recommendations of the committee that was created to evaluate the pros and cons of such a project! Enjoy your legacy in shame as your final act is to ignore your supporters and that of the committee and do, FOR WHATEVER REASON YOU HAVE, give this Scout Company all they wanted. I am a huge supporter for creating clean ways to create energy for our state and others, but you did not listen to those who will live near and have to look up from our back yards and see these windmills for the rest of our lives. If you think you would enjoy seeing these windmills right out your back door, I have 3 acres for sale so that you can do just that !! Please forward message this to Mr. Jay Inslee.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 18
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 08:33:44 am
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 08:33:44 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Scott Sanders
Q2.	**Email address**	scotts1988@hotmail.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Stay the course and stick to your original recommendations! What I sleep is forcing down or throats is an egregious abuse of power! Don't give in!

Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	not answered

Respondent No: 19
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 08:48:52 am
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 08:48:52 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Jennie Fulton

Q2. **Email address** — jjhfult@icloud.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

This normally sweet and supportive 69 year old woman is angry. So many of us have shared many times that this project will have a personal negative effect on our area I thought this was a country of we the people, but clearly the governors agenda is all that ever mattered. You went through the process of looking supportive and interested but it was simply an act of politics. SO VERY Sad to loose faith in a previously great country!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 20
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 09:54:02 am
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 09:54:02 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Richard Kurtz

Q2. **Email address** rkurtz8@yahoo.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

We would like to express our gratitude for the tremendous amount of effort EFSEC has put forth to develop a recommendation for adjusting the scope of the HHH Wind Project to accommodate concerns associated with visual impacts, fire fighting needs, maintaining wildlife habitat, and Native American cultural sites. We are greatly disappointed that Governor Inslee has rejected your carefully considered compromise proposal and urged you to reconsider. Governor Inslee's rejection makes a mockery of the three-year long process to arrive at this compromise solution. Please do not be pushed into making changes to your recommendations on Governor Inslee's arbitrary decision. The people of the Tri-Cities should not be forced to suffer the consequences of such a massive project due to the decision of one person.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 21
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 10:43:58 am
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 10:43:58 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Kevin Woodland

Q2. **Email address** — kevinjwooland@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Scrap this project and save the birds! Please pay attention to what just happened in Nantucket when the windmills there failed! Build NG power plants close to the point of consumption - This is a LEAN six sigma principle and better science, due to power wastage in long transmission lines. The Centralia Steam Plant location would be perfect! Please note that PSNS converted it's coal fired steam plant to NG about 30 years ago!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 22
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 10:47:04 am
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 10:47:04 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Dennis Schmit

Q2. **Email address** — dennis_schmit@hotmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am against these mega wind and solar farms they are terrible for the environment and create deserts in wild and open spaces. The environmental issues should take top billing over green energy farms and projects that change or are to be built on wild and natural landscapes. We can do small and private projects that utilize our urban and existing warehouse and city-scape deserts to build wind and solar systems to support the green agenda and improving our impact on the environment. I also don't believe that electric cars are an help or better for the environment then hybrid vehicles or efficient diesel and gas vehicles. You must look at all the pieces of the product from its resources to build and operate a vehicle to its life and how it is recycled, which it must be if we are going to protect the environment. If the government has to supplement or provide incentives to build or use so called green resources then they should be tossed because they are not meeting the needs of society or protecting the environment. Stop all government subsidies and incentives and focus on Research and development to find real viable solutions.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 23
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 12:20:08 pm
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 12:20:08 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** David Strecker

Q2. **Email address** brentstrecker@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please don't give into the Governors bulling and stick to your guns on the decision you have already make with regards to the limiting the Horse Heaven wind and solar project. It's very clear the residents in the area do not want this but sadly do not have as say. I beg and plead you do the right thing and deny any change to your well researched recommendation.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 24
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 12:36:29 pm
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 12:36:29 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — June Killmer

Q2. **Email address** — jmkillmer@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Govenor Inslee is ruining this state with his radical climate change policies. Eastern Washington seems to be the dumping ground for state changes, i.e. huge solar planned at Hanford, breaching dams on our Snake River and now wind turbines that will now cause wildlife endangerment - hawks and our Canadian geese flight path. Why here? There is Lots of wind on the Washington coast! Do something on the West side of the state. Quit destroying our natural environment in Eastern Washintgton.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 25
Login: Matt Leggett
Email: mleggett43@gmail.com

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 13:55:54 pm
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 20:50:11 pm
IP Address: 216.186.24.130

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Matt Leggett

Q2. **Email address** — mleggett43@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I strongly enourage the council to stay with the plan to mitigate the wind turbines for the Horse Heaven Hills in Benton County. Please make the 3 reasons for mitigation sufficient. We need to protect the nesting of the Furruginous Hawk, preserve the cultural landscape of the local tribes, and make sure not to impede firefighters. Thank you.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 26
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 14:26:31 pm
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 14:26:31 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Daniel Fredrickson

Q2. **Email address** dfredr87@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

As a resident of Pasco, WA and someone who is concerned about the future, I wanted to express my overall support for this project. I would also like to express a few minor concerns. The Tri-Cities and Washington State in general continue to grow at a brisk pace. Demand for electricity is only going to continue to increase. Like it or not, the removal of the Snake River Dams is inevitable. It will be a long a difficult process. [they should have never been built in the first place] but the fact is that they have become important cornerstones of the Bonneville Power Authority's grid and the region's transportation infrastructure. This project will help ensure that there is enough electricity for the region, especially as it becomes needed in the future. They will also create a number of good paying jobs. The turbines need regular maintenance and this seems like a win-win. Regarding my thoughts on "the view" and "the land," I do enjoy the view from the Tri-Cities looking south towards the Horse Heaven Hills but I also feel a sense of pride when I see the turbines in the distance. It brings a feeling of pride, pride in our region and in our Community for embracing clean energy. As for people who say "nobody wants this project on their land," it's a non-issue. There are many farmers and land owners that WANT this project built on their land, so I say let it be built. As for my concerns, for a project of this size and in this location, I do have a few. The turbines could make wildfires/brushfires around the project more difficult to fight. This could be especially bad if the proposed battery storage were surrounded by fire and access cut off. I think it is important that this is taken into account when deciding which sites are approved, and it is important to consider how a fast moving fire could spread to populated areas if it weren't brought under control quickly. Also a concern, a project of this magnitude will generate a lot of waste as the blades need to be replaced at end of life (~30 years). This is a small negative, in my opinion, but worth considering. While nowhere near as wasteful as other energy sources, it's important to work to have proper disposal and if able, recycling facilities lined up now so that we are ready when the time comes. Overall to me, this project represents a net-positive situation. The Tri-Cities region has a lot of wind. We already have a lot of turbines, let's add some more and be proud of what we're doing for our future. Thank you, Daniel Fredrickson

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 27
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 16:05:22 pm
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 16:05:22 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Robert and Joyce Bonner

Q2. **Email address** — joy68bonner@outlook.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

We live in the Badger Canyon and are strongly opposed to the placement of this Wind Turbine project. It destroys the visual landscape of our area not to mention the impact on the wildlife.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 28
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 16:55:15 pm
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 16:55:15 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Trina Bayard
Q2.	**Email address**	trina.bayard@audubon.org
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	**Yes (please specify)** Audubon Washington
Q4.	**Share any comment**	Please see attached comment letter
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/9ff9ca721b89c51fd83d6b3a63f9f5ef9af8deaf/original/1724457179/739d322fa73bd88e35478bdcc77c99bc_Audubon_WA_comments_Draft_SCA_edits_8_23_24.pdf?1724457179

Audubon | WASHINGTON

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Seattle, WA 98118

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August 23, 2024

Kathleen Drew, Chair
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
1300 S. Evergreen Park SW
PO Box 43172
Olympia, WA 98504

Submitted electronically at *https://comments.efsec.wa.gov/*

RE: Draft edits on Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project SCA

Dear Chair Drew and Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council Members,

Audubon Washington, the state field office of the National Audubon Society, supports the critical policy of the state of Washington to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and mitigate climate change and the state's investments in biodiversity conservation. In our July 2, 2024 letter to EFSEC (Council), we expressed our dismay that Governor Inslee's May 23, 2024 Letter of Direction would have the Council discard the recommendations of Tribal, state, and other fish and wildlife professionals regarding protections for Ferruginous Hawks and wildlife movement corridors. It is our firm opinion that the input of subject-matter experts, who played a pivotal role in shaping EFSEC's April 29, 2024 recommendation to the Governor, must be central to your deliberations.

In the latest round of edits to the draft SCA and associated Appendix 2, released for public comment on August 19th, 2024, the Council has attempted to strike a balance between protections for Ferruginous Hawks and wildlife movement corridors and the Governor's request. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Council's ongoing deliberations on mitigation measures.

Ferruginous Hawk

While it may be possible that a modified approach to Ferruginous Hawk nest and foraging habitat protection could be suitably aligned with Ferruginous Hawk statewide recovery efforts, the following concepts, terms, and measures require clarification to determine whether that is the case.

<u>Protective Buffers</u>

The proposed approach detailed in Appendix 2, Spec-5, would prohibit siting of wind turbines, solar arrays and BESS within 0.6 (1km) radius of Ferruginous Hawk nests, and would require documentation and consultation for siting of components within 0.6 – 2 miles. This change is problematic; the best available science suggests that the 2-mile (3.2 km) buffer is already a compromise that would protect less than 40% of the hawk's estimated home range (Watson et al.

2023). According to the Watson study on Ferruginous Hawk home ranges, a 10 km (6.2 mile) buffer is needed to encompass ~ 90% of breeding core areas and 72% of home ranges (Fig 3; Watson et al. 2023). In contrast, the Council's proposed 1 km buffer would encompass less than 40% of Ferruginous Hawk core areas, and less than 20% of the home range area. Given the perilous nature of Ferruginous Hawk breeding efforts and increasingly scarce prey populations, it's hard to imagine a scenario where this state endangered species could breed successfully with just a 1 km protective buffer.

In contrast, the difference in core area protection between a 3.2 km buffer and a 2.4 km buffer is less substantial – both achieve approximately 80% protection of breeding core areas (though <40% of home range).

As noted in the Watson study, the estimated core breeding area and home range areas and prospective buffer sizes are meant to be a starting point for understanding the habitat needs of Ferruginous Hawks. Information on prey distribution and abundance is a crucial factor in assessing the level of protection afforded by protective buffers of any size. With that in mind, consideration of a standard 2.4 km buffer (1.5 miles) for all Ferruginous Hawk nests in the project vicinity, along with criteria that expand would modify the buffer in relation to prey population distribution and management measures, may be an appropriate topic for consultation with species experts.

Habitat and Nest Site Availability and Viability

The Council has outlined a set of criteria that would be considered in their approval of project components within the 0.6-2.0-mile buffer, however, the matter of whether a nest site and foraging habitat is viable is not a straightforward concept. If the Council moves forward with this approach, these criteria need to be amended to better define the distinction between nest site availability and foraging habitat viability, the relationship between the two and how they will be defined.

For example:

- What does it mean for a nesting site to no longer be available? One interpretation could be that a former nest site or substrate has been converted into a new, incompatible land use type. Another could be that the foraging habitat within the two-mile buffer of the nest is no longer viable (see note about foraging habitat below). Or a combination of the two could render the site unsuitable.
- What does it mean for foraging habitat to no longer be viable? Is it scarcity of prey populations, the presence of an incompatible land-cover type, or a combination of both? Is there a threshold at which a certain percentage of non-viable habitat within the 2-mile radius would be thought to render the nest site unsuitable? How would the Council consider this information in the context of the greater landscape conditions?
- Is there a scenario where a nest site is still available, but foraging habitat and prey populations has been degraded or lost? Or vice versa – that foraging habitat is still available but the nest site itself has been lost or destroyed?

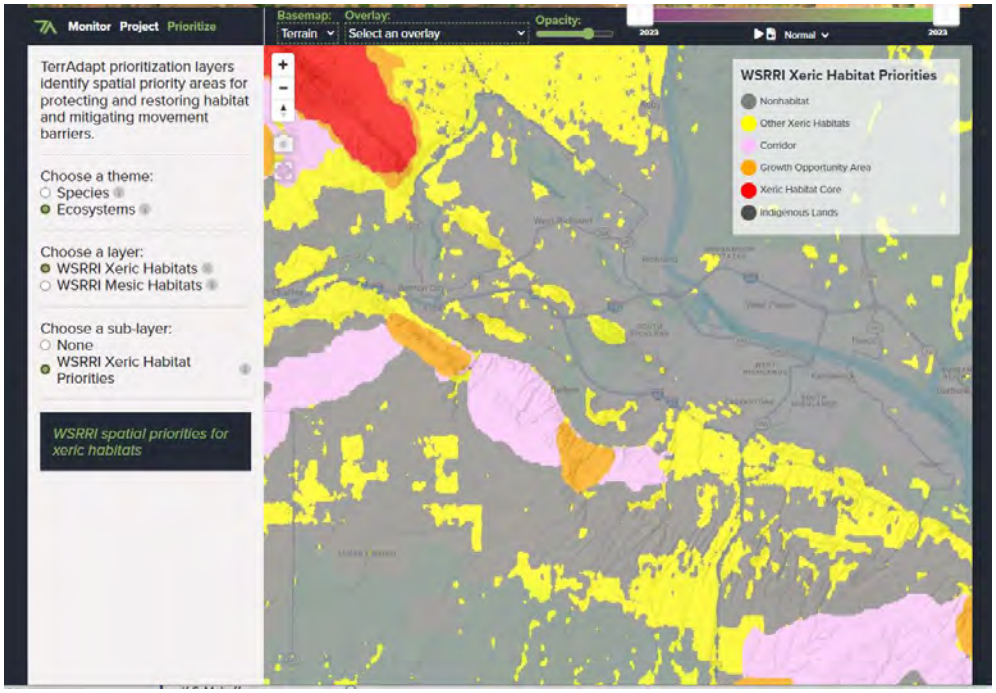
On the matter of available habitat, please note that Ferruginous Hawks and many other species of birds and wildlife may forage in some types of croplands if prey and other food sources are available. This land-cover type should not automatically be considered "unavailable" foraging habitat.

As expressed in some of our earlier Draft EIS comments to EFSEC, leaving these definitions and decisions to the discretion of the Applicant, PTAG and the Council leaves considerable room for decision-making that is incompatible with Ferruginous Hawk recovery.

Wildlife Habitat Movement Corridors

Maintaining and restoring habitat connectivity is a widely recognized cornerstone of fish and wildlife management, biodiversity conservation, and climate adaptation. Connectivity among habitats is essential for wildlife and their daily and seasonal movements to access resources. Habitat connectivity also supports species gene flow and is a primary strategy for climate adaptation.

In addition to the linkage corridors modeled by the Washington Wildlife Habitat Connectivity Working Group (2013), the Washington Shrubsteppe Restoration and Resiliency Initiative (WSRRI) recently completed a broad, stakeholder effort to create a long-term strategy for shrubsteppe protection and restoration in the Columbia Plateau at the direction of the Washington State Legislature. The Strategy identifies spatial priority areas for protection and restoration of habitat and mitigation of movement barriers to meet the needs of the state's shrubsteppe wildlife. The Horse Heaven Wind Project encompasses priority corridor, growth opportunity areas and other habitat areas identified for conservation in the Strategy. The WSRRI spatial priorities can be accessed here (terradapt.org) and are reproduced below from the TerrAdapt website.



The Council's proposal to remove the prohibition of siting project components within medium to very high value linkage corridors modeled in Washington Wildlife Habitat Connectivity Working Group (2013) is short-sighted and misses an opportunity to integrate energy siting decisions in the larger context of biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation investments in the state.

The Council's proposed guidance directs the Certificate Holder to provide a rationale to EFSEC for siting Project components within medium to very high linkage movement corridors and to create a Corridor Mitigation Plan. While we support the concept of a Corridor Mitigation Plan, it's not clear how EFSEC would assess the Certificate Holder's rationale for siting decisions. A pre-established set of criteria that guide EFSEC's approval of Project components within the corridors is necessary to meaningfully avoid and reduce impacts to wildlife movement if the Council pursues this approach.

Conclusion

We recognize and appreciate the challenges the Council faces in balancing the principles and laws of biodiversity conservation and our state's clean energy goals. From our standpoint it is not clear what the scientific rationale is for the Council's reduction of the protective buffer for Ferruginous Hawk nests from 2 miles to 0.6 miles, the nature of the proposed criteria related to available and viable nesting sites and foraging habitat, and the changes to the wildlife habitat corridor mitigation measure. If these were administrative decisions, we urge the Council to stand firm and set a strong precedent for this and future energy projects by upholding science-based protections and mitigation measures for Ferruginous Hawk and other wildlife in the Horse Heaven Wind project.

Achieving clean energy goals does not need to come at the expense of our state's valuable cultural and biological resources.

Sincerely,

Trina Bayard, Ph.D.
Interim Executive Director
Director of Bird Conservation

Respondent No: 29
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 17:51:35 pm
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 17:51:35 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Lydia McMillin

Q2. **Email address** lydmcmillin@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Thank you for the three years of work studying the effects of this massive wind project. Your work was thorough and well thought out. You worked with many different organizations and people to come to a much better alternative. I am not in favor of this wind farm, but a reduced number is better than the original plan. Please don't let the governor bully you into changing your recommendation. Thank you, Lydia McMillin Richland, WA

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 30
Login: Mark T
Email: matudor70@gmail.com

Responded At: Aug 23, 2024 18:42:23 pm
Last Seen: Aug 23, 2024 21:31:33 pm
IP Address: 47.6.199.163

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Mark Tudor
Q2.	**Email address**	matudor70@gmail.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	**Yes (please specify)** Tri-Cities Care

Q4. **Share any comment**

I appreciate the efforts of the EFEC committee to weigh in on all of the pros and cons of the wind machine project. I do believe it is also unfair and politically driven for the Govenor to attempt to in validate the hard work of the EFSEC has done with regards to the Toal impact of installing all of these wind machines. It is my hopes that the committee will not be swayed by pressures from Inslee and will stand by their original decision! This is a life changing decision for our community that the politicians in Olympia will not have to live but with we will! It is my hopes that science and common sense will prevail over politics. This is life changing for the Tri-Cities.

Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	not answered

Respondent No: 31
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 07:39:54 am
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 07:39:54 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	David Brantingham
Q2.	**Email address**	pbrantingham@charter.net
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Why will you not let the people that live in this area vote on this Wind Farm??You want to remove our Dams but install these Machines. You are following the science of a Hypocrite. WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT!

Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	not answered

Respondent No: 32
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 08:08:51 am
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 08:08:51 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Jo Dunn

Q2. **Email address** jo.susan.dunn@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

The arrogance of governor Inslee knows no bounds! What is the point of having a council to review ALL aspects of a project and solicit opinions from the people who will actually be affected by it, if one person - Inslee - can just override the recommendations and do what HE wants!!! NO ONE in the Columbia Basin wants -or needs - this project. The little power it will produce won't even be used in Washington. Contrary to westside beliefs the wind doesn't blow constantly on the east side of the state! If you drive past all the wind turbines we are surrounded by, MOST of the time they aren't moving! If the state of Washington really needs constant wind power, put the turbines on the coast WHERE IT ACTUALLY DOES BLOW EVERY SINGLE DAY!!! Oh wait, we can't do that! The people on the West side don't want to have THEIR views destroyed! Cancel this entire project now!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 33
Login: Davekaas
Email: davekaas@aol.com

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 08:11:42 am
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 14:52:45 pm
IP Address: 96.41.134.84

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	David kaas
Q2.	**Email address**	davekaas@aol.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

If as a member of your council changes your original recommendation you should be ashamed!! A change will definitely show you ONLY care about politics and are controlled by the governor, which will make your council nothing but a rubber stamp for whoever is governor. To have a unanimous decision and then to back done just because of political pressure would be despicable. I just hope that you stand your ground and ignore the governor's political pressure! If you decide to bow to political pressure think of the repercussions. If there is a range fire and planes can't be used to suppress the fire, the fire results will be far worse! If this happens hopefully someone will file a lawsuit against the council as being complicit with the increase in costs.

Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	not answered

Respondent No: 34
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 08:24:03 am
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 08:24:03 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	John Corbett
Q2.	**Email address**	john.corbett1@frontier.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No
Q4.	**Share any comment**	Keep the restrictions originally proposed.
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	not answered

Respondent No: 35
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 10:52:41 am
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 10:52:41 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Mary Rogers

Q2. **Email address** — rogersmaryk@yahoo.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am definitely NOT in favor of this wind farm project. I believe the detrimental environmental impact far outweighs any value this project brings. These towering windmills are not the answer. These windmills aren't as environmentally friendly as they want us to believe, from the way they are built to their disposal when they wear out. I do not support this project and am very disappointed that Gov. Inslee isn't listening to you or to the residents in our area.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 36
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 10:58:55 am
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 10:58:55 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Judy Guse

Q2. **Email address** goosie1515@aol.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

For what reason exactly was EFSEC established? Wasn't it to give the pubic a chance to give their insight and perception into projects that could potentially damage their environment, destroy the habitat of animals and birds living in that area and affect the health and safety of those living close to the project? What good is EFSEC, if they can be bought and persuaded to abide by Governor Inslee's and the developer, Scout's demands without regard to the public who will be negatively affected by this project? The governor and developer have NO skin in the game; they don't live here and never will, so neither will be the recipient of the negative impacts that they inflict on others. They consider us nothing but collateral damage that they can justify for their legacy and greed! Everyone who has done their research knows that wind and solar are far from "clean" or "green!" https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/fooled-green-energy-neither-green-energy https://www.facebook.com/reel/241861551607412 Nuclear energy is much cleaner and takes up very little space so doesn't harm the environment like wind and solar. Why are so called "environmentalists" so against what is clean and instead promote wind and solar that are neither clean or green? It just doesn't make sense. https://rickdunn.substack.com/p/tilting-at-windmills-and-the-great-ce3 Our desert climate is always ripe for fires in the heat of the summer. We get extreme wind in the summer too and with that, a fire is catastrophic and very scary for our community. Turbines start fires! How does a community's fire department battle a fire on turbines as tall as the Seattle Space Needle? They can't, so they helplessly watch as the fire rages out of control. When a fire is fed by dripping oil from a turbine, it's even more devastating. https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-us-canada-67147288 https://www.msn.com/en-us/weather/topstories/wind-turbine-bursts-into-flames/ar-BB1hr5m9?ocid=socialshare&pc=U531&cvid=8eaf28e0cfab4d538fcd309c87fb0d05&ei=17 Our area is known for its dry lightning strikes during storms and lightning strikes are well known to start turbine fires. https://www.kcrg.com/2024/08/17/wind-turbine-fire-mechanicsville-could-cost-farmer-millions/?fbclid=IwY2xjawEtDhVleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHYAhRmIQTmPH5KrwiSVCRwXC3-jAAo_ZjjJ8Zh9C42PlMqO9NzK6qyfLvQ_aem_6vKl5kpJQGihnNSbgE8M0A Please do what you were designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one person (Inslee whose concerned is with his legacy after he leaves office) and a developer (Scout, whose motivation is greed, making millions) to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us "little" people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility and without that, EFSEC is a useless entity. Thank You, Judy Guse, Kennewick, WA

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 37
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 11:41:44 am
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 11:41:44 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Cathy Robinson

Q2. **Email address** — cathyrobinson2000@live.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 38
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 12:59:24 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 12:59:24 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Jeff Banning

Q2. **Email address** jbann64@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am a 20 year resident of southwest Kennewick and my property site lines will be directly affected by the proposed Horse Heaven Hills Wind and Solar facility. I have been opposed to this project from it's initial announcement. From my viewpoint, it seems that the vast majority of residents that will be directly impacted by this project are against it. Other than the irreparable damage done the wide open views of our Horse Heaven Hills, solar and wind projects are horribly inefficient. They do not solve electricity production needs unless they have matching dispatchable electric generation available. Every winter in Tri-Cities we have weeks long inversions where there is no sun and no wind. This project will produce zero electricity during those events. With all that, I was satisfied with the committee's recommendation. I would prefer the project never happen but the committee took into account local resident's and tribe's concerns and removed the most offending turbines. I strongly encourage the committee to stick with your original recommendation. Thank you, Jeff Banning

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 39
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 13:08:15 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 13:08:15 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Vicki Marks

Q2. **Email address** vmarks49@hotmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am a citizen of the Tri-cities. I am degusted and angry about Inslee's intransigence in this matter, and his indifference to what the people who live here want, After all, we pay his salary and taxes. I urge you to ignore him and stick to your guns with the recommendations made on behalf of we the people, and our concerns for our own environment, and that of the wildlife that would be adversely affected by Scout's original plans. There are many better alternatives to wind farms, and they should be utilized now, to prepare for the future demands for energy - such as data centers, and use of AI technology. I think we agree that wind power is the most expensive, invasive, and unreliable source of power there is. It is not really environmentally friendly. I believe that if any of those people in Olympia who are backing this project had to endure the same in their own back yards, they would be singing a different tune. Citizens like myself rely on those who have a voice and the clout to carry out the will of the people, and protect us from bullies like Inslee. Thank you for considering my thoughts on this matter.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 40
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 13:09:00 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 13:09:00 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Gabriel Brown
Q2.	**Email address**	lordfiremonkey04@gmail.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

We cannot ignore the protection of traditional cultural properties and animal nesting grounds. The aerial firefighting restrictions are VITAL, since we see more and more wildfires every year. Not having a safe path could cost lives and millions of dollars in property damage. Horse Heaven Hills should not have wind turbines on it. The carbon output needed to produce turbines is NEVER offset with the amount of electricity that wind turbines produce. Nuclear is our only green answer.

Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	not answered

Respondent No: 41
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 14:08:22 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 14:08:22 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Clark Stolle

Q2. **Email address** ClarkWA7@msn.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. It is truly an aberration. Give us citizens a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility. There is a wealth of technical information that clearly demonstrates wind turbine farms are not economical without subsidies and they do not produce needed power (summer and winter) when it matters most, due to low or non-existent wind. Other states including California, are no longer welcoming these wind farms. It is not for lack of land, but because the multi-national corporations know they are unbridled in Washington State. The proposed plan with mitigation, as presented to the governor's office by EFSEC is an attempt to find an acceptable plan for all parties. Please stay the course with the EFSEC mitigating proposal and do not disregard the tremendous amount of effort and study that demonstrates the tragic impacts to our SE Washington region, if the original proposal is left unchecked. The Scout position DOES NOT accurately reflect the facts, science and strong sentiments against the project in our region. To move forward with the project is to disregard expert opinions and makes a travesty of the EFSEC process. This is a process that has worked hard to find an acceptable comprise with representatives from WA agencies, the Yakama Nation, environmental and industry experts and the citizens of SE Washington. This is your process. Failure to adopt the recommendations of EFSEC and instead, unilaterally require them to approve an ill-conceived and flawed project in its entirety is an insult to the citizens of SE Washington. Frankly, the logic is unconscionable and has the appearance of being nothing more than force of will and position of office. Is this the message and impression that an outgoing, multi-term governor wants to leave with the citizens of the state. I sincerely hope not and ask that you reconsider and do not allow this project to be approved.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 42
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 14:30:01 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 14:30:01 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Rick Kurtz

Q2. **Email address** prof.plum7@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

We would like to take this opportunity to strongly state that EFSEC should resist pressure from Governor Inslee and Scout Clean Energy to alter the original recommendations to downsize the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project. The purpose of EFSEC is to consider public concerns and not allow one individual or developer to change EFSEC's decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person who will be very negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Please give the average citizen an opportunity to be heard and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the size and scale of this project as specified in that document. EFSEC's original recommendation was a sincere effort to balance the interests of the developer against the interests of the many thousands of people that will be negatively impacted by this project and it took many years to develop. It's very unfair for a small group of people to upend this process simply because they don't like the outcome.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 43
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 14:58:41 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 14:58:41 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Judy Gelhaus

Q2. **Email address** — jegelhaus@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

You need to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. This supposedly "green windmill farm" is a scam to our area since the power produced will not benefit this area and it will have a negative impact on our wildlife and peoples peace of mind that live with visual and close proximity to these giant albatrosses. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 44
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 16:09:44 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 16:09:44 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Ira Johnson

Q2. **Email address** — johnsonira967@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one person or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us little people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 45
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 16:47:53 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 16:47:53 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Estill Oldham

Q2. **Email address** — ejo2749@hotmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please respect the many issues presented by those of us living in the area that will be hurt by the request by the governor to move shead with the full build out of the proposed wind farm. Keep the impact to us at a minimum!!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 46
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 17:20:27 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 17:20:27 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Barb McDonald

Q2. **Email address** — bj2mcdon@yahoo.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please consider the size of this community and how big an impact the wind farm will have. Remember what you sent to Governor Inslee and stick to the recommendations you sent to him. As one of the little people that does not have money or influence over the governor please listen to the voices of the people. Just because the whole of Tri-Cities is not writing letters does not mean they don't care. Don't let out of state businesses take over our back yard while they make sure it is not in their backyard. It is especially dangerous because of wildfires and not being able to have air support during such an event to help stop the fire. That also puts the wind farm in danger. Please do your job and keep the recommendations in your report and send it back to Governor Inslee. That is your job and please don't be bullied to change the plan. Thank you.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 47
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 17:32:42 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 17:32:42 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Jeff krug

Q2. **Email address** — Jkrug540@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Pls protect our wildlife and shrubsteppe. Downsize the Scout project in HorseHeaven Hills.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 48
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 18:32:10 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 18:32:10 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Ashley Morrison

Q2. **Email address** — ashey06@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 49
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 18:48:04 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 18:48:04 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Diane Frasso

Q2. **Email address** jdfrasso73@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I feel so strongly that I need to address the EFSEC regarding your seemingly changing stand on the proposed wind farm project on Horse Heaven Hills. As I have been following the progression of the meetings and reports and comments and various area agency input and investigations and drafts, I felt that the EFSEC was working hard to look into the many and diverse impacts of this project to this area. While I wasn't completely satisfied with the the EFSEC's submission to Governor Inslee, I applauded the work that had gone into your findings and your recognition that this massive project is going to have many negative impacts. I felt that you had worked to try to mitigate many of those issues. I can't understand why one rebuff by Gov. Inslee would make you question your original submission. If you felt that this was the right decision to go with, after years of deliberation, why are you considering backing down now? My husband and I moved to west Kennewick from the Portland/Vancouver area for many reasons, but some of the most important to us were (and are) that we could live in an area that afforded open vistas, something that we couldn't afford on the west side. We know that those vistas will be significantly altered if this project is allowed to move forward as proposed. We recently drove through the area of Moro, Oregon where there is a fairly large wind farm running between the few little towns there. Previous to our arriving in the area, we commented on how windy it was that day. As we drove through that area, we were struck by the fact that not one single blade was turning on even one of the many turbines that could be seen from the highway! It was so significant, that we immediately Googled to find out more about that wind farm. It turns out that those machines are about 300 feet tall -- one-half the height of the proposed Scout Energy wind machines to be put on Horse Heaven Hills. We also found out that the residents in those communities are being paid each year for having to look at those machines. They felt it was unfair that only those who were leasing the land to the energy company should be paid to have the wind farm in their back yards. It was interesting that the communities had some say in what the outcome would be. As residents of Horse Heaven Hills area, we look to the EFSEC to be our voices in letting Gov. Inslee and Scout Energy know that we don't see this project as being good for our area--especially as originally proposed! Thank you for your consideration in standing your ground in this very important matter.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 50
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 18:50:11 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 18:50:11 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Kendy vasile

Q2. **Email address** — skvasile@aol.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 51
Login: wlheilman
Email: blouieh@gmail.com

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 19:31:23 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 02:24:36 am
IP Address: 71.15.160.103

Q1. **First & Last Name** — William Heilman

Q2. **Email address** — blouieh@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility. I find it shocking that you would ignore all of the good work that went in to your initial recommendation and let a “lame duck” governor dictate what your recommendation should be just to assure his “legacy”.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 52
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 24, 2024 20:05:22 pm
Last Seen: Aug 24, 2024 20:05:22 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Barbara Thompson

Q2. **Email address** bluemtngirl@hotmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Living in the shadow of Horse Heaven Hill we frequently have fires out here and our local fire department often call in for aerial fire fighting. My concern is with these monstrous windfarms so close to where we live, the one tool that has proven to be effective in fighting against these wild fires will no longer be a viable option. Will our homes, our neighbors homes, orchards,and vineyards be a vast casualty for these inefficient, expensive windmills that will never produce the amount of electricity that nuclear, coal fire energy plants or hydro - dams are capable of producing. Why is it that USA is going all in for "green energy" that doesn't work and is not cost effective when other nations like China, India are buying up our coal to build coal fire energy plants. Germany and France have also stopped using windmills.. Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 53
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 02:00:13 am
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 02:00:13 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	J. Polehn
Q2.	**Email address**	jpolehn1@yahoo.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Given the environmental, financial, health damages that will result from the Horse Heaven Hills Wind, Solar, and Battery project to be located in Benton County, WA, I ask that EFSEC NOT approve the project. JP 8/25/24

Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/6051159a341d6a9cc3ba5d026c0559ce85781de9/original/1724576371/332f04272d00847d012c551942dffa8c_Comments_to_EFSEC_on_HH_Hills_project_082524.doc?1724576371

Good morning, EFSEC: 8/25/24

I'm adding my voice to other concerned Washington State citizens about the **Horse Heaven Hills Wind, Solar, and Battery project proposed for Benton County, Washington**. Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

I'm also adding technical information Footnotes EFSEC should consider so that EFSEC's decision does not provide a disastrous outcome that will seriously negatively impact our population's wellbeing economically and from a health perspective as well as from the obvious environmental perspective.....

* Let's talk about hypocrisy: Environmentalists made a huge stink about the spotted owl and eagles and salmon being decimated and put strict controls in place to assure these species were not eliminated. But now it's ok to harm wild life? Really? It's ok to wreck miles of farm land for energy forms that will not provide reliable, inexpensive electrical power because the energy forms are based on unreliable weather and expensive materials? It's ok to rob folks via increased energy costs and taxes? It's ok to contaminate farm land needed to feed the human race as well as wild life? It's ok to devalue property? It's ok to stick taxpayers and landowner with cleanup costs? It's ok to force products and services on taxpayers that we did NOT agree to nor want? Let me be explicitly clear: IT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE to force goods/services on any population. Our country's economy is based on supply and demand. Consumers decide what they will buy and if they will buy it; NOT government employees! The majority of folks do NOT want the wind turbines, solar panels, nor flammable and toxic battery facilities. The government is mis-using our tax monies by doing this and there WILL be added costs, monetary and reputation, through litigation if this "fly-by-night" project is allowed to go forward and line the pockets of those that would not ever consider having these health hazards and eye sores around their homes. Does EFSEC really want that to be their legacy?
(See Footnotes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.)

* Let's talk about the alleged man-made climate change. Please provide the documented, peer reviewed evidence that man IS causing climate change on earth and include documented, peer reviewed evidence that the climate change is NOT caused by solar and geothermal activities. (See Footnote 9, 10.)

* Let's talk about the documented, peer reviewed cost benefit analysis of the project that does NOT use taxpayer subsidies for the wind, solar, battery project PRIOR to initiation of the project. Include the actual need for the project. Was the analysis done and when? Please provide the documented analysis. What were the documented results? How did it include total "cradle to grave" comparisons of materials and energy and funds and environmental damage with current energy sources? If that analysis cannot be provided showing a HUGE benefit to the electric power using public over current reliable, cost-

effective electrical power sources, the project should not be allowed to go forward. (See Footnote 11.)

In closing, I ask that EFSEC recommend the entire Horse Heaven Hills project be rejected because of the environmental damage it will cause, the health damage that will be done to humans and wild life, and the damage that will be done by mis-using taxpayer funds to negatively impact real estate and scenic resources.

I thank you in advance for NOT approving the Horse Heaven Hills Wind, Solar, and Battery project.

J. Polehn
Richland, WA
jpolehn1@yahoo.com

Footnotes:

1) If solar panels are so clean why do they produce so much toxic waste, Climate-Science Press, Michael Shellenberger, 4/13/24-- https://climate-science.press/2024/04/13/if-solar-panels-are-so-clean-why-do-they-produce-so-much-toxic-waste/

2) Massive energy corporation says up to 30 percent of its wind turbines could be malfunctioning. 'The fact that we have identified more quality problems marks a significant setback for us'. WND, Will Kessler, Daily Caller News Foundation, 6/23/23-- https://www.wnd.com/2023/06/massive-energy-corporation-says-30-percent-wind-turbines-malfunctioning/

3) Entire wind-energy industry could be facing serious technical problems. 'The underlying issues aren't going away', John Hugh DeMastri, Daily Caller News Foundation, 7/4/23-- https://www.wnd.com/2023/07/entire-wind-energy-industry-facing-serious-technical-problems/

4) Icy blast of bankruptcies loom for Swedish wind-power sector, experts warn, Climate-Science Press, Uwe Roland Gross, Brussels Signal, Carl Deconinck, 3/17/2-- https://climate-science.press/2024/03/17/icy-blast-of-bankruptcies-loom-for-swedish-wind-power-sector-experts-warn/

5) The Death of a Wind Farm, Climate-Science Press, Uwe Roland Gross, Substack, Isaac Orr and Mitch Rolling, 2/24/24-- https://climate-science.press/2024/02/24/the-death-of-a-wind-farm/

6) All Hail Nuclear: Because Solar Panels Can't Survive Hailstorms or Hurricanes. Climate-Science Press, Uwe Roland Gross, 8/19/24-- https://climate-science.press/2024/08/19/all-hail-nuclear-because-solar-panels-cant-survive-hailstorms-or-hurricanes/

7) Net zero? Evidence says it's a 'green mirage' Would explode energy costs, 'devastate Western economies, increase human suffering', WND, Around The Web, Rupert Darwall,

Real Clear Wire, June 24, 2023-- https://www.wnd.com/2023/06/net-zero-evidence-says-green-mirage/

8) Mark Mills: The energy transition delusion: inescapable mineral realities, Skagen Fondene, August 2023-- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sgOEGKDVvsg

9) NASA admits that climate change occurs because of changes in Earth's solar orbit, and NOT because of SUVs and fossil fuels. Ethan Huff, Natural News, 8/30/19-- https://www.naturalnews.com/2019-08-30-nasa-admits-climate-change-not-caused-by-suvs-fossil-fuels.html

10) The Geothermal Paradox: How the Earth's Second Largest Heat Source May Be Driving the Most Recent Warming. Friends of Science, 3/29/23-- https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2023/03/29/the-geothermal-paradox-how-the-earths-second-largest-heat-source-may-be-driving-the-most-recent-warming/

11) Wind Energy's Dirty Secret: Deforestation of the Amazon and Devastation of Indigenous Communities. Booming demand for balsa wood, used to make turbine blades for wind energy, is ravaging Amazon forests and indigenous communities — in the name of "green power." The Defender, Dr. Joseph Mercola, 8/1/23-- https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/amazon-deforestation-wind-energy-cola/

Respondent No: 55
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 07:38:54 am
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 07:38:54 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Lee Roberts

Q2. **Email address** — lw.fm.roberts@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do not let the governor of this state dictate what the conclusion of the committee will be. He has the authority to override any recommendation but let him have the fallout from any such action. The committee did their job so let the governor do his!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 57
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 08:23:08 am
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 08:23:08 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Ken Gano

Q2. **Email address** — ganokena@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility. This project has no more business standing on the sky line of the TriCities than it would on the sky line of Seattle.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 58
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 08:39:31 am
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 08:39:31 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Teresa Anderson

Q2. **Email address** — blankhorse@aol.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I live in Benton City and have a beautiful view of the Horse Heaven Hills. The windmill will change the whole landscape of the hills, along with sacrificing birds and animals. I spoke to a young man who is part of a maintenance crew for the windmills along the Columbia river in Oregon. His job is to pick up all the dead birds that have perished due to the windmills. Green energy is killing wildlife and making vast amounts of property unusable. It's a true tragedy.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 59
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 08:58:40 am
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 08:58:40 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Brian Mitchell

Q2. **Email address** — 97brabus@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I have commented about the negative impacts at several stages of this proposal and it feels like they continue to be ignored. Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 60
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 10:39:47 am
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 10:39:47 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Jeanne Peterson

Q2. **Email address** — nosretepj@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please listen to the voice of the people as EFSEC is supposed to do. Do not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility. Do not let the Governor ride roughshod over the community, tribes and wildlife. If it must be, stand by the findings that a reduced footprint is required. This process has been totalitarian, not democratic. I am disappointed in Washington State.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 61
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 11:03:27 am
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 11:03:27 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — John Jackson

Q2. **Email address** — rocknjjackson@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I'm new to the tri-cities and my wife and I purchased a house here. We saw the wind farms in Texas and how it blew up the realestate there. Please don't make this more of a place people don't want to visit. It's dumb and not informed for his project to progress on the scale proposed. Don't add on to the problems agricultural has created for the hawk. Do the right thing and reject this proposal.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 62
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 11:22:56 am
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 11:22:56 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Brian Richardson

Q2. **Email address** brich69@sbcglobal.net

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am outraged that the governor wants to reduce the exclusion zone -- I was already disappointed with the recommended two miles and felt that was a compromise that was already sacrificing a lot of wildlife with that short distance as it is -- We are talking birds, and two miles for endangered species is not much of a buffer from certain death. PLEASE reject the governor's request to reduce the buffer zone any further, and stay with the prior two miles -- We were not at all happy with the 2-mile buffer as it is - neither is the governor, but after all the arguments made it was a decent compromise. To allow a cut down to .6 of a mile is an insult, totally unfair to all parties, and will be devastating for the wildlife we are trying to protect -- and the governor's proposed change is being proposed for the benefit of state and corporate greed only - It would be a crime and a scandal to allow this change!! PLEASE leave the Buffer Zone at the two-mile limit!!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 63
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 11:54:26 am
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 11:54:26 am
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — John Phillips

Q2. **Email address** — 1980dakota01@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility. I built our forever home in part to a board game (The Farming Game) about the Horse Heaven Hills we played as youngsters.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/29ea6b0102d2450dfebb3292af3be0a9dfc016c5/original/1724611878/49830eb39ac7c40019d81c5bebade012_My_backyard.jpg?1724611878

Respondent No: 64
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 13:31:55 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 13:31:55 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Debbie Larson

Q2. **Email address** — 02.dreamer-pouters@icloud.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 65
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 13:33:03 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 13:33:03 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** james a serles

Q2. **Email address** jaserles49@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Council members, Please stick with your original recommendation, where you evaluated the pros and cons to this project and took the concerns of the local populace into consideration. A project of this magnitude which would have long term negative consequences to this area if built out as originally proposed should not be determined by the whims of one man. One man who will soon be leaving office and happens to be obsessed with green energy regardless of any associated negative consequences. This area is already green with the existence of the nuclear power plant in our area and our residents would embrace the construction of new generation nuclear facilities.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 66
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 14:25:14 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 14:25:14 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Frank Kliewer and Mary Fleisch

Q2. **Email address** Frank@frankkliewer.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Statement in Support of Benton County Residents Against the Horse Heaven Hills Wind and Solar Farm Project To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC), We stand united with the concerned citizens of Benton County, Washington, in our opposition to Governor Jay Inslee's original proposal for the Horse Heaven Hills Wind and Solar Farm. This statement serves as a final plea, urging the EFSEC to uphold the revised conditions previously recommended, which were crafted with due consideration to the environmental, cultural, and economic impacts on our community. 1. Environmental Impact: The Horse Heaven Hills are not just another plot of land; they are a critical habitat for species like the Ferruginous Hawk, which faces potential extinction due to habitat disruption. The scale of this project, even in its reduced form, poses significant threats to wildlife. The original plan, which Governor Inslee seeks to reinstate, exacerbates these risks, potentially leading to irreversible ecological damage. 2. Cultural and Tribal Rights: The Yakama Nation has expressed profound concerns over the project's impact on their traditional cultural properties. Ignoring these concerns not only violates the spirit of cooperation and respect for indigenous rights but also sets a precedent that could undermine future relationships with Native American tribes across the state. 3. Economic Considerations: The proposed project, in its original form, could lead to a devaluation of property in the vicinity due to visual and environmental degradation. Moreover, the economic benefits touted by the project do not outweigh the long-term costs, including potential fire hazards, which could devastate local agriculture and infrastructure, not covered adequately by current insurance models. 4. Community Health and Safety: The proximity of such a large-scale renewable energy facility to a densely populated area like the Tri-Cities is unprecedented and raises valid concerns about health impacts from noise, shadow flicker, and electromagnetic fields, not to mention the increased risk of wildfires due to the nature of solar panel installations. 5. Public Sentiment and Governance: The process by which Governor Inslee has chosen to override the EFSEC's recommendations smacks of authoritarian overreach. It disregards the democratic process where local voices should be heard and respected. The governance of such projects must reflect a balance between state interests and local community welfare, not favor one at the expense of the other. 6. Precedent for Future Projects: Allowing the original plan to proceed sets a dangerous precedent. It suggests that state interests can override local environmental, cultural, and economic concerns with impunity, potentially leading to a future where community input is systematically ignored in favor of state or corporate agendas. We implore the EFSEC to reconsider the original proposal's reinstatement. The revised plan, which was a compromise reflecting community concerns, should be the minimum standard. To move forward with the original plan would be to disregard not just the environmental and cultural heritage of our region but also the democratic principles upon which our state's governance is founded. We, the residents of Benton County, demand that our voices be heard, our environment protected, and our cultural heritage respected. We urge you to uphold the revised conditions and reject Governor Inslee's directive to revert to the original, more invasive proposal. Thank you for considering our plea. Let this decision reflect the values of justice, environmental stewardship, and community respect that define us as a state. Sincerely, Frank Kliewer and Mary Fleisch, residents of the Horse Heaven Hills.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 67
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 14:39:11 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 14:39:11 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Frank Kliewer
Q2.	**Email address**	Frank@frankkliewer.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No
Q4.	**Share any comment**	Attached is the formatted version of our previous comment for easier reading, thank you for your consideration.
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/732c6e36088cdb34e7eb60eb4cadcc41ee98aa3f/original/1724621843/5f8661ae9282840733a4c4404b429f76_Horse_Heaven_Hills_Statement.docx?1724621843

Statement in Support of Benton County Residents Against the Horse Heaven Hills Wind and Solar Farm Project

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC),

We stand united with the concerned citizens of Benton County, Washington, in our opposition to Governor Jay Inslee's original proposal for the Horse Heaven Hills Wind and Solar Farm. This statement serves as a final plea, urging the EFSEC to uphold the revised conditions previously recommended, which were crafted with due consideration to the environmental, cultural, and economic impacts on our community.

1. **Environmental Impact**: The Horse Heaven Hills are not just another plot of land; they are a critical habitat for species like the Ferruginous Hawk, which faces potential extinction due to habitat disruption. The scale of this project, even in its reduced form, poses significant threats to wildlife. The original plan, which Governor Inslee seeks to reinstate, exacerbates these risks, potentially leading to irreversible ecological damage.
2. **Cultural and Tribal Rights**: The Yakama Nation has expressed profound concerns over the project's impact on their traditional cultural properties. Ignoring these concerns not only violates the spirit of cooperation and respect for indigenous rights but also sets a precedent that could undermine future relationships with Native American tribes across the state.
3. **Economic Considerations**: The proposed project, in its original form, could lead to a devaluation of property in the vicinity due to visual and environmental degradation. Moreover, the economic benefits touted by the project do not outweigh the long-term costs, including potential fire hazards, which could devastate local agriculture and infrastructure, not covered adequately by current insurance models.
4. **Community Health and Safety**: The proximity of such a large-scale renewable energy facility to a densely populated area like the Tri-Cities is unprecedented and raises valid concerns about health impacts from noise, shadow flicker, and electromagnetic fields, not to mention the increased risk of wildfires due to the nature of solar panel installations.
5. **Public Sentiment and Governance**: The process by which Governor Inslee has chosen to override the EFSEC's recommendations smacks of authoritarian overreach. It disregards the democratic process where local voices should be heard and respected. The governance of such projects must reflect a balance between state interests and local community welfare, not favor one at the expense of the other.
6. **Precedent for Future Projects**: Allowing the original plan to proceed sets a dangerous precedent. It suggests that state interests can override local environmental, cultural, and

economic concerns with impunity, potentially leading to a future where community input is systematically ignored in favor of state or corporate agendas.

We implore the EFSEC to reconsider the original proposal's reinstatement. The revised plan, which was a compromise reflecting community concerns, should be the minimum standard. To move forward with the original plan would be to disregard not just the environmental and cultural heritage of our region but also the democratic principles upon which our state's governance is founded.

We, the residents of Benton County, demand that our voices be heard, our environment protected, and our cultural heritage respected. We urge you to uphold the revised conditions and reject Governor Inslee's directive to revert to the original, more invasive proposal.

Thank you for considering our plea. Let this decision reflect the values of justice, environmental stewardship, and community respect that define us as a state.

Sincerely,

Frank Kliewer and Mary Fleisch, residents of the Horse Heaven Hills.

Respondent No: 68
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 15:01:38 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 15:01:38 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Jordan Ryckman
Q2.	**Email address**	jordan@conservationnw.org
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	**Yes (please specify)** Conservation Northwest
Q4.	**Share any comment**	not answered
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/13c0d6ef512656702bc00b4339b551bc86cd2e5c/original/1724623062/ff6f96780225290768320fef92efab9d_HorseHeavenSCA_CNWcomment.pdf?1724623062

Conservation Northwest
Keeping the Northwest Wild

August 25, 2024

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503-3172

Submitted electronically at *https://comments.efsec.wa.gov/.*

Re: Comments Regarding Horse Heaven Wind Project Special Meeting Draft SCA

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Conservation Northwest (CNW) appreciates the opportunity to submit this comment regarding the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council's (Council) deliberation on mitigation measures proposed during the July 17, 2024 Council meeting for the Horse Heaven Wind Project (Project) in consideration of Governor Inslee's May 25, 2024 response to the Council's April 29, 2024 recommendation. We support the essential transition to clean and renewable energy and hope to ensure that implementation aligns with the needs of local communities and protects natural and cultural resources.

CNW strongly agrees with the Council's initial recommendation aimed to significantly reduce the Project's size to mitigate potential harm to endangered species and to significant cultural resources. The Council's extensive three-year effort involved scientific research, input from Tribes and local governments, and public feedback.

These proposed mitigation measures countering this reduced Project's footprint will set a precedent for many more projects and have the potential to affect critical habitats for protected species, such as ferruginous hawks, greater sage-grouse, pygmy rabbits, pronghorn antelope, and more.

Washington's Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) targets require an extensive build-out of utility-scale clean energy projects. This transition will require proactive and intentional planning that should be informed by consultation and collaboration with local Tribes and communities, and with the use of updated science-based data resources. The current developer-led models for project developments will result in consequential impacts. Rather, the Council needs to properly evaluate and prioritize areas of low conservation value and least conflict impacts with priority habitats and species, which are critical for healthy biodiversity and ecosystem resilience.

1. Species-Specific Mitigation Plan: Ferruginous Hawk

CNW supports the requirement of a specific Ferruginous Hawk Mitigation and Management Plan. In the initial draft Site Certification Agreement (SCA), the Council practiced protection of important nesting areas essential for the state-endangered ferruginous hawk recovery. The Council

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206.675.1007 (fax)

should dismiss Governor Inslee's and the developer's, Scout Clean Energy, LLC's, position to drastically decrease the radius surrounding the ferruginous hawk nests documented in the Priority Habitat and Species (PHS) database. Science evaluations saw that ferruginous hawks have larger breeding home ranges than other local species and that a 0.6 mile buffer would not provide a safe buffer for hawks. This data suggests that a buffer of 1.5 miles is statistically the same as 2 miles, but reducing the buffer to 0.6 miles will not result in a comparable or safe buffer. Therefore, it would be most fitting for the buffer zone to be at least a 1.5 mile radius to safely surround ferruginous hawk nests - if this recommendation from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) were to be disregarded.

The Council would also be restoring 107 of the turbines if they included all the language that was in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on Species-5. In agreeance with Council Member Lenny Young of the Department of Natural Resources, CNW requests that this be reconsidered, as restoring most of this project would amplify individual and cumulative significant impacts on local wildlife and cultural and traditional resources and properties.

The Council needs to set a precedent of working with applicants to ensure the consistent monitoring and identification of active nests, foraging habitats, and other priority habitats and species needs are met before any construction to create effective mitigation and adaptive management plans. There will be direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts throughout the state and proper guidelines and clear standards will result in the least amount of conflict.

2. Corridor Mitigation Plan

CNW supports the Council's and WDFW's work on the development of a coordination plan that ensures there will be future wildlife movement through the Project and that the Project will not adversely impact those wildlife corridors. This would help provide more clarity on resources and mitigation requirements for our diverse ecosystems and help set expectations for future projects of this magnitude. In addition, habitat connectivity for all species needs to be considered when determining the impact on an area. Independent of corridor quality, species rely on these key areas for seasonal migrations, climate adaptation, and increased genetic diversity. This should be a focus for all Project decisions.

The Council reverted to Hab-1 FEIS mitigation measure language to "avoid to the extent possible" and we expect the Council to work with developers early in the application process to create a Corridor Mitigation Plan. It is important to note that project components should not be placed in identified corridors to the "extent feasible" because "feasible" is not defined. The Council holds the burden of determining which project components are necessary, what is an effective build-out of the project, and what should be eliminated. Avoidance of these critical corridors (as identified in local connectivity mapping efforts including WDFW PHS, the Washington Shrub-steppe Restoration and Resiliency Initiative, Arid Lands Initiative, and the Washington Wildlife Habitat Connectivity Working Group) should be prioritized.

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Seattle, WA 98119
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206.675.1007 (fax)

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3. Project Description

CNW requests that the language used in the draft SCA, dated April 29, 2024, be reinstated in C. Project Description, Primary 3:

> "Project components including roads and powerlines, shall not be constructed within movement corridors modeled as medium to very high linage, and secondary Project components shall be located outside of corridors modeled as high to very high linkage unless co-located with existing infrastructure, such as roads or transmission corridors, to the extent feasible."

Movement corridors should be a priority when evaluating suitable locations for infrastructure development and avoided to the extent possible. The removal of this consideration will result in further habitat fragmentation and pose barriers to wildlife movement.

The Council will need to conduct up-front consultations with the Confederate Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation to properly address whether wind turbine restrictions within 1 mile of the Webber Canyon topographic drop off would be an appropriate mitigation option and to properly identify project modifications to best limit the impacts on cultural resources and this TCP.

To move forward most effectively, the Council should lean on and defend its three years of work invested in this application evaluation, as the original recommendation actively protects local resources identified through adjudication. Generation goals and prior investments cannot be placed over local community concerns for significant natural, cultural, and agricultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nadine Nadow, Sr. Policy Coordinator
Conservation Northwest
nadine@conservationnw.org

Jordan Ryckman, Sagelands Heritage Program Sr. Coordinator
Conservation Northwest
jordan@conservationnw.org

Respondent No: 70
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 17:11:40 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 17:11:40 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Heather Miller

Q2. **Email address** — redpepperfox64@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please reconsider the recommended revisions for this plan at a minimum! The livelihood of our family and friends are at risk we're there to be another field fire. Just this summer we had fires that utilized aerial firefighting method to be kept contained. Were the turbines in place, the damage would have been much greater. Please also listen to the voices of those who live and work out here in Eastern Washington and the Horse Heaven Hills. While you may be able to sign a paper and move onto the next proposition, this decision impacts hundreds of thousands of lives on a daily basis. Don't destroy the serenity and view out here with metal infrastructure. People move here to get away from city skylines, to be able to breathe and appreciate the expansive skyline. These wind turbines will not only negatively impact safety of humans and the local wildlife. They will have negative impacts on the mental well-being of an entire population. Please save our ridgeslines!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 71
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 17:57:01 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 17:57:01 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Stuart Fricke
Q2.	**Email address**	sfricke@whiteshieldinc.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

It is appalling that we are re-thinking the environmental issues that were thoroughly studied with respect to the flora and fauna. As it stands, we are making a decision that will span multiple generations, that will remove critical habitat for flora and fauna that will not be replaced. We are impacting a huge swath of land that is in the flight zone of many species that migrate through the region. We will have a bird kill that will is unthinkable. You have environmental impact costs that are incalculable, and that Scout energy or the governor's office will not be responsible for. Our native cultures of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla and the Yakamas will be seriously impacted and imperiled. Where once again the Native Americans must be pay the price for large white colonial cities who want their energy and electrical devices powered. The cultural impact is multiple generations and there is no mitigation that is suitable. This project is not suitable for the area. Energy projects of this magnitude need to be located in areas zoned for energy production, and not agricultural or critical habitat areas. The push by Governor Inslee to approve this project is not based on science but the politics and his need for a personal legacy.

Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	not answered

Respondent No: 72
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 19:25:37 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 19:25:37 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Paul Krupin
Q2.	**Email address**	Paul@Presari.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	**Yes (please specify)** Board member of Tri-Cities CARES
Q4.	**Share any comment**	not answered
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/1b4d9b35d4c329c7658da8fe68e8f24a9f6b5a8b/original/1724639126/26923f2e962d82ac9710ab1d6861b661_Krupin_Comments_on_HHH_Draft_SCA_-_Visual_Impacts_and_their_Impacts_on_Property_Value.pdf?1724639126

Comments on Horse Heaven Special Meeting Draft SCA Documents

Paul J. Krupin, Board member of Tri-Cities CARES

To Ignore and Dismiss Visual Impacts and their Impacts on Property Value is Unacceptable

The new proposed EFSEC mitigations and revised SCA should not be allowed. Scientifically they make no rational sense given the information developed in the existing record.

EFSEC's Recommendations and Order 892 both recognize and acknowledge the severity of the visual impacts and the need for mitigation

The Findings of Facts in Order 892, specifically acknowledge and explicitly recognize that the project as proposed will result in significant adverse visual impacts and that further mitigation, "…including the removal of multiple turbines, must be required in order to minimize the visual impact of the Project on the Tri-Cities Region and on the Yakama Nation TCPs."

EFSEC's May 23 Recommendation eliminated a large number of the most visually obstructive wind turbines, and mitigated the visual impacts significantly.

The revised SCA and new mitigation recommendations removes the mitigations and returns the visual impacts to their original proposed levels.

TCC's property appraisal experts gave testimony warning us that *real estate prices will be reduced 20 to 30 percent* and *properties close to the turbines may never sell*.

Even the expert relied upon by Scout in the adjudication recognizes the negative impact wind turbines have on property value.
https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301421523004226

There is widespread agreement and ample documentation that people pay more for scenery and pay less when the views are obstructed by energy industrial facilities and infrastructure. This includes power lines, electrical substations, battery storage systems, coal, gas, or nuclear power generation facilities, and wind turbines.

The following table depicts the predicted 20 to 30 percent property value loss and the potential economic losses to real estate property in Tri-Cities.

A	B	C	D	E	F
Present Value	20 & 30 percent reduction	1000 homes	5000 homes	10,000 homes	20,000 homes
1,000,000.00	200,000.00	200,000,000.00	1,000,000,000.00	2,000,000,000.00	4,000,000,000.00
1,000,000.00	300,000.00	300,000,000.00	1,500,000,000.00	3,000,000,000.00	6,000,000,000.00
500,000.00	100,000.00	100,000,000.00	500,000,000.00	1,000,000,000.00	2,000,000,000.00
500,000.00	150,000.00	150,000,000.00	750,000,000.00	1,500,000,000.00	3,000,000,000.00

The proposed EFSEC mitigations ignore the significant adverse economic impacts that will occur as a result of visual impacts.

The consequence of ignoring the visual impacts is that economic losses of *two to six billion dollars* are not being identified and recognized.

EFSEC has obligations to protect people and the environment in Washington.

The only action that is justified is to vote against approval of the revised SCA.

Paul Krupin

Board Member Tri-Cities CARES

Kennewick WA

Respondent No: 73
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 19:28:57 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 19:28:57 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Paul Krupin
Q2.	**Email address**	Paul@Presari.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	**Yes (please specify)** Board member Tri-Cities CARES
Q4.	**Share any comment**	not answered
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/ed98462e731ddc9ebaf274e665640b388fbaa165/original/1724639324/4fab65f1e8b9c2baf29d22fc35938aad_Krupin_Comments_on_HHH_Draft_SCA_-_Fire_Buffer_Fire_Buffer___Topo_Buffer.pdf?1724639324

Comments on Horse Heaven Special Meeting Draft SCA Documents

Paul J. Krupin, Board member of Tri-Cities CARES

TCC Comments on 0.25 Mile Fire Buffer in EFSEC Mitigation and draft SCA

The Council has created a new proposal that would restore nearly all of the wind turbines that had been eliminated by the April 29, 2024 Recommendation to the Governor.

The new 0.25 mile fire buffer mitigation fails to address aerial firefighting airspace requirements for DC-10's (VLAT's) that are used by federal agencies on the lands adjacent to the project.

Background

Order 892 states:

Socioeconomic Impacts *(Order 892, Page 45)*

> *The Council finds the Project's roadways would improve access within the Project boundaries for ground firefighting activities.* ***The Council also finds that wind turbines located along the northern Project boundary would present challenges to aerial firefighting*** *techniques historically used in the area*

The new EFSEC recommendations and the Draft SCA, ARTICLE I: SITE CERTIFICATION, C. Project Description #4, Page 9 states:

> *"No wind turbines shall be sited within 0.25 miles of the maximum perimeter of one or more historic wildfires that have been recorded between January 1, 2000 and the start of construction (see Appendix 2: PHS-2 for additional details),"*

Appendix 2 PHS-2 Firefighting Aircraft Standoff Buffers:

> No wind turbines shall be sited within 0.25 miles of the maximum perimeter of one or more historic wildfires that have been recorded between January 1, 2000 and the start of construction.

Rationale: The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has stated that any firefighting aircraft in service with their agency would observe a minimum of a 0.25-mile standoff buffer from wind turbines during aircraft operation. This mitigation measure ensures that DNR firefighting aircraft can safely and effectively be deployed to areas of higher wildfire likelihood within and adjacent to the Project Lease Boundary to assist in firefighting when needed.

TCC Comment:

The proposed 0.25 mile fire buffer mitigation is inadequate and fails to take federal fleet LATS and VLATs airspace requirements into account.

The use of the 0.25 fire buffer will result in the construction of 499 ft high or 671 ft high wind turbines along the ridgeline of the Horse Heaven Hills in the northern Project boundary. This will result in the creation of a huge no-fly zone that will prevent large aircraft tankers (LATs) and Very Large Air Tankers (VLATs) from being used, subjecting residents and businesses to the very real threat of fire, property destruction, injury and death.

The EFSEC mitigation and draft SCA addresses only the fleet capabilities of the Washington DNR and its response to fire on DNR land.

The January 26, 2024 email from Russ Lane, (DNR) relied upon by EFSEC clarifies that the 0.25 mile distance refers only to the use of State owned aerial firefighting aircraft and does not recognize or take the federal fleet aircraft into account. The federal fleet has made use of LAT and VLAT size aircraft in the historic fires in the Horse Heaven Hills on record.

Mr. Lane states

"I would like to clarify the interpretation of my previous responses. I was not specifically asked to address the use of very large, airliner-type jet aircraft. I will happily defer to expertise on the maneuvering characteristics of large transport aircraft."

See the attached email to read Mr. Lane's email in whole.

The TCC expert witnesses provided testimony regarding the aerial firefighting airspace maneuvering buffers needed for VLATS and LATs – two miles perpendicular and four miles along the flight path.

Testimony provided by TCC aerial firefighting expert witnesses with significant experience responding to fires on federal land states that **two miles perpendicular and four miles along the flight path is needed** to safely avoid turbine obstructions.

The proposed quarter mile fire buffer distance is inadequate.

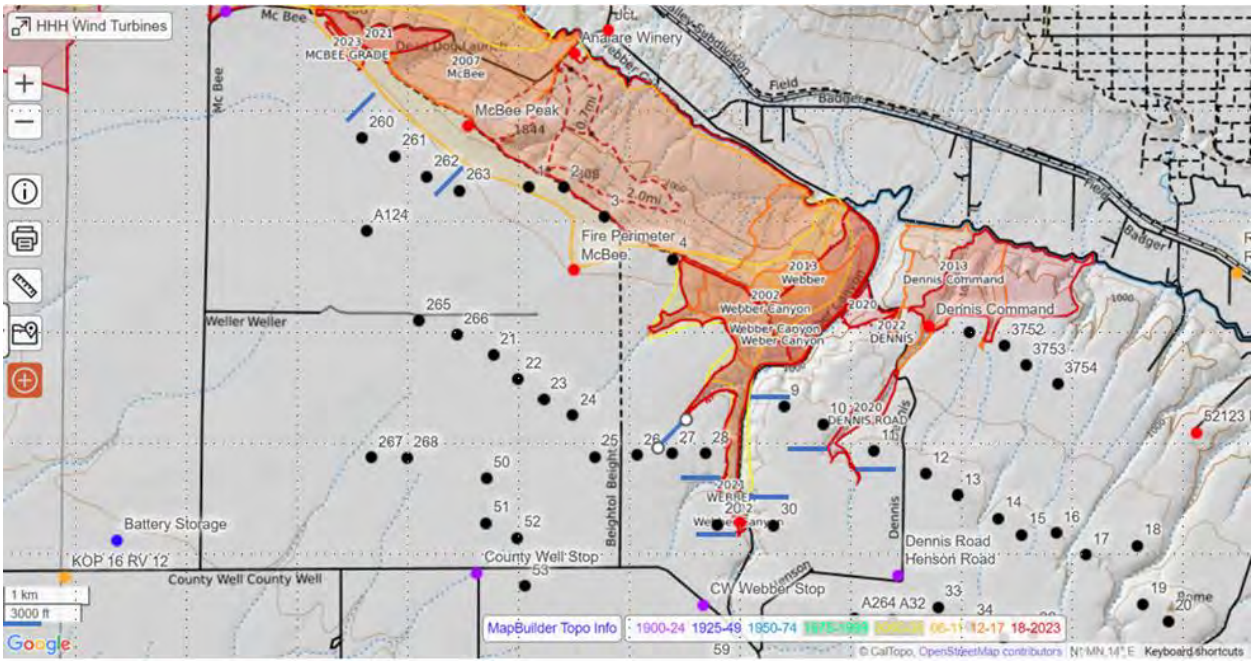
Impacts on Turbines of the 0.25 and 2.0 mile Fire Buffers and the 1.0 mile Webber Canyon Cultural Buffer

The following CalTopo Maps compares the 0.25 mile fire buffer to a 2.0 mile buffer and shows the affected wind turbines on the project. Each map uses a fire history data set from year 2000 to present.

This evaluation assumes a flight path of a DC-10 VLAT from the Federal Fleet from NW to SE along the top of the ridgeline with the aircraft similar to what occurred at this location in July 2023.

Please note the turbines identified as 3751 to 3754 were eliminated from consideration in the Moon Memo.

0.25-mile fire buffer

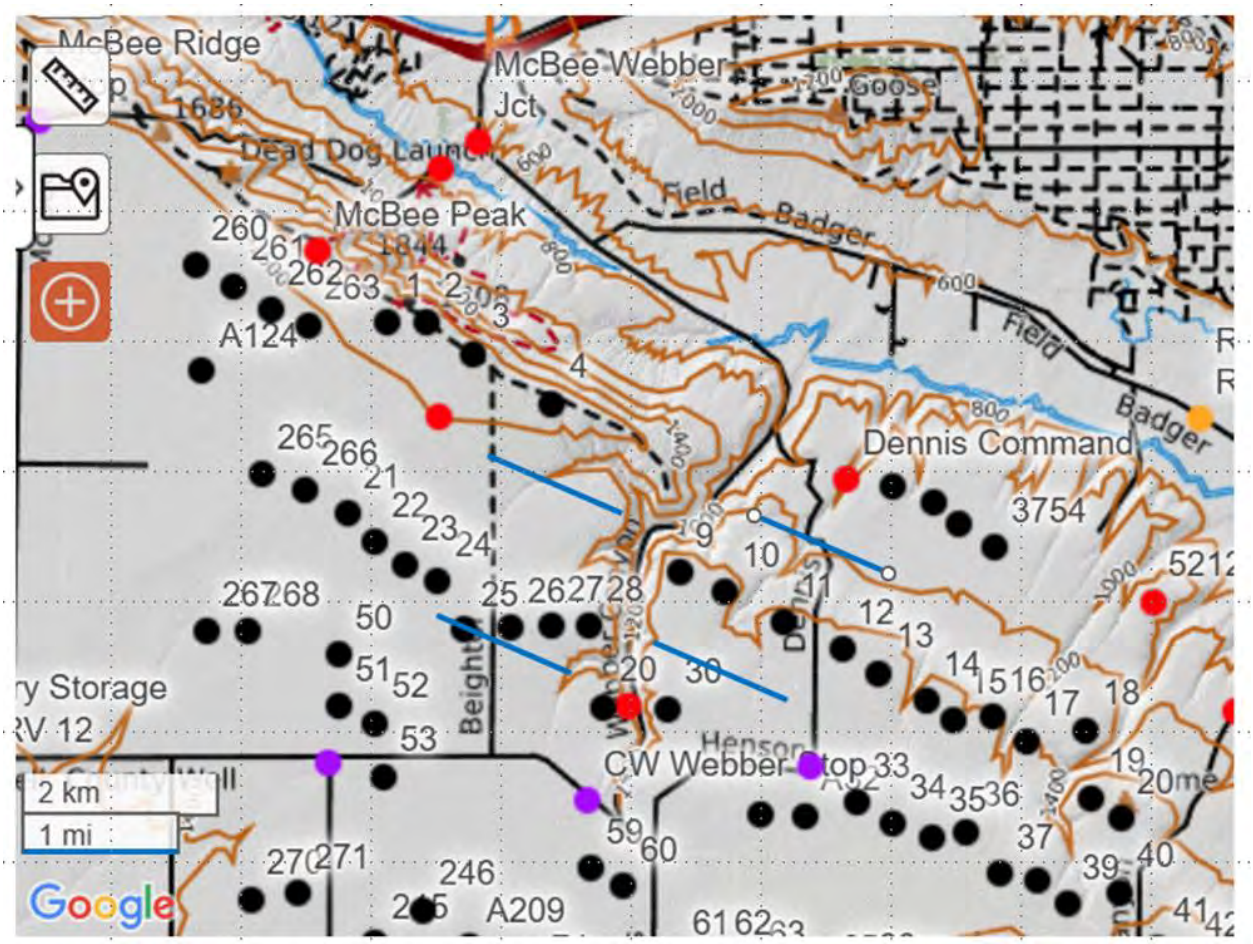


The 0.25 mile fire buffer (colored in blue) impacts the following turbine numbers from west to east:

260, 261, 262, 263, 1, 2, 3, 4, 26, 27, 28, 9, 10, 11 20 and 30

= 16 turbines

<u>1.0-mile Webber canyon Buffer from Topographic Break line.</u>

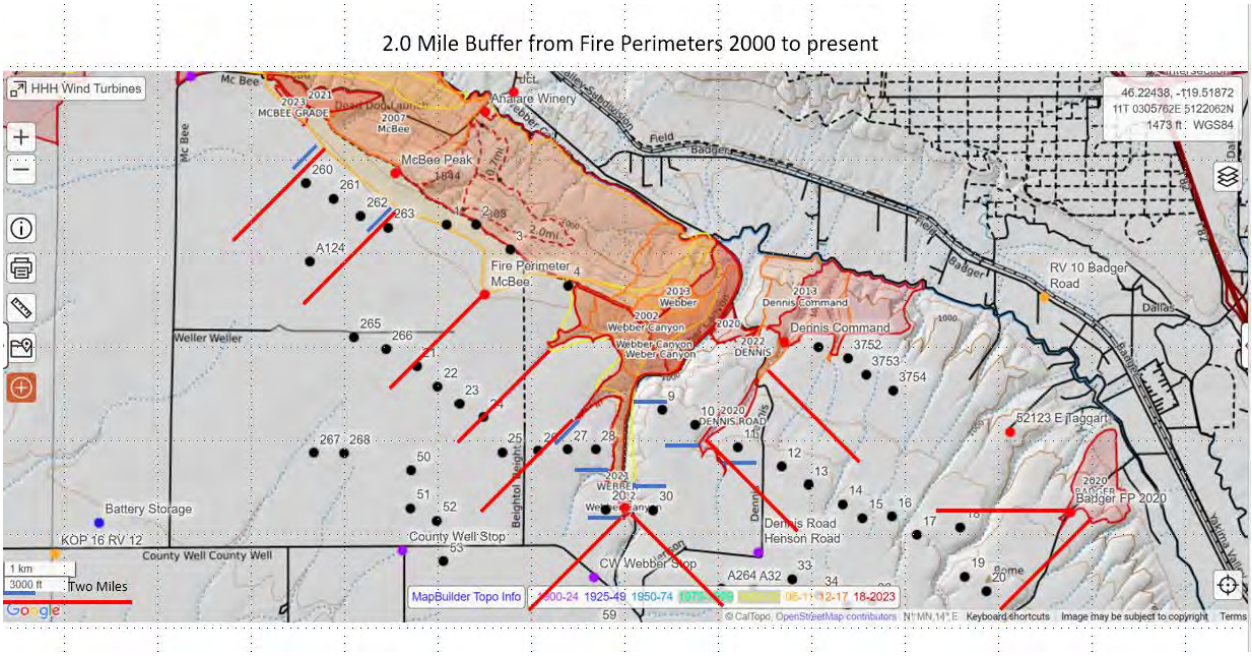


Turbines for elimination or relocation include:

25, 26, 27, 28 and 20 west of Webber Canyon and 9, 10, 11 and possibly 12 and 30 east of Webber Canyon = 10 turbines

The 10 turbines impacted by the 1.0 Topographic buffer overlap with the 16 turbines affected by the 0.25-mile fire buffer.

2.0-Mile Fire Buffer for LAT's and VLAT's



The wind turbines affected by the 2.0-mile fire buffer that would need to be eliminated or relocated include:

260, 261, 262, 263, 1, 2, 3, 4, 26, 27, 28, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20,

A124, 265, 266, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 20, 30, A264, A32

= 38 turbines

The 2.0-mile fire buffer encompasses the 1.0-mile topo buffer.

Attachment – January 26, 2024 email from Russ Lane DNR to EFSEC and others

From: Lane, Russ (DNR)
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 3:16 PM
To: Krupin, Paul (WaTech Guest) <Paul@Presari.com>; Taylor, Katy (DNR) <Katy.Taylor@dnr.wa.gov>; Lebovitz, Allen (DNR) <Allen.Lebovitz@dnr.wa.gov>; EFSEC mi Comments <Comments@efsec.wa.gov>; Moon, Amy (EFSEC) <amy.moon@efsec.wa.gov>; Drew, Kathleen (EFSEC) <kathleen.drew@efsec.wa.gov>
Cc: 'Dave Sharp' <dave@tricitiescares.org>; 'Pam Minelli' <pam@tricitiescares.org>; kmbrun@gmail.com; 'Rick Aramburu' <Rick@aramburulaw.com>; Geissler, George (DNR) <George.Geissler@dnr.wa.gov>

Subject: RE: Aerial Firefighting issue EFSEC Meeting January 31 2024 on Horse Heaven Hills Wind Turbines

All,

I would like to clarify the interpretation of my previous responses. I was not specifically asked to address the use of very large, airliner-type jet aircraft. I will happily defer to expertise on the maneuvering characteristics of large transport aircraft.

I was asked to assess the impacts to DNR aerial firefighting efforts. DNR's owned and contracted fleet includes light, medium and heavy (Type 3, 2, 1) helicopters, as well as single-engine and twin-engine turboprop aircraft. The fixed wing tankers operate in both retardant and scooping configurations. The large and very large jet engine transport-type aircraft are present in the federal fleet. While we infrequently borrow DC-10 Very Large Airtankers (VLAT'S) from the USFS, they fly on less than 1% of DNR incidents.

We are comfortable that we can safely operate the three types of helicopters and the light tankers (AT-802's) at a standoff distance of approximately ¼ mile. I am reasonably certain we would hear the same for the twin-engine scoopers (CL-415) and twin tankers (Q-400). We can certainly check that with our vendor for those platforms. As always, the go/no-go call for safe operations near obstacles will be made by the pilot-in-command at the time of the mission.

We remain concerned that operations interior to a large-scale wind project would pose unacceptable risks to aircrews. However, we believe we have multiple effective tools to do aerial firefighting around the perimeter of wind projects, from a safe standoff distance.

Thanks,

Russ

Russ Lane
Division Manager
Wildland Fire Management Division
Washington Department of Natural Resources
Office: (360) 902-1308
Cell: (360) 480-9657
Russ.Lane@dnr.wa.gov

From: Paul Krupin <Paul@Presari.com>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 11:39 AM
To: Taylor, Katy (DNR) <Katy.Taylor@dnr.wa.gov>; Lebovitz, Allen (DNR) <Allen.Lebovitz@dnr.wa.gov>; Lane, Russ (DNR) <Russ.Lane@dnr.wa.gov>; EFSEC mi Comments <Comments@efsec.wa.gov>; Moon, Amy (EFSEC) <amy.moon@efsec.wa.gov>; Drew, Kathleen (EFSEC) <kathleen.drew@efsec.wa.gov>
Cc: 'Dave Sharp' <dave@tricitiescares.org>; 'Pam Minelli' <pam@tricitiescares.org>; kmbrun@gmail.com; 'Rick Aramburu' <Rick@aramburulaw.com>
Subject: Aerial Firefighting issue EFSEC Meeting January 31 2024 on Horse Heaven Hills Wind Turbines

External Email

Issue: There is confusion over the DNR responses to questions posed by EFSEC staff specifically regarding the horizontal buffer distance needed for aerial firefighter aircraft, including large tactical aircraft like DC-10's and 727's.

The 0.25 mile fire buffer distance is far less than the turning radius needed to keep the large aerial firefighting aircraft safe from collisions with wind turbines.

In the adjudication Mr. David Wardell (Chairman of the Allied Aerial Firefighter Association) and Mark Baird (Veteran LAT and VLAT aerial firefighter pilot) indicates that the necessary buffer for the tactical aircraft utilized (DC-10's and

above) is at least four miles along the flight path and two miles on the perpendicular.

Mark Baird, aerial firefighter pilot gave supplemental testimony (EXH-5913_S Testimony and EXH-5910_S Resume)

Page 5 line 5 to 13 of the testimony states in pertinent part:

> "Between three and four nautical miles spacing would at least make aerial firefighting possible in order to save lives and property. FAA TERPS, and ICAO Pan Ops dictate maneuvering minimum radius of turn for large aircraft as well as minimum climb rates to avoid known obstacles in approach and departure corridors where obstructions are known and accurately mapped; 2.7 nautical miles is the minimum radius of turn for category E aircraft with maneuvering speeds of 168 plus knots. A climb of 200 feet per nautical mile is the minimum for most departure procedures. If the ridge top is 2000 feet msl and it has a 500-foot tower on top of it, climb capability would be exceeded quickly."

David Wardall, Chairman of the Allied Aerial Firefighters Association gave testimony (EXH-5096_S and EXH-5908_S)

Page 2 lines 17 to 22, state in pertinent part,

> "Wind turbines present severe impediments to aerial firefighting operations. The existence of the wind turbines effectively creates a "no fly" zone which greatly increases the risk that any wildfire that either began in or near the project site or spread into it from any surrounding area, could not be quickly contained, and would grow. I believe there is a threat to the adjacent communities from this proposal by eliminating the possibility of fixed wing air attacks that needs to be acknowledged."

Page 3 lines 8 to 26 state in pertinent part:

> "… the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Project is huge – 25 miles and four to six miles wide – over 60,000 acres with up to 850 MW from up to 244 turbines, each one 500 foot to 671 foot high in up to 6 rows along the ridgeline. This is a huge major obstruction to responding firefighting efforts. The size of this proposed project will make a huge "No Fly" zone for civil aircraft, medivac helicopters and of course firefighting aircraft."
>
> "The extraordinary length of the project creates a 25-mile barrier to fixed wing tanker aircraft. The wind turbines produce a lot of air rotating vortices type turbulence that will interfere with safe aerial firefighting operations.

Depending on the winds and the terrain, in order to make effective air drops, the minimum obstruction setback distance should be three to four miles along any flight paths needed to conduct aerial operations, and two to three miles perpendicular to the flight paths to reduce the risks posed by the turbulence downwind of the wind turbines

Paul J. Krupin, BA, MS, JD
Board Member on behalf of TRI-CITIES C.A.R.E.S
Visit: http://www.TriCitiesCARES.org
509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline Paul@Presari.com

Respondent No: 74
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 19:29:49 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 19:29:49 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Paul Krupin
Q2.	**Email address**	Paul@Presari.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	**Yes (please specify)** Board member Tri-Cities CARES
Q4.	**Share any comment**	not answered
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/cce95588f72006966dbe7e9092792fc41b116fdc/original/1724639387/56036311ba926b0502ab3741813985ec_Herald_Article_-_August_23.pdf?1724639387

Tri-City Herald

Tri-Cities group thinks WA board about to cave after Inslee pushes for more wind turbines

BY **ANNETTE CARY**
UPDATED AUGUST 23, 2024 2:52 PM

Scout Clean Energy plans a wind farm on Benton County farm land south of the Tri-Cities along the Horse Heaven Hills ridgeline south of Badger Road. BOB BRAWDY *bbrawdy@tricityherald.com*

KENNEWICK, WA

Kennewick, WA — A Washington state council is considering lifting most proposed restrictions that would have about halved the number of turbines allowed in a proposed wind farm stretching 24 miles along the Horse Heaven Hills south of Tri-Cities.

The Washington state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) spent three years studying the proposal and hearing public comment before recommending to Gov. Jay Inslee approve the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center, with restrictions to protect endangered ferruginous hawks, Native American cultural resources and fly zones now available for aerial firefighting.

It recommended eliminating a substantial number of the ridge top turbines that would dominate the skyline view from much of the Tri-Cities.

But Inslee asked EFSEC to take another look, requesting a revised approval of the project "that appropriately prioritizes the state's pressing clean energy needs."

He said mitigation measures should be considered that would be more specifically tailored to concerns raised about the project rather than significantly limiting the project areas where turbines could be built as it recommended.

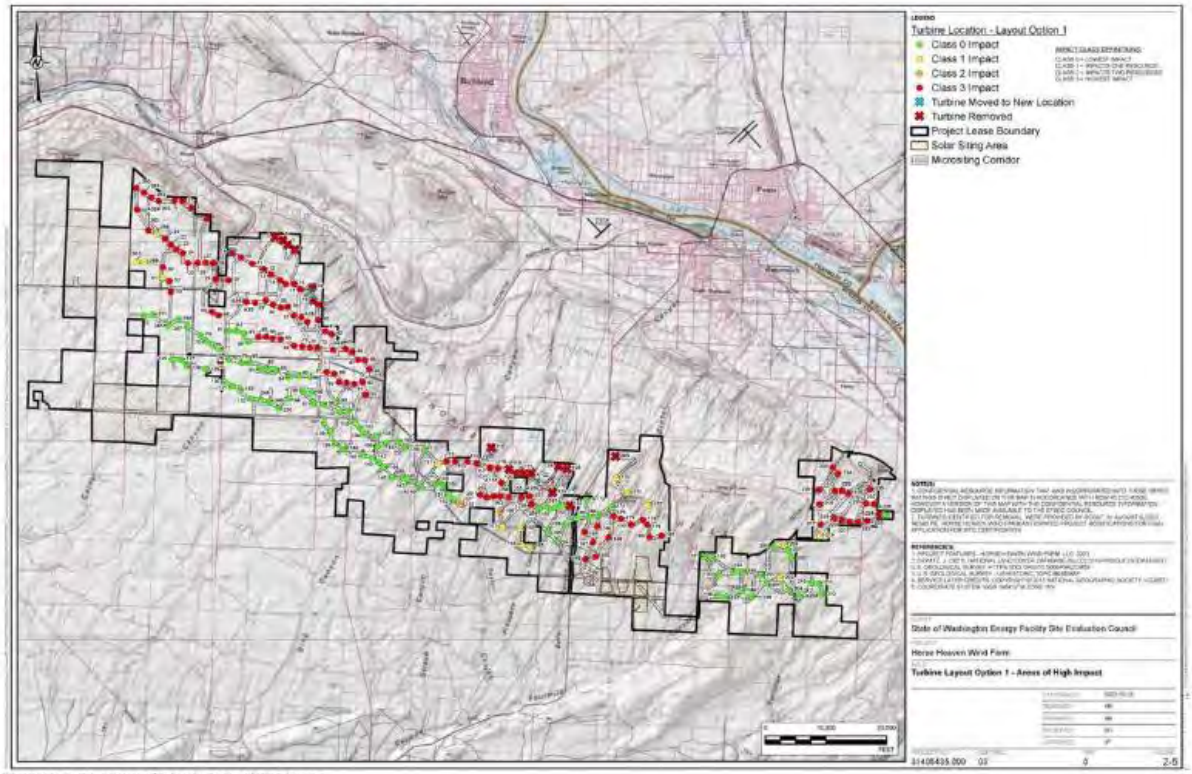


Figure 2-5: Turbine Layout Option 1 - Areas of High Impact

A map shows red dots where 116 of 222 proposed turbines up to 500 feet tall would be prohibited, under an initial recommendation that Washington Gov. Jay Inslee rejected. *Courtesy Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council*

Scout Clean Energy has proposed the project have up to 222 turbines about 500 feet tall or 141 turbines about 670 feet tall, plus solar arrays and battery storage.

EFSEC will discuss and likely vote on a new draft recommendation for the governor with fewer restrictions in a public meeting 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 29. The governor had asked for the new recommendation by Thursday, Aug. 22.

Public comments may be submitted to the council through Sunday Aug. 25.

TURBINES AND ENDANGERED HAWKS

"EFSEC looks like it is giving into the governor's demands," said Paul Krupin of the nonprofit Tri-Cities CARES, or Community Action for Responsible Environmental Stewardship. "... Everything Scout wanted, EFSEC gave them."

Scout Clean Energy told the Tri-City Herald it would defer any comment until after the Aug. 29 meeting.

The draft recommendations the council will consider would drop the mandatory exclusion area for turbines around active and historical ferruginous hawk nests from 2 miles to a limit of 0.6 miles.

A ferruginous hawk flies low over sagebrush. Wallace Keck *National Park Service via Washington state Department of Fish and Wildlife*

The restriction was intended to increase the ability of the hawks to return to certain areas of historic usage.

Turbines built from 0.6 miles to 2 miles would need approval by a technical advisory group assembled by Scout Clean Energy.

Steps to reduce the likelihood of turbines hitting and killing ferruginous hawks might be taken, such as not operating turbines built in that area during daylight in the breeding and rearing seasons.

Inslee told EFSEC that the 2 mile restriction it proposed were "overbroad."

Disturbance from agricultural and residential land has already caused a significant decline in the ferruginous hawk population on the proposed project site, the governor said.

More than 60% of the nesting territories of the ferruginous hawk in Washington state is concentrated in Franklin and Benton counties, which is considered the core breeding range in the state, according to the Washington state Department of Fish and Wildlife's 2021 status review of the hawk.

It said that an average of 55 breeding pairs per year nested in the state between 1992 and 1995. But Inslee said that no ferruginous hawk has been seen nesting in the proposed wind farm project area in five years.

The draft recommendation to be considered by EFSEC does not say whether the proposed 0.6 mandatory restriction would eliminate any turbines from the project plan.

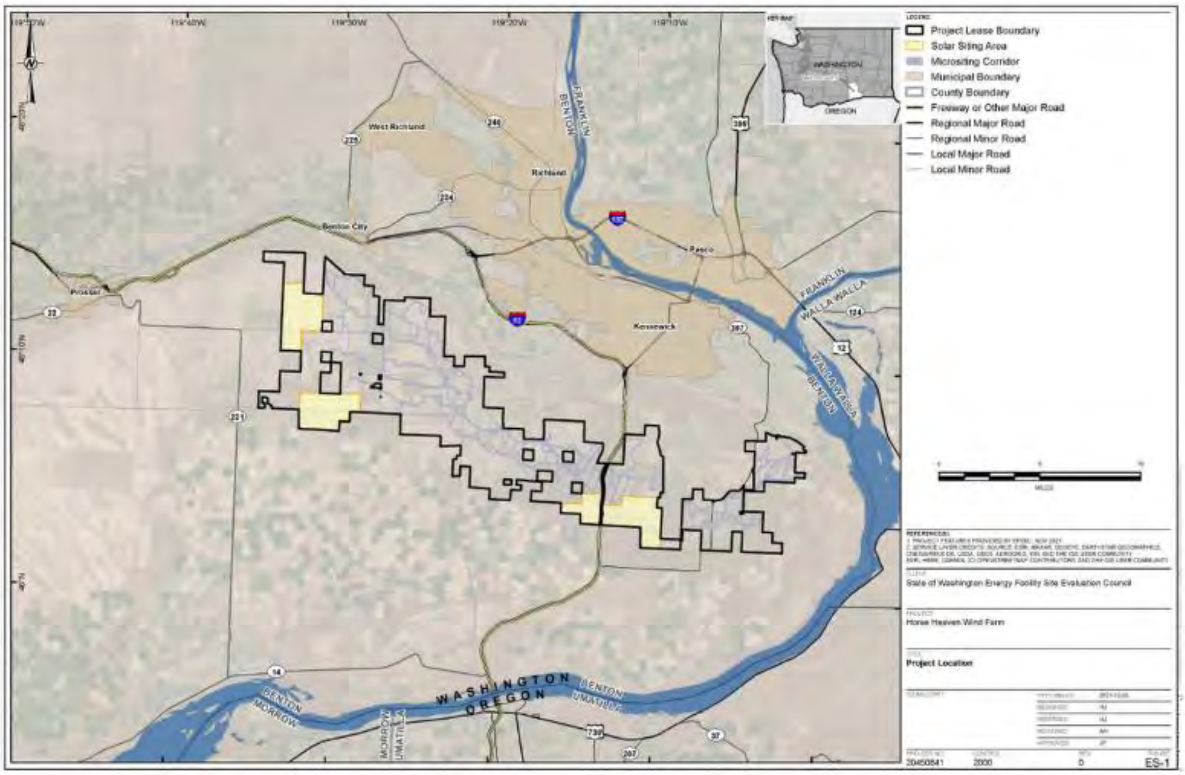
Scout Clean Energy has not made public exactly where the turbines would be put.

MORE WIND TURBINE RESTRICTIONS

The draft recommendation would ban any turbines from being built within a mile of Webber Canyon, which is southeast of Benton City.

"Webber Canyon has been identified by the Yakama Nation as an area of particular TCP (traditional cultural property) concern and prohibiting the siting of wind turbines in proximity to this area will reduce physical and visual encroachment on any TCPs associated with this geographic feature," according to the draft recommendation.

Krupin said the Webber Canyon restriction appeared to eliminate possibly eight to 10 planned turbines.



The boundary of the proposed Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center south of the Tri-Cities is shown. Solar arrays could be in the yellow areas of the map. *Environmental Facility Site Evaluation Council*

The draft recommendation also would eliminate turbines within a quarter mile of wildfires since 2000.

That would be adequate to allow the state single- and twin-engine turboprops and helicopters used for firefighting by the Washington state Department of Natural Resources, the agency said. But it would not provide an adequate turning radius for federal DC-10s sometimes used to fight fires.

> The chairman of the Allied Aerial Firefighters Association, David Wardall, said that wind turbines create a "no fly" zone that greatly increases the risk that any wildfire in or near a wind farm could not be quickly contained. To make air drops during a fire, three to four miles would be needed along flight paths and two to three miles perpendicular to flight paths to reduce the risks posed by turbulance downwind of turbines, he said.
>
> The proposed revised restriction could possibly eliminate six to eight turbines from Scout's original proposal, primarily near Benton City and along the Webber Canyon ridgeline crest, according to CARES.
>
> "It looks to us like the governor is ignoring the science on wildlife, the protection of traditional cultural properties, the visual impacts and the aerial firefighting restrictions," Krupin said.

HORSE HEAVEN PROJECT COMMENTING

The Horse Heaven wind farm is the largest proposed for Washington state, with the exception of a new plan to turn some unused federal Hanford nuclear site land just northwest of the Tri-Cities into one of the largest wind projects in the nation.

The EFSEC board includes a chairperson appointed by the Washington state governor and representatives from the the Washington state departments of Commerce, Ecology, Fish and Wildlife and Natural Resources and a representative from the state Utilities and Transportation Commission.

It makes a recommendation on energy projects to the governor, who can approve the council recommendation for the construction of the wind farm with restrictions, reject the application or direct EFSEC to again reconsider aspects of the project.

No public comment will be heard at the council's Aug. 29 meeting. But comments can be submitted electronically through Sunday, Aug. 25 at comments.efsec.wa.gov/ or by email at comments@efsec.wa.gov.

The meeting is expected to be shown on tvw.org and on the EFSEC website.

This story was originally published August 23, 2024, 5:00 AM.

Respondent No: 75
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 19:30:36 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 19:30:36 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Paul Krupin
Q2.	**Email address**	Paul@Presari.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	**Yes (please specify)** Board member Tri-Cities CARES
Q4.	**Share any comment**	not answered
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/ee3427335c44759d5f4776ec6c89cfb67f63abde/original/1724639433/f7bfa787b2489a5fa59b300345271d38_August_20_2024_TCC_OpEd_on_Horse_Heaven_Hills.pdf?1724639433

Tri-City Herald

'A great injustice.' Demand rational decision-making in the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project | Opinion

BY PAUL KRUPIN, DAVE SHARP, KAREN BRUN AND PAM MINELLI *SPECIAL TO THE HERALD*
AUGUST 20, 2024 12:14 PM

Scout Clean Energy plans a 100-square-mile Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm, with 221 499-foot-high turbines along the prominent ridgeline four miles south of Richland and Kennewick. BOB BRAWDY *Tri-City Herald file*

Governor Inslee and the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) are on the verge of approving the 100-square-mile Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm, with 221 499-foot-high turbines along the prominent ridgeline four miles south of Richland and Kennewick.

This project stands to industrialize the landscape and change the character of the Tri-Cities for decades to come.

The mandated reconsideration decision by Inslee is a great injustice that causes notable economic harm and significant impacts to the residents of Benton County, the Tri-Cities and the Yakama Nation.

After conducting three years of technical review and analysis, EFSEC voted unanimously to cut the project by about 50% recognizing the significant negative impacts to the endangered ferruginous hawk, wildlife habitat and migration corridors.

The project will cause serious and irreparable damage to traditional cultural properties vitally important to the Yakama Nation.

The prominent wind turbines, highly visible from thousands of homes in several residential communities, will cause significant reductions in property values that will cascade through the economy of the Tri-Cities.

The 221 499-foot-high wind turbines located along the ridgeline south of Tri-Cities are hazardous obstructions that result in the creation of a huge 25-mile-wide regional no-fly zone.

This prevents employing critically important large aerial firefighting tanker aircraft that have been used year after year to protect the adjacent neighborhoods from repeat wildfires.

On April 29, 2024, the EFSEC Council mitigated the impacts and made a unanimous recommendation that balanced the impacts against the benefits.

However, on May 23, 2024 Inslee overruled the changes the EFSEC Council recommended and directed them to restore the project to near the original size, citing an undefined need for renewable energy.

Never in the 54-year history of EFSEC has a governor taken such action.

Adopting arguments presented by the developer, Inslee dismisses and ignores the impacts along with the economics and directs EFSEC to maximize the project.

His directive sweeps away the government's responsibility to protect our communities from industrial extremists without explaining how much renewable energy will be produced or where it will go.

He does not recognize that the likely benefactors are big tech data centers out-of-state, rather the citizens of Washington.

Inslee fails to recognize that this project will not generate reliable power when it is needed most — in the dead of winter and the peak of summer. In the Pacific Northwest, particularly in southeast Washington, the wind does not blow for days or weeks at a time.

For example, during the cold snap in January 2024, the Nine Canyon Wind Project south of consumed more energy than it generated. Performance at energy facilities in the Northwest was similar. Utilities had to import up to 5,000 megawatts just to keep the lights on.

Northwest utilities are building wind projects in Montana and Wyoming with more reliable wind. The HHH project will not produce reliable wind energy that benefits and satisfies Washington's needs, which are far better addressed by nuclear and hydro power.

Even with EFSEC's recommended reduction in the number of turbines, the Horse Heaven Project would still be the largest renewable project in Washington.

Overriding EFSEC and mandating the construction of hundreds of low performing, poorly located and highly impactful wind turbines near the Tri-Cities is not the right answer.

It is unreasonable to ignore the scientific and economic conclusions and the mitigations developed during the review and analysis process.

EFSEC should reject the governor's remand and stick to their original unanimous decision.

It is unacceptable and irrational for the Governor to reject the recommendation made by EFSEC.

The injustice is beyond reason.

Paul Krupin, Dave Sharp, Karen Brun, Pam Minelli

Tri-Cities CARES

Respondent No: 76
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 20:14:47 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 20:14:47 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Karen Richardson

Q2. **Email address** Zimbaz2910@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Your agency is probably aware of many of my comments because I live very close to where the project is proposed. I know you tryed to compromise for our sake but Wa.States Governor will not relent. He has a vendetta against us and will not give up. He won't be running for Governor again and rumor has it, he's moving to Montana. Not even staying here!! There are new homes being built out here and a new Brewery has become popular because of the extraordinary views!! Recently a family of Antelope and mule deer have become a bigger presence and I saw a male and female family of Hawks off my balcony!! We love our open spaces and have been "good custodians " of the land here! I think our ancient Indian ancestors would appreciate that. Horse Heaven Hill land owners feel that with our Nuclear power, Hydropower, and surrounding Wind Farms are enough for one area to bear the Energy Burden!! Please consider the towers be placed closer to Columbia Gorge along the Wa. Ore. Border and not near farmers and home owners land!! Thank you!!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 77
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 20:30:26 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 20:30:26 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Joe Loera

Q2. **Email address** — loerajp@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Committee, Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power and money. Those of us who live here will be greatly affected in a very negative way and our treasured community will never be the same! Stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 78
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 20:30:35 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 20:30:35 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Susan Abken
Q2.	**Email address**	susan.l.abken@gmail.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No
Q4.	**Share any comment**	I feel this should be put on the ballot for the people of County to decide This would be the only fair thing to do. Inslee is pushing too hard for this to go thru., we need to ask why. Again...the only fair thing to do, let the County residents decide. Herd of Antalope not far from site.
Q5.	**Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/8ceec1dfdd6486c8e90e716e6f6c47351ea8fdbd/original/1724642959/f02a1c6dab847a54a5b9c14c03bc8f56_20240807_173226.jpg?1724642959

Respondent No: 79
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 20:34:50 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 20:34:50 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Debora Rossi

Q2. **Email address** — dsrossi72@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Governor Inslee won't be here when we have to deal with all the problems and repercussions of the wind project. There is no compromise. Only a dictate from the side of the state that doesn't want these windmills. Inslee is punishing our side of the state for being more conservative. This is his parting shot at us and the council is just knuckling under to him. It will affect our quality of life and hurt our wildlife and agriculture. Once it is gone, it is gone forever. Please don't let this happen!!!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 80
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 20:36:06 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 20:36:06 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Patricia Loera

Q2. **Email address** patloera1212@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more money and power. Our entire community will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community. I implore you to stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 81
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 20:49:42 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 20:49:42 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Gene Guse

Q2. **Email address** eg1515@aol.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

This project should not be given approval at all. The developer’s application has not met many of the NEPA/SEPA regulations and is very vague in the details. Our own governor has not followed the environmental laws, has wasted millions in this whole process and has ignored his own constituents! It’s very clear that he isn’t working for us but rather for his own legacy. He will move away once he leaves office leaving the rest of us to deal with the damage and chaos he’s left behind in his wake. Our governor’s behavior is shameful, he claims to care about our environment but his actions show otherwise, he totally disregarded the will of his constituents and the process of the EFSEC Council to oversee such projects by demanding EFSEC go back to the drawing board and come back with a more acceptable conclusion that only he will approve. He’s not a dictator but based on his behavior it certainly seems that way! He only abides by the rules if they benefit him and his supporters! One has to wonder if Governor Inslee is only doing this for financial gain such as a kickback and a cushy well-paying position after his retirement. Please deny Scout's application!

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 82
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 20:49:52 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 20:49:52 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Kerri McKillop

Q2. **Email address** k.mckillop6@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am very much against the proposed wind farm for Horse Heaven Hills. As a life long resident and tax payer of Washington state, my husband and I retired to the Tri-cities to enjoy a slower and quieter pace of life than that of the west side of the state. I have several reasons for my objections: 1) The no fly zone around the turbines. The fire danger in the desert is so great that letting a fire burn over 2 plus miles would endanger so many more people and homes before our already tasked fire fighters have a chance to put it out. 2) The possible impact to our housing values. Views of these undisturbed hills are amazing versus hills full of wind turbines and power lines. 3) People in this area have already spoke up and EFSEC suggested to scale back the project to our governor, only for him to request the project be built as originally planned. 4) The data already shows that when power was most needed during the cold month of January, the winds were not blowing. 5) This project will create very few in any local long term jobs for our area. 6) The life span of the turbine blades is relatively short, creating more waste entering in our ground and landfills 7) The water from our rivers needed to wet down the area to install the turbines and the dust created around the turbines will be bad for our environment for people and wildlife. I urge you to either not build these here or push them way back out of site of our area and to scale way back the number and size of the turbines.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 83
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 20:59:19 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 20:59:19 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Edward McKillop

Q2. **Email address** edmckillop3@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

I strongly object to the wind turbines proposed for Horse Heaven Hills. I am requesting the EFSEC let Washington's Governor know that over 3 years of analysis, public and adjudicative hearings and taxpayer dollars have been wasted buy rejecting the EFSEC's suggestions to scale back on the project. He has disregarded the safety, health and property risks, reduced the use of aerial firefighting, made a mockery of the SEPA process. Disregarded environmental, Native American, Benton County and Tri-City residents' interest. Please stand by your recommendation to significantly reduce the project by removing all the high impact turbines.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

Respondent No: 84
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 21:01:15 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 21:01:15 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Nathan Rabe

Q2. **Email address** — dogbite.nsr@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Do not adjust your recommendations. I believe the process that was used to arrive at the recommendations was fair and valid. If one person can force a change to their view then the process is worthless and all the time and input is a waste of every ones time and effort. I do not want the windmills/ solar systems at the scale proposed on the hills that will be visible to all. Smaller facilities set back out of normal view would be preferred.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 85
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 21:12:02 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 21:12:02 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** — Daniel Jordheim

Q2. **Email address** — dvjordheim@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** — No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Given the governor's willingness to ignore science and public input leaves my family all the more against the Horse Heaven Hills project. The governor's willingness and ability to ignore both public input as well as science is disappointing. I voted for this man when he was our U.S. House representative from this district. Maybe I was wrong in thinking he had some judgement and fairness. The hawks are an important wildlife species. We enjoy them when we get to view them. The governor, evidently, feels they can be sacrifices. Our house is in the area of Candy mountain. We love the quite evenings on our back patio. We will be disappointed to have our beautiful dark sky damaged by blinking lights and reflection from wind turbines.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** — not answered

Respondent No: 86
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 21:22:22 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 21:22:22 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Karen Brutzman
Q2.	**Email address**	Karen.brutzman@gmail.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please consider the need for aerial firefighting for those of us who live within 2 miles of the project boundary. Potential loss of life and property damage must be taken seriously. Siting massive turbines on the ridgeline of the Horse Heaven Hills directly threatens the safety of the citizens living in Benton County. The tower height of these wind turbines will impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. My family was fortunate that helicopters were quickly dispatched during the Locust Grove Fire of 2018. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties. After 3 years of testimony, EFSEC determined that SCOUT Clean Energy, headquartered in Boulder, Colorado, failed to demonstrate that the benefits of their wind and solar project outweigh the impacts to those of us who call Washington our home. Stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/c232d617222f317a9fd12eac6d88092d78eccc4d/original/1724645633/a035f961ab6fdf0bcdb99da2288c803b_Locust_Grove_Fire_firefighters.JPG?1724645633

Respondent No: 87
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 21:32:54 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 21:32:54 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	mike minelli
Q2.	**Email address**	compari64@gmail.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Horse Heaven Hills now called Inslee Hills Is this a form of pollution? Governor Inslee After Billions of Taxpayer $ How Much Have We (YOU) quantitatively or qualitatively changed our climate?

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/5d05cbb902550c16740fc8f191924284a22fba24/original/1724646668/741a26c1df8c0de27d25611106400d85_Massive_wind_Towers.jpg?1724646668

Respondent No: 88
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 22:33:30 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 22:33:30 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name**	Mary C. Lilga
Q2. **Email address**	mmlilga@owt.com
Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	No
Q4. **Share any comment** See attached file.	
Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)**	https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/819513d1be22b3c9948e9f1441538a050c1d7173/original/1724650396/12dfaae1f584f0baf4f9ba45fad36c17_Comments_to_EFSEC_on_Horse_Heaven_Hills_wind_project--Mary_Lilga.docx?1724650396

317 Fuller Street
Richland, WA 99354
August 25, 2024

Re: Horse Heaven Hills wind project proposal

To the Washington State Energy Facilities Site Evaluation Council:

I am writing today to say that there is no logical reason to disregard the unanimous decision of the EFSEC council, one that mitigates damages to habitat and other significant values by reducing the size of the Horse Heaven Hills (HHH) wind project, and to cave in to Governor Inslee's directive to restore the original parameters of the HHH project proposal. Providing a 2-mile buffer around known historical nesting sites is the best way to protect the population of the endangered ferruginous hawk in the Horse Heaven Hills. Once the buffer area around a nesting site is disturbed, it can't be fully restored to the present conditions, and ferruginous hawks would be unlikely to ever recover to viable numbers in Benton County unless a healthy buffer area is maintained for each nesting site.

Bats are also at risk of being killed and disturbed by wind turbines, as are flocks of resident ground-nesting birds and mammals, and migrating birds who frequently navigate along the ridgetops, and also use the hillsides for foraging and resting. Wider buffers in these sensitive areas and fewer wind turbines will help save lives of these important wildlife species that call these ridges home and that are vital to our local shrub-steppe habitat and arid ecology.

There is a great need in Benton County to utilize firefighting aircraft to protect existing homes and property in the Horse Heaven Hills from the increasingly frequent wildfires. It is unconscionable to construct a project that makes the use of these aircraft more dangerous or impossible. I know a family whose home in the Horse Heaven Hills was saved by a fire retardant drop in the summer of 2023, when the irrigation sprinklers on their property were not effective at stopping the fire that was rapidly approaching their home. It surely would have been damaged or destroyed had the large aircraft not arrived with a load of retardant when it did. Maneuvering room must be maintained in and around the Horse Heaven Hills so that aerial firefighting support can operate safely.

I have been a supporter of Governor Inslee in the past and voted for him each time he ran. However, Inslee is in his final term as governor. He really has nothing to lose by going all-out to leave what he deems to be a huge legacy of green/renewable energy that will, in all likelihood, do more harm to the environment than good. The Horse Heaven Hills Project would cause long-term impacts on the landscape and would be of limited value to eastern Washington's energy needs. There would be many weeks during the year when stagnant air masses would prevent the wind turbines from generating power at all, and the project would likely use more energy than it creates. These conditions frequently exist during the hottest part of summer and the coldest part of winter when extreme temperatures exist day and night, and cooling and heating needs are greatest for homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses. I moved to the Tri-Cities in 1983, and ever since the Nine Canyon wind farm was constructed, I have driven past it many times throughout the years, and seen the blades nearly stationery.

Further, there is no commitment that the variable amount of power generated by the Horse Heaven Hills solar and wind project would remain in the local area, and no guarantee that it wouldn't be exported to other areas of the state, and even beyond Washington's borders. All of the gigantic data

centers and shipping warehouses that are operating and being built in Eastern Washington and Oregon have need for huge amounts of power. These facilities should be required to provide a significant part of their own power needs by utilizing solar arrays placed on their own rooftops and above the employee parking lots or on adjacent land the company owns, as well as banks of battery storage, rather than relying on the regional energy grid to serve them. This would be a greener renewable energy alternative toward meeting Washington's goals of a carbon-neutral energy grid than covering Eastern Washington's serene and iconic hills with towering wind turbines for the data centers and likely resulting in unreliable electricity supplies for existing homes, schools, hospitals, businesses and industries, as well as for the additional urban growth that is planned for the Tri-Cities and surrounding area.

I urge that you return to your original recommendations to reduce the overall size and scope of the proposed Horse Heaven Hills project, thereby offering maximum protection to ferruginous hawks and other sensitive wildlife and the habitat they require to survive, providing for the necessary operations of aerial firefighting aircraft to protect homes, businesses, habitat, and agricultural property, and helping to maintain the scenic beauty, recreational opportunities, Native American cultural resources and heritage, and property values of the local community, and not give in to the whims of a departing governor who wants to go out with a big impact.

With regards,

Mary C. Lilga
Richland, WA

Respondent No: 89
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 22:44:15 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 22:44:15 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1.	**First & Last Name**	Margaret Hue
Q2.	**Email address**	m.hue39@gmail.com
Q3.	**Are you part of an Agency or Organization?**	**Yes (please specify)** Decide Locally

Q4. **Share any comment**

Dear EFSEC Board and Governor Inslee, I and fellow petition signers 2668 people have sent in petitions previously against this project than you have not acknowledged. We again do not want this project. Again we are reminded of the attached photo from 19 Aug 2024, 06:43 PM when the the photo of the Dust travels ont them area and Badger Canyon. The public does Not want exposed to the dust, poor air quality. I have previously submitted 2688 signatures against this project and have not received a comment. So again we are against this project and want answers to what protocol is in place in health effects from Noise and sound and sound from vibration. What protocol is established for crop loss and yield from reduced yield as research as validated. These same hills caused millions of damage to crops in Badger canyon, Kennewick and Finley causing 50'years of damage to crops. We can not afford the extent of damage to crops for 50 years. Fix it! Wind aerial disturbance of 125 mph on wind is devastating and also wins aerial drift. Stay well and fix the problem. Margaret Hue I'm 29204 S 816 Pr Se Kennewick, WA. 99338 M. Hue 39 @gmail.com

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/0412be99b460182848c5038ae7854dfbca5c2b85/original/1724649845/5ea650047cf1d44c98bbea3dc994e92b_IMG_3446.jpeg?1724649845

Respondent No: 90
Login: Anonymous
Email: n/a

Responded At: Aug 25, 2024 23:49:16 pm
Last Seen: Aug 25, 2024 23:49:16 pm
IP Address: n/a

Q1. **First & Last Name** Virginia Adams

Q2. **Email address** forginia@comcast.net

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** No

Q4. **Share any comment**

Please stand by your revised recommendation for the Horse Heaven Hills proposal. I am all for green renewable energy but this is not the place for it. Horse Heaven Hills is a majestic site of deep cultural significance to many, especially Native Americans. This majestic place needs protection and conservation, not exploitation and development. We should be preserving this extraordinarily beautiful landscape for generations to come, not destroying it or the wildlife that depends on the habitat. Wildfires are of great concern as well. We need to protect this ecosystem and keep the wilderness intact. Thank you.

Q5. **Upload your document or picture (optional)** not answered

From: EFSEC (EFSEC)
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: FW: No to HH wind farm
Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 5:47:11 PM

-----Original Message-----
From: Pat Loera <loerajp@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 4:51 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: No to HH wind farm

External Email

Council,
Please do not be bullied by our governor and stand by your decision to significantly reduce the size of the HH wind farm project. Your 3 years of hard work and analysis and the public input should not be dismissed. We need to respect our community and uphold the democratic process.
Thank you, Jose Loera

Sent from my iPad

From: Becky A. Hughes
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: Hhh turbines
Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 8:19:33 PM

External Email

These should not be installed in residential areas for health and liveability reasons beyond the destruction to the land that and our homes it is destructive to wildlife and endangered hawks. The area is a canyon full of many homes and residents, there is only one road in and out and sounds are magnified by the canyons it would create a unlivable environment and a fire danger from the many wild fires that happen out here with no escape for the residents on the small 2 lane road. No helicopters would. Be allowed to fly and endanger not only wildlife but residents. The construction equipment would also block our only road in and out not. To mention the dust and dirt causing futher health risk to the residents. You charge us a lot for taxes with no services and this would make the area unlivable! Do not compromise the residents health for a project that would not even service the residents! Power would be sent to other states! We are not even on the distribution list. You have no reason to comprise our health and well being for an out of state project. Thank you Becky Hughes 25102 S. Sunset Meadow Loop, Kennewick, 99338.

--
Sent from Canary

From:	EFSEC (EFSEC)
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	FW: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date:	Tuesday, August 20, 2024 9:09:18 AM

From: Barbara Thompson <bluemtngirl@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 8:09 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm

External Email

To Whom it May Concern:

It is your duty and responsibility to uphold your original recommendation to out going Governor Inslee.

At a time when this country is in economic tailspin and inflation is wreaking havoc with everyone except the wealthy, our tax dollars are being recommended to fund this monstrosity windfarm project, giving more of our hard earned money to Chinese companies that manufacture the components of these projects. Why not build more nuclear Power Plants or put in more hydro dams or start using our natural gas and oil to create more sound energy solutions. What is the life span of these windmills and to what degree will their operation increase the temperature of our environment?

You people just prove over and over that the will of the people does not matter.

Barbara Thompson
Benton City, WA

From:	shkwavrydr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Norman Peck
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	Assure that clean energy projects protect Washington"s biodiversity and cultural resources
Date:	Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:24:30 PM

External Email

Dear EFSEC Members,

I am writing as a concerned citizen to express my support for responsible clean energy development in our state. While I recognize the urgent need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and combat climate change, it is equally important to protect our state's biodiversity and cultural heritage.

In reviewing Governor Inslee's May 23rd Letter of Direction to EFSEC, I am concerned about the potential impact to cultural sites, priority habitats, habitat corridors, and species such as the Ferruginous Hawk that would result from following his directive. These resources are essential to maintaining the ecological and cultural integrity of our state, as highlighted by recent investments in biodiversity.

EFSEC is under pressure to compromise critically important recovery efforts for a state-endangered species. It is crucial for EFSEC to uphold the science-based restrictions put forth in your April 29 recommendation to the Governor. Achieving clean energy goals should not come at the expense of our state's valuable cultural and biological resources.

I strongly urge EFSEC to adhere to its original, science-based recommendation, which aligns with the principles of both responsible clean energy development and biodiversity conservation.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Mr. Norman Peck
505 N Sampson St Ellensburg, WA 98926-3159
shkwavrydr@aol.com

From:	CEASE2020
To:	GOVOutBound; Office of Governor Inslee; Inslee, Jay (GOV); Washington Department of Ecology PDO; COM Solar; DNR NEWS; Ocker, Kenny (DNR); Hilaryfranz Info; Hilary Franz
Cc:	Drew, Kathleen (EFSEC); EFSEC mi Comments; Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC); Snarski, Joanne (EFSEC); Grantham, Andrea (EFSEC); Hafkemeyer, Ami (EFSEC); Moon, Amy (EFSEC); Randolph, Sara (EFSEC); Greene, Sean (EFSEC); Owens, Joan (EFSEC); King, Curtis; Corry, Chris (LEG); Klicker, Mark; Dye, Mary; Boehnke, Matt (LEG)
Subject:	C.E.A.S.E. bird kills turbine fire
Date:	Wednesday, August 21, 2024 12:22:07 PM

External Email

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/wind-turbine-fire-great-yarmouth-b2393413.htmlGolden eagle killed by wind-turbine blade at Washington wind farm

birds and humans killed by wind turbines. Inslee EFSEC Commerce DNR all turn a blind eye to the truth. It's not in their backyard so why should they care. They are NIMBY hypocrites. Force all these useless renewables on the people of eastern Washington. There stupid decisions will destroy Washington. Greg Wagner C.E.A.S.E. CITIZENS EDUCATED ABOUT SOLAR ENERGY

Golden eagle killed by wind-turbine blade at Washington wind farm

A golden eagle was killed by a wind-turbine blade at a Southwest Washington wind farm, a state biologist says, a...

Scientists study wind-farm risks to birds

Scientists study wind-farm risks to birds

Scientists are taking a careful look at the impact wind farms are having on bird populations.

https://www.windaction.org/posts/27207
https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy00osti/26902.pdf
How Two Mechanics Who Got Caught by a Wind Turbine Fire Helped the Wind Industry
Horror vid shows wind turbine blade completely skewer car leaving two dead
https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/wind-turbine-fire-great-yarmouth-b2393413.html
'It just disintegrated': Lightning strike sparks massive wind turbine fire in North Texas

'It just disintegrated': Lightning strike sparks massive wind turbine fi...

A lightning storm caused quite a shocking scene after it zapped a massive wind turbine in North Texas, setting i...

Horror vid shows wind turbine blade completely skewer car leaving two dead

A HORROR video shows the moment a giant wind turbine blade completely skewers a car as it's being transported on...

https://html.duckduckgo.com/html/

How Two Mechanics Who Got Caught by a Wind Turbine Fire Helped the Wind ...

Wind turbine accident that shaped the renewable industry. It is so little we know about wind turbine acc...

From:	Darla Watts
To:	EFSEC (EFSEC); EFSEC mi Comments; Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC); Hafkemeyer, Ami (EFSEC); Moon, Amy (EFSEC); Greene, Sean (EFSEC)
Subject:	Horse Heaven Wind and Solar Project
Date:	Wednesday, August 21, 2024 3:03:50 PM

External Email

Having lived in the Tri Cities I am very concerned about Governor Inslee's directive to restore the Horse Heaven Wind and Solar Project to its near original size. Common sense tells us local residents that the spring and fall when the wind blows most is the time we least need a wind project.

I can only believe that the fact that Governor Inslee has chosen to disregard three years of meticulous analysis and public input means he is not concerned in the least about the safety, health and property risks of local residents but instead is more concerned with corporate interests.

The integrity of the SEPA process and the interests of the Yakima Nation, Benton County and Tri City residents are being ignored.

This is not just about this project, it's about the principles of democracy, environmental stewardship and respect for the residents, current and future, of our community.

It seems other sources of energy should be considered such as a small modular reactor. My understanding is more than $400 million in funding by the US Department of Energy has resulted in the approval of this new clean power source to help drive down emissions across the country. This seems like a much better alternative to be considered.

At a minimum I strongly encourage the recommendation to significantly reduce the size of the Horse Heaven Wind and Solar Project be followed.

Thank you for your consideration,

Darla Watts
1278 White Bluffs St
Richland, WA 99352

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Steve Short
To:	EFSEC mi Comments; Hafkemeyer, Ami (EFSEC); Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC); Moon, Amy (EFSEC); Greene, Sean (EFSEC)
Subject:	Proposed HHH Wind Farm
Date:	Thursday, August 22, 2024 11:20:35 AM

External Email

Dear EFSEC members:

The Governor believes that this wind project will be a panacea for climate change. While it will contribute to the move toward a green energy future, it does not help the state of Washington to meet legal goals because the energy will be transmitted out of state. Make Scout Energy follow the same requirements that they would have to follow if this project were in King County or Island County rather than in Central Washington.
Endangered species do matter.
Tribal access does matter.
Aerial firefighting does matter.
Scenic views do matter.
As such, please reject the autocratic orders from a person who is a politician, not an environmentalist and not an engineer. He should not be able to dictate the outcome of a legislatively defined process. Please reject the Governor's dictates made for his political legacy in favor of your original findings based on science and the input of the local citizenry.

Steve Short
Old and In the Way

From:	magallonsj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrew and Camille Magallon
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	Protect Washington"s Biodiversity and Cultural Resources
Date:	Thursday, August 22, 2024 5:53:54 PM

External Email

Dear EFSEC Members,

I am writing as a concerned citizen to express my support for responsible clean energy development in our state. While I recognize the urgent need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and combat climate change, it is equally important to protect our state's biodiversity and cultural heritage.

In reviewing Governor Inslee's May 23rd Letter of Direction to EFSEC, I am concerned about the potential impact to cultural sites, priority habitats, habitat corridors, and species such as the Ferruginous Hawk that would result from following his directive. These resources are essential to maintaining the ecological and cultural integrity of our state, as highlighted by recent investments in biodiversity.

EFSEC is under pressure to compromise critically important recovery efforts for a state-endangered species. It is crucial for EFSEC to uphold the science-based restrictions put forth in your April 29 recommendation to the Governor. Achieving clean energy goals should not come at the expense of our state's valuable cultural and biological resources.

I strongly urge EFSEC to adhere to its original, science-based recommendation, which aligns with the principles of both responsible clean energy development and biodiversity conservation.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Mr. Andrew and Camille Magallon
7514 Bridge Pl NE Bremerton, WA 98311-3266
magallonsj@sbcglobal.net

From:	Dan Walsh
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	Wind farm proposed for the tri cities
Date:	Friday, August 23, 2024 5:27:47 AM

External Email

The wind farm project south of the Tri cities should not be built in its current location because the Hanford Reservation is thirty miles north and the Government has already Destroyed any realistic use of this land !!There is over 500 square miles of land there to put your Wind Farm . So why destroy the scenic views of our area and ignore the people that live here as well as the recommendations from your own agencies !! As far as the power that would be generated why not go forward with the proposed Small Nuclear Package Reactors and eliminate the wind mills all together? Save our wildlife our abilities to fight wildfires and the Scenic Views of our area . So Mr Jay Inslee we know you are leaving the job as Governor of this Great State so why would you want to go out with leaving your constituents on the Eastern half of the state with a legacy that will leave so many people disappointed on one of the last decisions you make ? We DON'T WANT OR NEED YOUR WIND FARM !!

From:	Deb Heintz
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	Horse Heaven Turbine Project
Date:	Friday, August 23, 2024 8:12:32 AM

External Email

As the largest project of this kind in Washington state, this is an environmental nightmare! The 222 turbines proposed will have a terminal scar on our beautiful landscape and diminish endangered animal and bird species. There are other ways to obtain clean energy. This quick fix to again reduce and mitigate project restrictions is NOT the answer.

Deb Heintz

From: Steve Schwan
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: Wind Turbines and A Retard
Date: Friday, August 23, 2024 4:36:59 PM

External Email

Dear Governor:

The question is not if wind turbines should be built, but rather if you are retarded? I've seen many interviews and watched closely over the last 12 years and have determined you must have some form of mental retardation, or perhaps reside on the spectrum.

I simply cannot believe someone, especially an elected official, has made it so far in life while possessing such low intelligence. I guess if you're a dictator it doesn't matter how smart or stupid you are.

I was so hoping you would get tapped for a cabinet position so as to leave the state of Washington. As a moron, you would fit right in perfectly in DC.

Does it bother you that you are stupid and hated? Do you enjoy being an asshole to most of the state? Of course not, you do not possess the intelligence to comprehend how dumb you are.

I truly hope you contract chlamydia and live out the rest of your days someplace else. I am sure your remaining days will be filled with Adam Sandler movies and masterbation. You are the worst governor ever, and even worse human being!

Thanks for ruining a lot of people's lives! We all know wind turbines will not solve climate change but you think to seem so, thus proving how stupid you are. Especially since down the street we have nuclear energy. But good job genius!

From: Jeff Krug
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: Scout Project in HorseHeaven Hills
Date: Friday, August 23, 2024 4:39:38 PM

External Email

Pls consider adequate air space fir aircraft to assist in firefighting in ALL areas.
It is ridiculous to adopt the Inslee proposal of ignoring the access needed to the entire area.

From: Grant Baston
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: PLAN TO CONSTRUCT WIND TURBINES SOUTH of the TRI-CITIES
Date: Friday, August 23, 2024 4:59:54 PM

External Email

PLAN TO CONSTRUCT WIND TURBINES SOUTH of the TRI-CITIES

It is a shame that Governor Inslee has asked the EFSEC to spend three years evaluating a Horse Heaven Energy Center, only to scrap their recommendations because he believes the state's pressing clean energy needs requires that environmental concerns be ignored. I sure hope that the EFSEC doesn't agree with him, and will not let him off the hook on overriding the environmental concerns.

The people of Eastern Washington have seen enough ugly and noisy wind turbines, and they do not want any more of them. We would like to see more of these turbines built and operated on the West Side before any more are placed on the East side.

There are no urgent clean energy needs in the state of Washington, and for that matter in the United States This is all political, and not substansiated by scientific facts. Only if the substantial hydro power base is eliminated from the clean energy data base in the state of Washington can Washington politicians find a need for more clean energy.

The cost of the proposed clean energy turbines will raise our electricity rates, for sure, and for what real need?

Grant Baston

From: ilene alexander
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: No wind farms
Date: Friday, August 23, 2024 11:24:57 PM
Attachments: No wind farm.docx

External Email

This is a copy of a letter I sent to Governor Inslee- This area is overwhelmed with mistakes made for energy production, find somewhere else for wind farms, clean up the energy nightmares we already have here. Stop destroying the precious resources we still have left!

June 3, 2024

Dear Governor Inslee,

I believe you have been one of the best governor's Washington state has ever had, but I must disagree with your promotion of the wind farm down the Columbia River basin. I am a one of 5 generations who chose Washington to build their families, homes and businesses. I am writing this with deep knowledge of Washington state, and commitment to its future.

Wind turbines are being proposed for construction along almost 100 miles of the Columbia River basin. The Columbia River is the life blood of our area for irrigation, recreation, transportation, wildlife and Native Americans. It is source of water in the hot, dry climate, refuge when fire strikes the area, a beacon of life for centuries.

Wind turbines cause strong changes in air currents, wreaking havoc for anything that flies near them. Their massive size and operational noise scatter any land-dwelling creature that come close, impeding and destroying that life beacon so vital to their survival.

As a governor you have shown a strong support of Washington state Native American's. The Columbia River Basin is rich in Native American archeological and sacred sites. There is no way this wind farm can be built without encroaching or disturbing these sites and history. Celilo Falls as an example of devastation in the name of energy and progress.

In the name of energy and progress, the Hanford project, which from the beginning, had no regard for our natural resources and safety. Cooling nuclear reactors with the Columbia River and sending the contaminated water right back to run a poison path all the way to the ocean. Construction, production fervor with unregulated, unscrupulous contractors, who buried and dumped their waste with no regard to the consequences. Water and land, so polluted and damaged, they are closed to us forever.

The dams were built to provide energy and water, but again, construction with little regard of the damage.

There is no recycling or breakdown of these massive wind turbines, they become skeleton piles of junk, eyesores.

We have made many, many mistakes in the Columbia Basin.

The dams, the nuclear project, land contamination, water waste and chemical pollution. We are overwhelmed with damage already done, and are mired in constant political and environmental clean-up,

I beg of you, look elsewhere for wind turbines.

Please do not add another nightmare to our ever-growing list!

Sincerely,

Ilene Alexander

imablueline@yahoo.com

From:	Merri Steward
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Cc:	Bill Steward
Subject:	Horse Heaven Wind Turbine Project
Date:	Saturday, August 24, 2024 7:43:55 AM

External Email

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to ask that you please consider this community's OPPOSITION to the wind Turbine Project on the Horse Heaven Hills in the Tri Cities.

Governor Inslee again, is IGNORING the SCIENCE on wildlife, the protection of traditional cultural properties, the visual impacts and the aerial fire fighting restrictions.

The Tri Cities is unique in its location in that there is an abundance of rivers that can and do provide electricity via dams to thousand of homes in Washington and Oregon and even California.
And our nuclear power plants add even more power to the current grid.
By harnessing THESE power sources and building on them would provide more energy than any unreliable wind project ever could.
The wind here in the Tri Cities is NOT reliable, especially on blistering hot summer days and even in cold winters.
Also, Scout Clean Energy has not made public EXACTLY where these turbines would go, nor who will ACTUALLY BENEFIT from this unreliable source of limited wind power.

Please RECONSIDER allowing these turbines to be installed here on the Horse Heaven Hills-that will forever RUIN our views, and disturb the wildlife there, and encroach the sacred Tribal Lands of this area.

Merri Steward

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sharon Grunst
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: Wind Mills in Benton County
Date: Saturday, August 24, 2024 8:58:39 AM

I am outraged that the governor can reverse EFSEC's recommendation. Apparently, he does not value the information that Tri-City Cares and individual citizens have provided to you.

He will not be in office much longer. Is this part of his wished legacy, creating the largest windfarm in Washington and ignoring the input from citizens who live here?

Sharon Grunst

2410 Brodie Lane
Richland, WA 99352

From: Jan Greer
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Saturday, August 24, 2024 10:17:43 AM

External Email

I am curious as to the cost of the three year study by the EFSEC, the qualifications of the participants, and the validity of their source of information. Surely there must be a substantial deficiency within the study for the governor to disparage the findings in such a confident manner.

I am curious if our insurance commissioner contributed to the report as to how this could affect the cost of home insurance which has already sky rocketed as underwriters rate our state's potential fire hazard. I am curious if our governor takes the potential loss of lives and property into account due to our fighters' impaired access.

I am curious if we have a new definition of democracy as our leaders bully their visions in place in spite of the voice of the majority, the declaration of law, the courtesy of acknowledgement of vital information. I am curious if this is the behavior we want as a model for our children.

I believe we could find a reliable source of clean energy without compromising our land, its community. Tell Scout to go to someone else's back yard.

Thank you for your time.

Jan Greer
I

Sent from my iPad

From: Dana Ward
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Cc: Dana Ward
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm Comments
Date: Saturday, August 24, 2024 10:44:29 AM

External Email

Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society

P.O. Box 1900 Richland, WA 99352

((Horse Heaven Wind Farm, Site Certification Agreement, Appendix 2. Mitigation Measures))

Kathleen Drew, Chair
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
1300 S. Evergreen Park SW
P.O. Box 43172
Olympia, WA 98504-3172
Coments@efsec.wa.gov

Re: Horse Heaven Wind Farm,
Site Certification Agreement, Appendix 2. Mitigation Measures

Dear Chair Kathleen Drew:

The Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society submits the following comments by page numbers for your consideration. We appreciate the opportunity to comment but we would like to have had more time for review and submission.

Page 8.

B Habitat (Hab) Mitigation
Hab-1 Wildlife Movement Corridors:

Comment on the Redline Strikeout of the first full paragraph.

Migratory and wildlife movement corridors are extremely important for the movement of all species and also assures the gene pool remains active and not static. The uninhibited free flow, in a movement corridor, is essential to a healthy ecosystem both locally, regionally and nationally. Movement corridors may be the most significant action for protection of wildlife within the project area.

<u>The Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society (LCBAS) considers it very important that the original language that has been deleted be restored to fully protect the ecological integrity of the Horse Heaven Hills ecoregion.</u>

The modified language in this revised section states, that the Certificate Holder provides rationale to EFSEC for any project components within the movement corridors would continually having EFSEC review and approve or disapprove project components on an individual case for buildup. This could lead to delays followed inevitably by rubber stamping project component siting in movement corridors.

Page 12.

Spec-5 Ferruginous Hawks:

LCBAS is concerned that reducing the impact distance from 2.0 miles to 0.6 – miles (1 Km) radius is not vigorous enough to protect Ferruginous Hawk nests and the health of the species in Washington State. The documented decline of Ferruginous Hawks in Washington has not changed since the initial writing of the SCA, therefore LCBAS strongly recommends that the 2 mile impact distance remains. In particular, LCBAS is at a loss as to where EFSEC got the data to support a 0.6 mile impact distance. A reference is needed.

The new language has a net positive slant to protect Ferruginous Hawks through required reviews by PTAG and final approval by EFSEC. This new language would be acceptable to LCBAS if the 0.6 mile exclusion zone is replaced by the original 2 mile distance. This would better assure that Ferruginous Hawks could be protected.

The rewrite by EFSEC, as directed by the Governor, has forced the project to reduce protections to native environments. Ferruginous Hawks and wildlife corridors are a victim to the redraft. One wonders why the Golden Eagle exclusion zone sighted on page 11 remains at 1.9 miles, while the Ferruginous Hawk exclusion zone drops, in many cases, to 0.6 miles!

EFSEC falsely believes that Ferruginous Hawks forage only on native lands. Ferruginous Hawks can hunt on a variety of crop lands, residential areas and many industrial parks. Ferruginous Hawks prefer native habitat, but they will go where the food resource can be obtained. It is well documented that hawks, eagles and falcons will adjust their hunting preferences both for prey types and prey locations. Hunting is a learned behavior, and not necessarily an inborn genetic prescript behavior.

In closure, LCBAS supports clean energy development and recognizes the dire fate of global warming, but we need to protect vulnerable habitats and the species they support as we go to a non-carbon energy production state.

Sincerely,

Dana Carl Ward
President
Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society

From: Cal & Marilyn Delegard
To: EFSEC mi Comments; Cal & Marilyn Delegard
Subject: Oppose Wind Turbines in Horseheavens
Date: Saturday, August 24, 2024 11:09:01 AM

External Email

I oppose the construction of wind turbines in the Horseheaven Hills. This region is already a net energy-plus resource to the State and region, ringed as it is with hydroelectric generation at Priest Rapids, Wanapum, McNary, and John Day dams on the Columbia River and the four lower Snake River dams. The nearby WNP Columbia Generating Station also provides reliable nuclear energy. All these resources provide near 100% availability, year-round, with the capacity to dial-up with demand.

Though our region is a net energy exporter, Scout Energy and Governor Inslee want to besmirch our southern skyline with hundreds of wind turbines to provide intermittent energy, at uncertain availability, to a region already awash with power. If this renewable wind energy is so important, why isn't it generated closer to the Northwest population centers in Portland and Seattle? The same 20-30 mile long field of wind turbines could be installed on the Washington coast, perhaps Tokeland to Westport (average wind speed 6-10 mph), or the Long Beach peninsula.

Strangely, our same governor would have us remove the reliable, built, and steady hydroelectric power, flood control, and navigation provided by the four lower Snake River dams for the sake of salmon runs (despite the presence of fish ladders at these dams) and health of the orcas. May I suggest instead the removal of the Skagit River dams, none of which have fish ladders, at far less loss of hydroelectric power. The resulting enhanced Skagit River salmon runs would go directly to the Salish Sea and its orca population.

The installation of these unsightly wind turbines in the Horseheavens is an affront to the local population and environmentally demeaning, to provide unreliable power that will not benefit this region. Put the power with the people.

Cal Delegard
Richland, WA

From:	Paul Krupin
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	Public comment in objection to approval of the new draft SCA for Horse Heaven Hills.
Date:	Saturday, August 24, 2024 1:04:09 PM
Attachments:	August 20 2024 TCC OpEd on Horse Heaven Hills.pdf

External Email

Attached please find a pdf file version of the August 20, 2024 Op-Ed published by the Tri-City Herald.

Appreciatively,

Paul J. Krupin, BA, MS, JD
Board Member on behalf of TRI-CITIES C.A.R.E.S
Visit: http://www.TriCitiesCARES.org
509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline Paul@Presari.com

Tri-City Herald

'A great injustice.' Demand rational decision-making in the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project | Opinion

BY PAUL KRUPIN, DAVE SHARP, KAREN BRUN AND PAM MINELLI *SPECIAL TO THE HERALD*
AUGUST 20, 2024 12:14 PM

Scout Clean Energy plans a 100-square-mile Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm, with 221 499-foot-high turbines along the prominent ridgeline four miles south of Richland and Kennewick. BOB BRAWDY *Tri-City Herald file*

Governor Inslee and the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) are on the verge of approving the 100-square-mile Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm, with 221 499-foot-high turbines along the prominent ridgeline four miles south of Richland and Kennewick.

This project stands to industrialize the landscape and change the character of the Tri-Cities for decades to come.

The mandated reconsideration decision by Inslee is a great injustice that causes notable economic harm and significant impacts to the residents of Benton County, the Tri-Cities and the Yakama Nation.

After conducting three years of technical review and analysis, EFSEC voted unanimously to cut the project by about 50% recognizing the significant negative impacts to the endangered ferruginous hawk, wildlife habitat and migration corridors.

The project will cause serious and irreparable damage to traditional cultural properties vitally important to the Yakama Nation.

The prominent wind turbines, highly visible from thousands of homes in several residential communities, will cause significant reductions in property values that will cascade through the economy of the Tri-Cities.

The 221 499-foot-high wind turbines located along the ridgeline south of Tri-Cities are hazardous obstructions that result in the creation of a huge 25-mile-wide regional no-fly zone.

This prevents employing critically important large aerial firefighting tanker aircraft that have been used year after year to protect the adjacent neighborhoods from repeat wildfires.

On April 29, 2024, the EFSEC Council mitigated the impacts and made a unanimous recommendation that balanced the impacts against the benefits.

However, on May 23, 2024 Inslee overruled the changes the EFSEC Council recommended and directed them to restore the project to near the original size, citing an undefined need for renewable energy.

Never in the 54-year history of EFSEC has a governor taken such action.

Adopting arguments presented by the developer, Inslee dismisses and ignores the impacts along with the economics and directs EFSEC to maximize the project.

His directive sweeps away the government's responsibility to protect our communities from industrial extremists without explaining how much renewable energy will be produced or where it will go.

He does not recognize that the likely benefactors are big tech data centers out-of-state, rather the citizens of Washington.

Inslee fails to recognize that this project will not generate reliable power when it is needed most — in the dead of winter and the peak of summer. In the Pacific Northwest, particularly in southeast Washington, the wind does not blow for days or weeks at a time.

For example, during the cold snap in January 2024, the Nine Canyon Wind Project south of consumed more energy than it generated. Performance at energy facilities in the Northwest was similar. Utilities had to import up to 5,000 megawatts just to keep the lights on.

Northwest utilities are building wind projects in Montana and Wyoming with more reliable wind. The HHH project will not produce reliable wind energy that benefits and satisfies Washington's needs, which are far better addressed by nuclear and hydro power.

Even with EFSEC's recommended reduction in the number of turbines, the Horse Heaven Project would still be the largest renewable project in Washington.

Overriding EFSEC and mandating the construction of hundreds of low performing, poorly located and highly impactful wind turbines near the Tri-Cities is not the right answer.

It is unreasonable to ignore the scientific and economic conclusions and the mitigations developed during the review and analysis process.

EFSEC should reject the governor's remand and stick to their original unanimous decision.

It is unacceptable and irrational for the Governor to reject the recommendation made by EFSEC.

The injustice is beyond reason.

Paul Krupin, Dave Sharp, Karen Brun, Pam Minelli

Tri-Cities CARES

From:	Paul Krupin
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	Tri-City Herald article - Tri-Cities group thinks WA board about to cave after Inslee pushes for more wind turbines
Date:	Saturday, August 24, 2024 1:20:23 PM
Attachments:	Herald Article - August 23.pdf

External Email

WA energy council to vote on allowing most Horse Heaven wind turbines | Tri-City Herald

PDF file version attached.

Appreciatively,

Paul J. Krupin, BA, MS, JD
Board Member on behalf of TRI-CITIES C.A.R.E.S
Visit: http://www.TriCitiesCARES.org
509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline Paul@Presari.com

Tri-City Herald

Tri-Cities group thinks WA board about to cave after Inslee pushes for more wind turbines

BY **ANNETTE CARY**
UPDATED AUGUST 23, 2024 2:52 PM

Scout Clean Energy plans a wind farm on Benton County farm land south of the Tri-Cities along the Horse Heaven Hills ridgeline south of Badger Road. BOB BRAWDY *bbrawdy@tricityherald.com*

KENNEWICK, WA

Kennewick, WA — A Washington state council is considering lifting most proposed restrictions that would have about halved the number of turbines allowed in a proposed wind farm stretching 24 miles along the Horse Heaven Hills south of Tri-Cities.

The Washington state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) spent three years studying the proposal and hearing public comment before recommending to Gov. Jay Inslee approve the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center, with restrictions to protect endangered ferruginous hawks, Native American cultural resources and fly zones now available for aerial firefighting.

It recommended eliminating a substantial number of the ridge top turbines that would dominate the skyline view from much of the Tri-Cities.

But Inslee asked EFSEC to take another look, requesting a revised approval of the project "that appropriately prioritizes the state's pressing clean energy needs."

He said mitigation measures should be considered that would be more specifically tailored to concerns raised about the project rather than significantly limiting the project areas where turbines could be built as it recommended.

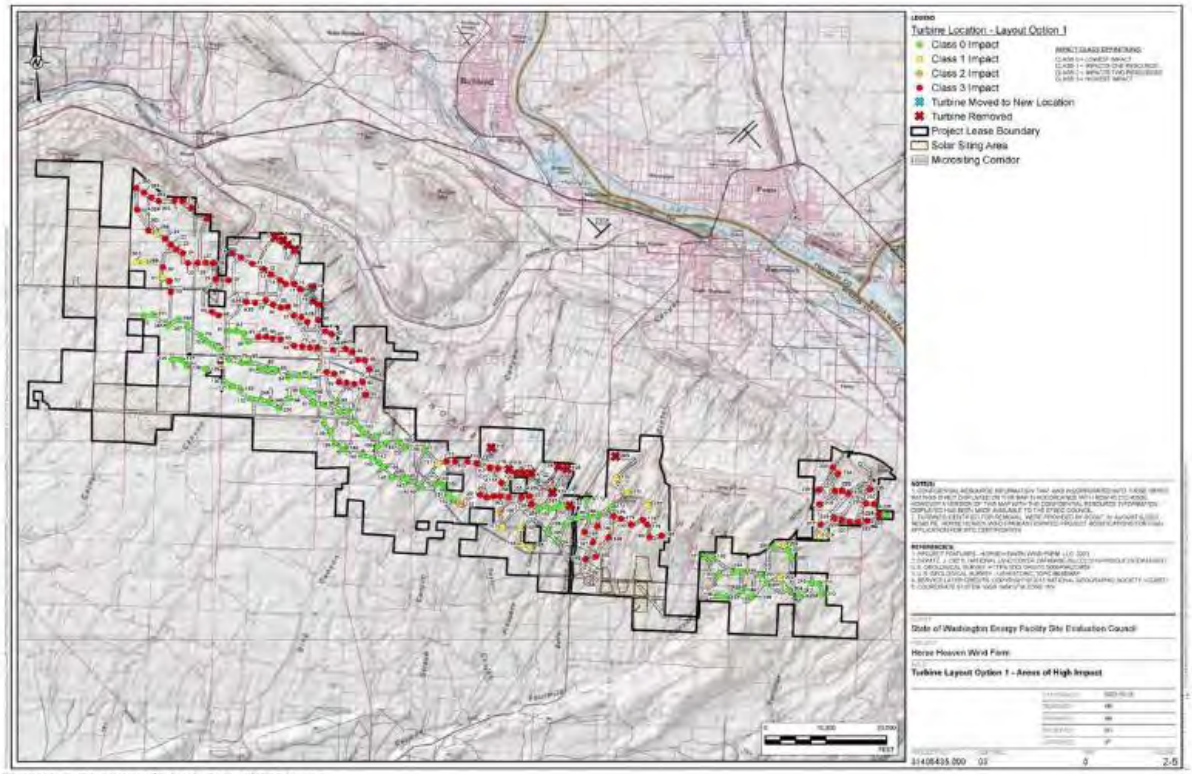


Figure 2-5: Turbine Layout Option 1 - Areas of High Impact

A map shows red dots where 116 of 222 proposed turbines up to 500 feet tall would be prohibited, under an initial recommendation that Washington Gov. Jay Inslee rejected. *Courtesy Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council*

Scout Clean Energy has proposed the project have up to 222 turbines about 500 feet tall or 141 turbines about 670 feet tall, plus solar arrays and battery storage.

EFSEC will discuss and likely vote on a new draft recommendation for the governor with fewer restrictions in a public meeting 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 29. The governor had asked for the new recommendation by Thursday, Aug. 22.

Public comments may be submitted to the council through Sunday Aug. 25.

TURBINES AND ENDANGERED HAWKS

"EFSEC looks like it is giving into the governor's demands," said Paul Krupin of the nonprofit Tri-Cities CARES, or Community Action for Responsible Environmental Stewardship. "... Everything Scout wanted, EFSEC gave them."

Scout Clean Energy told the Tri-City Herald it would defer any comment until after the Aug. 29 meeting.

The draft recommendations the council will consider would drop the mandatory exclusion area for turbines around active and historical ferruginous hawk nests from 2 miles to a limit of 0.6 miles.

A ferruginous hawk flies low over sagebrush. Wallace Keck *National Park Service via Washington state Department of Fish and Wildlife*

The restriction was intended to increase the ability of the hawks to return to certain areas of historic usage.

Turbines built from 0.6 miles to 2 miles would need approval by a technical advisory group assembled by Scout Clean Energy.

Steps to reduce the likelihood of turbines hitting and killing ferruginous hawks might be taken, such as not operating turbines built in that area during daylight in the breeding and rearing seasons.

Inslee told EFSEC that the 2 mile restriction it proposed were "overbroad."

Disturbance from agricultural and residential land has already caused a significant decline in the ferruginous hawk population on the proposed project site, the governor said.

More than 60% of the nesting territories of the ferruginous hawk in Washington state is concentrated in Franklin and Benton counties, which is considered the core breeding range in the state, according to the Washington state Department of Fish and Wildlife's 2021 status review of the hawk.

It said that an average of 55 breeding pairs per year nested in the state between 1992 and 1995. But Inslee said that no ferruginous hawk has been seen nesting in the proposed wind farm project area in five years.

The draft recommendation to be considered by EFSEC does not say whether the proposed 0.6 mandatory restriction would eliminate any turbines from the project plan.

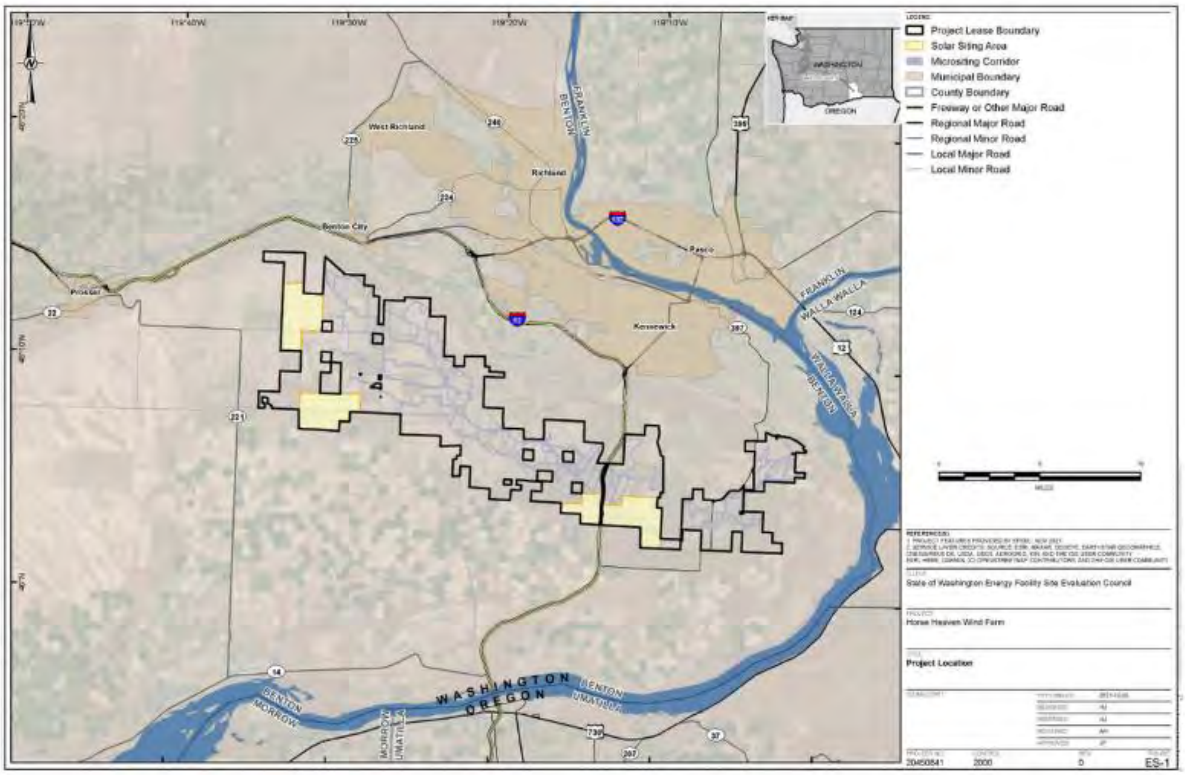
Scout Clean Energy has not made public exactly where the turbines would be put.

MORE WIND TURBINE RESTRICTIONS

The draft recommendation would ban any turbines from being built within a mile of Webber Canyon, which is southeast of Benton City.

"Webber Canyon has been identified by the Yakama Nation as an area of particular TCP (traditional cultural property) concern and prohibiting the siting of wind turbines in proximity to this area will reduce physical and visual encroachment on any TCPs associated with this geographic feature," according to the draft recommendation.

Krupin said the Webber Canyon restriction appeared to eliminate possibly eight to 10 planned turbines.



The boundary of the proposed Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center south of the Tri-Cities is shown. Solar arrays could be in the yellow areas of the map. *Environmental Facility Site Evaluation Council*

The draft recommendation also would eliminate turbines within a quarter mile of wildfires since 2000.

That would be adequate to allow the state single- and twin-engine turboprops and helicopters used for firefighting by the Washington state Department of Natural Resources, the agency said. But it would not provide an adequate turning radius for federal DC-10s sometimes used to fight fires.

> The chairman of the Allied Aerial Firefighters Association, David Wardall, said that wind turbines create a "no fly" zone that greatly increases the risk that any wildfire in or near a wind farm could not be quickly contained. To make air drops during a fire, three to four miles would be needed along flight paths and two to three miles perpendicular to flight paths to reduce the risks posed by turbulance downwind of turbines, he said.
>
> The proposed revised restriction could possibly eliminate six to eight turbines from Scout's original proposal, primarily near Benton City and along the Webber Canyon ridgeline crest, according to CARES.
>
> "It looks to us like the governor is ignoring the science on wildlife, the protection of traditional cultural properties, the visual impacts and the aerial firefighting restrictions," Krupin said.

HORSE HEAVEN PROJECT COMMENTING

The Horse Heaven wind farm is the largest proposed for Washington state, with the exception of a new plan to turn some unused federal Hanford nuclear site land just northwest of the Tri-Cities into one of the largest wind projects in the nation.

The EFSEC board includes a chairperson appointed by the Washington state governor and representatives from the the Washington state departments of Commerce, Ecology, Fish and Wildlife and Natural Resources and a representative from the state Utilities and Transportation Commission.

It makes a recommendation on energy projects to the governor, who can approve the council recommendation for the construction of the wind farm with restrictions, reject the application or direct EFSEC to again reconsider aspects of the project.

No public comment will be heard at the council's Aug. 29 meeting. But comments can be submitted electronically through Sunday, Aug. 25 at comments.efsec.wa.gov/ or by email at comments@efsec.wa.gov.

The meeting is expected to be shown on tvw.org and on the EFSEC website.

This story was originally published August 23, 2024, 5:00 AM.

From: Kurt Erickson
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: FW: Wind turbines
Date: Saturday, August 24, 2024 10:30:47 PM

External Email

Hello,

My name is Kurt Erickson and I recently moved to the Badger Canyon area. I am well acquainted with wind turbines as I spent hours watching and listening to the wind turbines on the Altamont pass in CA. The noise was unbearable, but there were no houses within miles and there was no canyon around these turbines.

I just moved here from Palmdale, CA., in the Antelope Valley and there is a massive wind farm at the north end of the valley but a great distance from any homes, and ~20 miles from Palmdale. However, when driving close to them, the noise is incredible.

None of these farms could compare to the massive noise generated in this canyon. One can hear echoes for miles. I can hear a car approaching on Badger Road 2 miles before I can see it. **I doubt that anyone who is in favor of placing these turbines above this canyon lives in this area**, because if they did, they would not support the incredible noise echoing of the canyon walls, destroying our hearing, along with the declines in property value.

I moved here to get away from CA noise and what is proposed with these wind turbines is worse than living next to a busy freeway in So CA. Not to mention what it will do to nature. The human suffering will be immeasurable.

I beg you, please do not install wind turbines anywhere near here. None of you have any idea of the noise it will bring echoing off one canyon wall and another and back and forth.

Thank you,

Kurt Erickson

From: Amy B.
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: Wind Turbines
Date: Saturday, August 24, 2024 10:35:16 PM

External Email

Does it make sense to erect multiple, costly wind turbines that will likely need to be replaced after 20 years or so, while spending more tax dollars to tear down our efficient, energy producing dams?! Not only are the dams a DEPENDABLE energy source, they also provide a dependable source of water for the produce grown in the area. They also help to prevent flooding while providing a convenient means to transfer goods for commerce. If the reason for removing the dams is to 'save the salmon', aren't the ferruginous hawks just as worth saving?

This wind turbine proposal while removing the dams makes no sense, unless there's profit in it that we taxpayers aren't seeing.

A. Brown

From:	EFSEC (EFSEC)
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	FW: Stand by EFSEC Recommendation to the Governor on the HH Windfarm Project
Date:	Sunday, August 25, 2024 11:47:26 AM

From: DJ Crager <DJCrager@outlook.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 25, 2024 11:47:12 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: FW: Stand by EFSEC Recommendation to the Governor on the HH Windfarm Project

There is no time left to write anything more. I've commented twice before, but the people's arguments are totally disregarded by our governor. This is

sad for our community. Especially sad for this beautiful creature who nests here in our hills. Think of them on August 29th and of the community here that does not want this mega project here. It is not wise.

From: DJ Crager

Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 6:20 AM

To: efsec@efsec.wa.gov; comments@efsec.wa.gov; Ami.Hafkemeyer@efsec.wa.gov; Sonia.Bumpus@efsec.wa.gov; Amy.Moon@efsec.wa.gov; Sean.Greene@efsec.wa.gov

Subject: Stand by EFSEC Recommendation to the Governor on the HH Windfarm Project

Stay strong in your recommendation to the governor regarding reducing the size of the HH Windfarm/Solar project.

Please make every effort to dissuade Governor Inslee from forcing his agenda on our community. The private company pushing this huge energy project here in the Tri-Cities has its own interests in mind as **you have already proven that their plan goes too far**. Why should they continue to argue otherwise, if not for their own gain?

Governor Inslee (soon to be ex-governor) is either willfully disbelieving what he knows to be true (based on your research) or may be blinded by his own green energy ambitions.

Why should this be a “one man” decision anyway? Please do not allow him to disregard the tremendous negative environmental, ecological, and safety impacts this project will bring.

Thank you,

Joan Crager

Kennewick resident

From:	EFSEC (EFSEC)
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	FW: Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project
Date:	Sunday, August 25, 2024 12:48:28 PM
Attachments:	Jay Inslee Wind Energy Farm Proposal.docx

From: Jack Fix <fixjack357@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 25, 2024 12:47:29 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project

External Email

Dear Sir, please consider the comments presented in the attachment in any upcoming EFSEC reviews of the Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Wind Farm proposal.

Thank you.

To: Governor Jay Inslee

Re: EFSEC Review of Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project

The rumored recommendation by the Washington state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, EFSEC, to approve the Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Wind farm project as originally proposed in direct contradiction to recommendations by the EFSEC after three years of study and public discussion provides a sad commentary on a process initiated by Governor Insley to follow a scientifically based evaluation of benefits and mitigations that is open to the public. The proposed project would be the largest wind turbine project in the state and will stretch for 24 miles along the ridgeline of the Horse Heaven Hills dominating the southern skyline view from much of the Tri-Cities. While a simplistic approach may be to maximize the potential green energy production from any source, even a relatively low energy density option, a better option would be a focus on balancing energy options from solar, wind, hydroelectric and nuclear to serve our needs at any time of year or climate extremes. Supporting the siting and construction of new modular nuclear plants at Hanford would provide substantial baseload energy production with less environmental impact that more wind turbines. Adopting the nuclear technology option will likely have greater U.S. and worldwide impact as the world develops green energy production. The Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project wind energy production can apparently be distributed anywhere within the electric grid even though the impact will be on residents in Southeastern Washington. This area already produces a proportionately greater green energy production (i.e., wind, solar, hydroelectric and nuclear) than any other area of Washington State. A more robust energy system for Washington State would emphasize a broader distribution of electrical energy production throughout the entire state.

From: Bonnie Bates
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: Comments on Horse Heaven Wind Farm Energy Project
Date: Sunday, August 25, 2024 3:48:57 PM

External Email

These comments are my own, but please be advised my family and many of my local friends are vehemently OPPOSED to the planned project being forced upon this community! For all the very valid reasons provided by EFSEC and Tri-Cities CARES, the project should be halted or at the very least severely limited in scope. In addition, the Tri-City community has already sacrificed much of its surroundings for the benefit of the U.S. and should Not be burdened further with the Governor's pet windmill project! CANCEL or Relocate the windmill project.

John Bates
7411 Sandy Ridge Rd
Pasco, WA 99301

Sent from my iPhone

From: Norbert Rossi
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: HHHturbine proposal
Date: Sunday, August 25, 2024 9:01:36 PM

External Email

Dear Council Members,

I encourage you to stick to your guns. You did a three-year study involving community input and scientific facts. You made a reasoned and intelligent recommendation. Then the governor unilaterally recommended that you just ignore all that and do as the SCOUT project wishes. It is an arrogant directive of an unreasoned despot. He just wants what he wants and doesn't care what anybody else thinks. He doesn't care what the project will do to the wildlife or the people of Tri-Cities. Please refuse his directive. Show some backbone and do what is the right thing for our communities.

Thank you,
Norbert Rossi
2929 S. Hartford Place
Kennewick, WA

From:	Kerri Mckillop
To:	EFSEC (EFSEC); EFSEC mi Comments; Ami.hofkemeuer@efsec.wa.gov; Bumpus, Sonia (EFSEC); Moon, Amy (EFSEC); Sean.Green@efsec.wa.gov
Subject:	Horse Heaven Hills wind turbines
Date:	Sunday, August 25, 2024 9:05:31 PM

External Email

I strongly object to the wind turbines proposed for Horse Heaven Hills. I am requesting the EFSEC let Washington's Governor know that over 3 years of analysis, public and adjudicative hearings and taxpayer dollars have been wasted buy rejecting the EFSEC's suggestions to scale back on the project. He has disregarded the safety, health and property risks, reduced the use of aerial firefighting, made a mockery of the SEPA process. Disregarded environmental, Native American, Benton County and Tri-City residents' interest. Please stand by your recommendation to significantly reduce the project by removing all the high impact turbines.

Thank you,

Kerri McKillop

From:	Phyllis Riikonen
To:	EFSEC mi Comments; EFSEC (EFSEC); Greene, Sean (EFSEC); Moon, Amy (EFSEC); Hafkemeyer, Ami (EFSEC)
Subject:	Horse Heaven Wind and Solar Project
Date:	Sunday, August 25, 2024 11:27:52 PM

External Email

To All Council Members,

I have read through the recommendation you drafted for Governor Inslee in April regarding the Horse Heaven Wind and Solar Project as well as the Governor's response. Please do not let one person's political agenda and a company who has no local interest other than to make money from the project deter you from standing by your original recommendation. The Governor's response to the points in your recommendation was filled with incorrect statements and blatantly disregarded the advice and testimonies of those who are experts in their fields. Please do not let the hundreds of hours you spent examining every aspect of this project be completely discounted.

I urge the council to stand by your original recommendation for this project.

Thank you,

Phyllis Riikonen

From:	EFSEC (EFSEC)
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	FW: Anonymous User completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture
Date:	Monday, August 26, 2024 1:15:16 PM

From: Comments WA EFSEC <notifications@engagementhq.com>
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2024 1:15:09 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Anonymous User completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

External Email

Anonymous User just submitted the survey Share your comment, upload a document or a picture with the responses below.

Name

Thomas Carroll

Email

thomas.carroll@co.yakima.wa.us

Are you part of an Agency or Organization?

Yes (please specify) - Yakima County Public Services

Share any comment

Recently, Yakima County has had a EFSEC approved solar project reach out to the County to purchase water for fire protection of their project. This is concerning considering they don't have water for fire protection at their approved site and are looking at trucking water in to have available. In addition, we've had numerous solar developers indicate that Pacific Power's grid is currently at capacity, for which Pacific Power has instructed approved solar projects to develop battery systems first since the grid can't accept more power at this time. This is problematic and clearly shows a lack of planning and coordination at the EFSEC level when approving these facilities. In regards to the current rulemaking process, the current review process, as exhibited by the Governor's recent decision regarding the wind project in Benton County continues to be insufficient. Yakima County supports much needed updating to the legislation governing EFSEC and certainly the process needs more public input and more stakeholder engagement rather than less. Expediting an already expedited process that is highly contentious does nothing to instill confidence in the ability of state government to be fair and impartial when applying environmental reviews for all parties developing in Washington state no matter what industry or who the applicant is. A comprehensive evaluation of EFSEC's statutes are needed to fully address all known deficiencies.

From:	EFSEC (EFSEC)
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	FW: Anonymous User completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture
Date:	Monday, August 26, 2024 10:14:55 PM

From: Comments WA EFSEC <notifications@engagementhq.com>
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2024 10:14:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Anonymous User completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

External Email

Anonymous User just submitted the survey Share your comment, upload a document or a picture with the responses below.

Name

Dennis and Jullie Simmelink

Email

simmelink.dennis@gmail.com

Are you part of an Agency or Organization?

Yes (please specify) - Tri-Cities CARES

Share any comment

As a 3rd Generation Horse Heaven Hills dryland wheat farm, our Family is adamantly opposed to the proposed Horse Heaven project. EFSEC's original proposal to the Governor was a reduced number of wind turbines from that requested by the applicant. As evidenced by the Draft reconsideration, it appears that after lobbying the Governor by the applicant, EFSEC is going back to the requested number of wind turbines and solar farms. After 3 years of meetings with concerned parties affected by the project and expert analysis, what happened to what I would have thought was the use of "Best Available Science" with your initial recommendation? It appears that EFSEC is now going with "SWAG"; better known as a "Scientific Wild Ass Guess". What happened?! I will close with a quote our organization has written: "Please do what EFSEC was designed to do and that is to take the public concerns to heart and not allow one individual or developer to change your decision just because they have more power, money and clout than the average person like me and others who will be negatively impacted by this enormous project that has no business being this close to a large community like ours. Give us “little” people a voice and stand by your original recommendation to reduce the project as you specified; that is your duty, obligation and responsibility." Thank you for your reconsideration of this matter. ps - The picture is a photo of the Horse Heavens as they look today facing south of the Tri Cities. My home for 74 years. My family for almost 100 years.

Upload a picture (optional)

https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/0d3900b6009138f625e1e3a92f99b4030a2fea90/original/1724735236/3f67fddb2c8fdf67613ea2d74a65cc7b_20190228_155313.jpg?1724735236

Did you also share a video?

No

From:	Paul Krupin
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	Krupin Comments on Horse Heaven Special Meeting Draft SCA Documents - Fire Buffer
Date:	Sunday, August 25, 2024 7:34:45 PM
Attachments:	Krupin Comments on HHH Draft SCA - Fire Buffer Fire Buffer & Topo Buffer.pdf

External Email

PDF file attached

Appreciatively,

Paul J. Krupin, BA, MS, JD
Board Member on behalf of TRI-CITIES C.A.R.E.S
Visit: http://www.TriCitiesCARES.org
509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline Paul@Presari.com

Comments on Horse Heaven Special Meeting Draft SCA Documents

Paul J. Krupin, Board member of Tri-Cities CARES

TCC Comments on 0.25 Mile Fire Buffer in EFSEC Mitigation and draft SCA

The Council has created a new proposal that would restore nearly all of the wind turbines that had been eliminated by the April 29, 2024 Recommendation to the Governor.

The new 0.25 mile fire buffer mitigation fails to address aerial firefighting airspace requirements for DC-10's (VLAT's) that are used by federal agencies on the lands adjacent to the project.

Background

Order 892 states:

Socioeconomic Impacts *(Order 892, Page 45)*

> *The Council finds the Project's roadways would improve access within the Project boundaries for ground firefighting activities.* ***The Council also finds that wind turbines located along the northern Project boundary would present challenges to aerial firefighting*** *techniques historically used in the area*

The new EFSEC recommendations and the Draft SCA, ARTICLE I: SITE CERTIFICATION, C. Project Description #4, Page 9 states:

> *"No wind turbines shall be sited within 0.25 miles of the maximum perimeter of one or more historic wildfires that have been recorded between January 1, 2000 and the start of construction (see Appendix 2: PHS-2 for additional details),"*

Appendix 2 PHS-2 Firefighting Aircraft Standoff Buffers:

> No wind turbines shall be sited within 0.25 miles of the maximum perimeter of one or more historic wildfires that have been recorded between January 1, 2000 and the start of construction.

Rationale: The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has stated that any firefighting aircraft in service with their agency would observe a minimum of a 0.25-mile standoff buffer from wind turbines during aircraft operation. This mitigation measure ensures that DNR firefighting aircraft can safely and effectively be deployed to areas of higher wildfire likelihood within and adjacent to the Project Lease Boundary to assist in firefighting when needed.

TCC Comment:

The proposed 0.25 mile fire buffer mitigation is inadequate and fails to take federal fleet LATS and VLATs airspace requirements into account.

The use of the 0.25 fire buffer will result in the construction of 499 ft high or 671 ft high wind turbines along the ridgeline of the Horse Heaven Hills in the northern Project boundary. This will result in the creation of a huge no-fly zone that will prevent large aircraft tankers (LATs) and Very Large Air Tankers (VLATs) from being used, subjecting residents and businesses to the very real threat of fire, property destruction, injury and death.

The EFSEC mitigation and draft SCA addresses only the fleet capabilities of the Washington DNR and its response to fire on DNR land.

The January 26, 2024 email from Russ Lane, (DNR) relied upon by EFSEC clarifies that the 0.25 mile distance refers only to the use of State owned aerial firefighting aircraft and does not recognize or take the federal fleet aircraft into account. The federal fleet has made use of LAT and VLAT size aircraft in the historic fires in the Horse Heaven Hills on record.

Mr. Lane states

"I would like to clarify the interpretation of my previous responses. I was not specifically asked to address the use of very large, airliner-type jet aircraft. I will happily defer to expertise on the maneuvering characteristics of large transport aircraft."

See the attached email to read Mr. Lane's email in whole.

The TCC expert witnesses provided testimony regarding the aerial firefighting airspace maneuvering buffers needed for VLATS and LATs – two miles perpendicular and four miles along the flight path.

Testimony provided by TCC aerial firefighting expert witnesses with significant experience responding to fires on federal land states that **two miles perpendicular and four miles along the flight path is needed** to safely avoid turbine obstructions.

The proposed quarter mile fire buffer distance is inadequate.

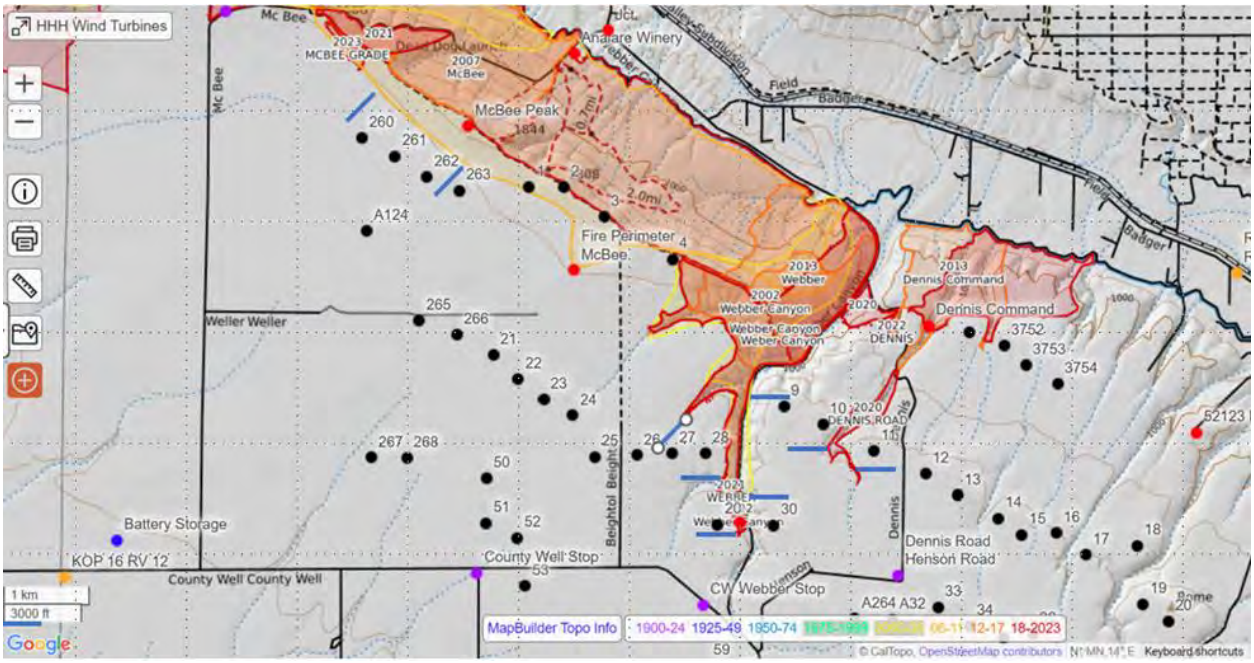
Impacts on Turbines of the 0.25 and 2.0 mile Fire Buffers and the 1.0 mile Webber Canyon Cultural Buffer

The following CalTopo Maps compares the 0.25 mile fire buffer to a 2.0 mile buffer and shows the affected wind turbines on the project. Each map uses a fire history data set from year 2000 to present.

This evaluation assumes a flight path of a DC-10 VLAT from the Federal Fleet from NW to SE along the top of the ridgeline with the aircraft similar to what occurred at this location in July 2023.

Please note the turbines identified as 3751 to 3754 were eliminated from consideration in the Moon Memo.

0.25-mile fire buffer

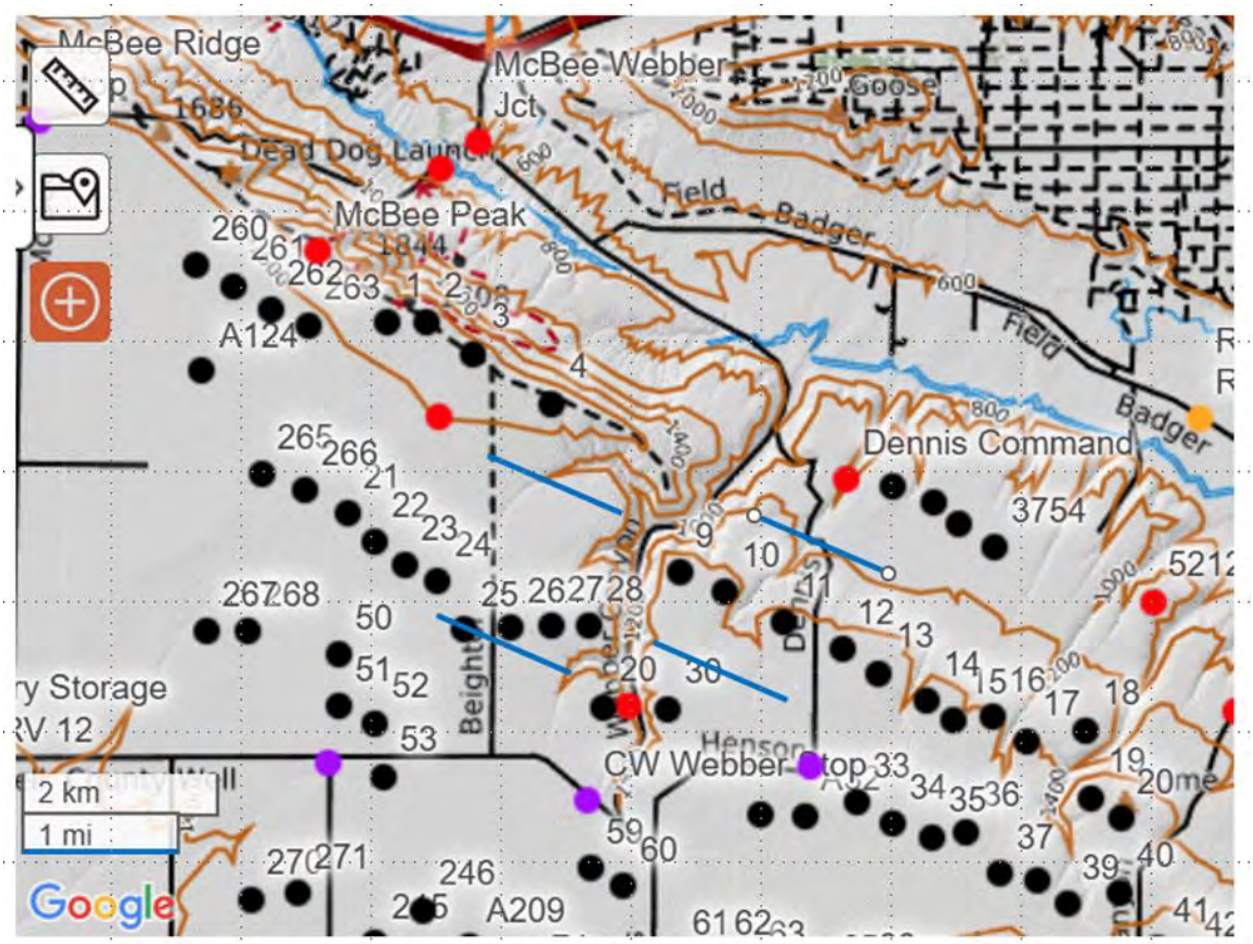


The 0.25 mile fire buffer (colored in blue) impacts the following turbine numbers from west to east:

260, 261, 262, 263, 1, 2, 3, 4, 26, 27, 28, 9, 10, 11 20 and 30

= 16 turbines

<u>1.0-mile Webber canyon Buffer from Topographic Break line.</u>

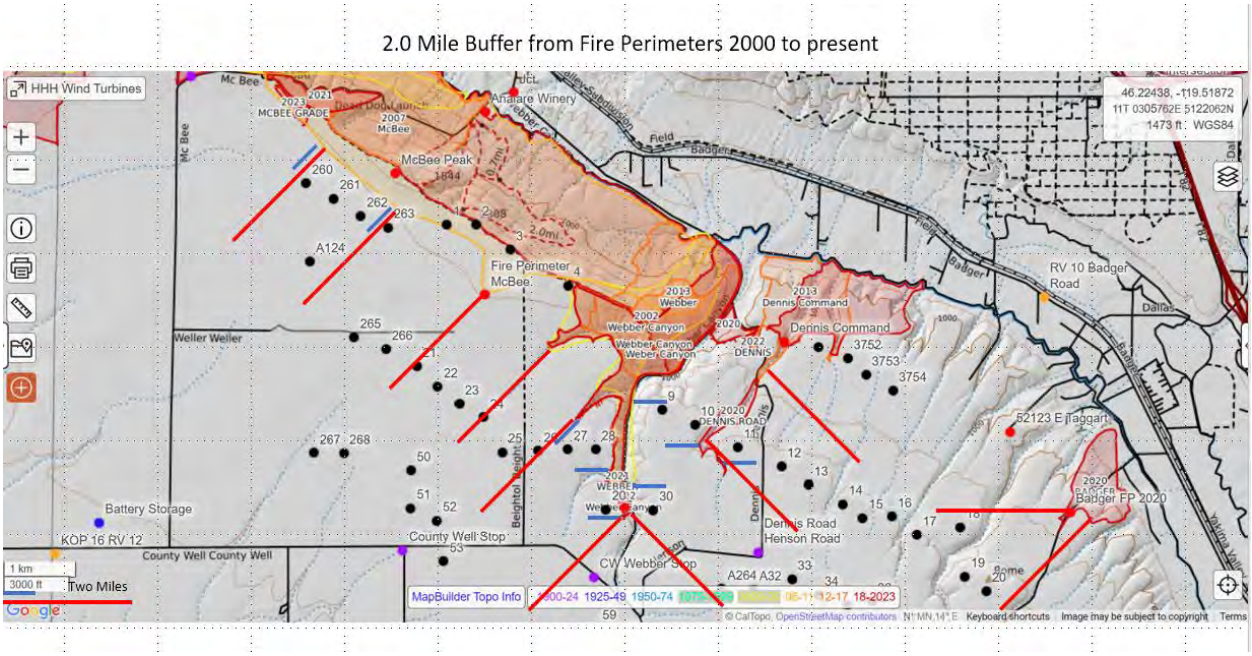


Turbines for elimination or relocation include:

25, 26, 27, 28 and 20 west of Webber Canyon and 9, 10, 11 and possibly 12 and 30 east of Webber Canyon = 10 turbines

The 10 turbines impacted by the 1.0 Topographic buffer overlap with the 16 turbines affected by the 0.25-mile fire buffer.

2.0-Mile Fire Buffer for LAT's and VLAT's



The wind turbines affected by the 2.0-mile fire buffer that would need to be eliminated or relocated include:

260, 261, 262, 263, 1, 2, 3, 4, 26, 27, 28, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20,

A124, 265, 266, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 20, 30, A264, A32

= 38 turbines

The 2.0-mile fire buffer encompasses the 1.0-mile topo buffer.

Attachment – January 26, 2024 email from Russ Lane DNR to EFSEC and others

From: Lane, Russ (DNR)
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 3:16 PM
To: Krupin, Paul (WaTech Guest) <Paul@Presari.com>; Taylor, Katy (DNR) <Katy.Taylor@dnr.wa.gov>; Lebovitz, Allen (DNR) <Allen.Lebovitz@dnr.wa.gov>; EFSEC mi Comments <Comments@efsec.wa.gov>; Moon, Amy (EFSEC) <amy.moon@efsec.wa.gov>; Drew, Kathleen (EFSEC) <kathleen.drew@efsec.wa.gov>
Cc: 'Dave Sharp' <dave@tricitiescares.org>; 'Pam Minelli' <pam@tricitiescares.org>; kmbrun@gmail.com; 'Rick Aramburu' <Rick@aramburulaw.com>; Geissler, George (DNR) <George.Geissler@dnr.wa.gov>

Subject: RE: Aerial Firefighting issue EFSEC Meeting January 31 2024 on Horse Heaven Hills Wind Turbines

All,

I would like to clarify the interpretation of my previous responses. I was not specifically asked to address the use of very large, airliner-type jet aircraft. I will happily defer to expertise on the maneuvering characteristics of large transport aircraft.

I was asked to assess the impacts to DNR aerial firefighting efforts. DNR's owned and contracted fleet includes light, medium and heavy (Type 3, 2, 1) helicopters, as well as single-engine and twin-engine turboprop aircraft. The fixed wing tankers operate in both retardant and scooping configurations. The large and very large jet engine transport-type aircraft are present in the federal fleet. While we infrequently borrow DC-10 Very Large Airtankers (VLAT'S) from the USFS, they fly on less than 1% of DNR incidents.

We are comfortable that we can safely operate the three types of helicopters and the light tankers (AT-802's) at a standoff distance of approximately ¼ mile. I am reasonably certain we would hear the same for the twin-engine scoopers (CL-415) and twin tankers (Q-400). We can certainly check that with our vendor for those platforms. As always, the go/no-go call for safe operations near obstacles will be made by the pilot-in-command at the time of the mission.

We remain concerned that operations interior to a large-scale wind project would pose unacceptable risks to aircrews. However, we believe we have multiple effective tools to do aerial firefighting around the perimeter of wind projects, from a safe standoff distance.

Thanks,

Russ

Russ Lane
Division Manager
Wildland Fire Management Division
Washington Department of Natural Resources
Office: (360) 902-1308
Cell: (360) 480-9657
Russ.Lane@dnr.wa.gov

From: Paul Krupin <Paul@Presari.com>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 11:39 AM
To: Taylor, Katy (DNR) <Katy.Taylor@dnr.wa.gov>; Lebovitz, Allen (DNR) <Allen.Lebovitz@dnr.wa.gov>; Lane, Russ (DNR) <Russ.Lane@dnr.wa.gov>; EFSEC mi Comments <Comments@efsec.wa.gov>; Moon, Amy (EFSEC) <amy.moon@efsec.wa.gov>; Drew, Kathleen (EFSEC) <kathleen.drew@efsec.wa.gov>
Cc: 'Dave Sharp' <dave@tricitiescares.org>; 'Pam Minelli' <pam@tricitiescares.org>; kmbrun@gmail.com; 'Rick Aramburu' <Rick@aramburulaw.com>
Subject: Aerial Firefighting issue EFSEC Meeting January 31 2024 on Horse Heaven Hills Wind Turbines

External Email

Issue: There is confusion over the DNR responses to questions posed by EFSEC staff specifically regarding the horizontal buffer distance needed for aerial firefighter aircraft, including large tactical aircraft like DC-10's and 727's.

The 0.25 mile fire buffer distance is far less than the turning radius needed to keep the large aerial firefighting aircraft safe from collisions with wind turbines.

In the adjudication Mr. David Wardell (Chairman of the Allied Aerial Firefighter Association) and Mark Baird (Veteran LAT and VLAT aerial firefighter pilot) indicates that the necessary buffer for the tactical aircraft utilized (DC-10's and

above) is at least four miles along the flight path and two miles on the perpendicular.

Mark Baird, aerial firefighter pilot gave supplemental testimony (EXH-5913_S Testimony and EXH-5910_S Resume)

Page 5 line 5 to 13 of the testimony states in pertinent part:

> "Between three and four nautical miles spacing would at least make aerial firefighting possible in order to save lives and property. FAA TERPS, and ICAO Pan Ops dictate maneuvering minimum radius of turn for large aircraft as well as minimum climb rates to avoid known obstacles in approach and departure corridors where obstructions are known and accurately mapped; 2.7 nautical miles is the minimum radius of turn for category E aircraft with maneuvering speeds of 168 plus knots. A climb of 200 feet per nautical mile is the minimum for most departure procedures. If the ridge top is 2000 feet msl and it has a 500-foot tower on top of it, climb capability would be exceeded quickly."

David Wardall, Chairman of the Allied Aerial Firefighters Association gave testimony (EXH-5096_S and EXH-5908_S)

Page 2 lines 17 to 22, state in pertinent part,

> "Wind turbines present severe impediments to aerial firefighting operations. The existence of the wind turbines effectively creates a "no fly" zone which greatly increases the risk that any wildfire that either began in or near the project site or spread into it from any surrounding area, could not be quickly contained, and would grow. I believe there is a threat to the adjacent communities from this proposal by eliminating the possibility of fixed wing air attacks that needs to be acknowledged."

Page 3 lines 8 to 26 state in pertinent part:

> "… the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Project is huge – 25 miles and four to six miles wide – over 60,000 acres with up to 850 MW from up to 244 turbines, each one 500 foot to 671 foot high in up to 6 rows along the ridgeline. This is a huge major obstruction to responding firefighting efforts. The size of this proposed project will make a huge "No Fly" zone for civil aircraft, medivac helicopters and of course firefighting aircraft."
>
> "The extraordinary length of the project creates a 25-mile barrier to fixed wing tanker aircraft. The wind turbines produce a lot of air rotating vortices type turbulence that will interfere with safe aerial firefighting operations.

Depending on the winds and the terrain, in order to make effective air drops, the minimum obstruction setback distance should be three to four miles along any flight paths needed to conduct aerial operations, and two to three miles perpendicular to the flight paths to reduce the risks posed by the turbulence downwind of the wind turbines

Paul J. Krupin, BA, MS, JD
Board Member on behalf of TRI-CITIES C.A.R.E.S
Visit: http://www.TriCitiesCARES.org
509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline Paul@Presari.com

From:	Paul Krupin
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	Krupin Comments on Horse Heaven Special Meeting Draft SCA Documents - Visual Impacts & Impacts on Property Value
Date:	Sunday, August 25, 2024 7:35:41 PM
Attachments:	Krupin Comments on HHH Draft SCA - Visual Impacts and their Impacts on Property Value.pdf

External Email

PDF file attached

Appreciatively,

Paul J. Krupin, BA, MS, JD
Board Member on behalf of TRI-CITIES C.A.R.E.S
Visit: http://www.TriCitiesCARES.org
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Comments on Horse Heaven Special Meeting Draft SCA Documents

Paul J. Krupin, Board member of Tri-Cities CARES

To Ignore and Dismiss Visual Impacts and their Impacts on Property Value is Unacceptable

The new proposed EFSEC mitigations and revised SCA should not be allowed. Scientifically they make no rational sense given the information developed in the existing record.

EFSEC's Recommendations and Order 892 both recognize and acknowledge the severity of the visual impacts and the need for mitigation

The Findings of Facts in Order 892, specifically acknowledge and explicitly recognize that the project as proposed will result in significant adverse visual impacts and that further mitigation, "…including the removal of multiple turbines, must be required in order to minimize the visual impact of the Project on the Tri-Cities Region and on the Yakama Nation TCPs."

EFSEC's May 23 Recommendation eliminated a large number of the most visually obstructive wind turbines, and mitigated the visual impacts significantly.

The revised SCA and new mitigation recommendations removes the mitigations and returns the visual impacts to their original proposed levels.

TCC's property appraisal experts gave testimony warning us that *real estate prices will be reduced 20 to 30 percent* and *properties close to the turbines may never sell*.

Even the expert relied upon by Scout in the adjudication recognizes the negative impact wind turbines have on property value.
https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301421523004226

There is widespread agreement and ample documentation that people pay more for scenery and pay less when the views are obstructed by energy industrial facilities and infrastructure. This includes power lines, electrical substations, battery storage systems, coal, gas, or nuclear power generation facilities, and wind turbines.

The following table depicts the predicted 20 to 30 percent property value loss and the potential economic losses to real estate property in Tri-Cities.

A	B	C	D	E	F
Present Value	20 & 30 percent reduction	1000 homes	5000 homes	10,000 homes	20,000 homes
1,000,000.00	200,000.00	200,000,000.00	1,000,000,000.00	2,000,000,000.00	4,000,000,000.00
1,000,000.00	300,000.00	300,000,000.00	1,500,000,000.00	3,000,000,000.00	6,000,000,000.00
500,000.00	100,000.00	100,000,000.00	500,000,000.00	1,000,000,000.00	2,000,000,000.00
500,000.00	150,000.00	150,000,000.00	750,000,000.00	1,500,000,000.00	3,000,000,000.00

The proposed EFSEC mitigations ignore the significant adverse economic impacts that will occur as a result of visual impacts.

The consequence of ignoring the visual impacts is that economic losses of *two to six billion dollars* are not being identified and recognized.

EFSEC has obligations to protect people and the environment in Washington.

The only action that is justified is to vote against approval of the revised SCA.

Paul Krupin

Board Member Tri-Cities CARES

Kennewick WA

From:	EFSEC (EFSEC)
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	FW: Public Comment- HHH Visual Impacts
Date:	Sunday, August 25, 2024 10:35:40 PM
Attachments:	Public Comment Visual August 25.pdf

From: Dave Sharp <dave@tricitiescares.org>
Sent: Sunday, August 25, 2024 10:34:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Public Comment- HHH Visual Impacts

External Email

Public Comment-HHH Project
Dave Sharp
Tri-Cities CARES
Topic-Visual Impacts
Time Sent: 10:34 PM August 25, 2024

David Sharp
Vice President, Tri-Cities CARES
Email: dave@tricitiescares.org
Webpage: www.tricitiescares.org

Public Comment

Dave Sharp representing Tri-Cities CARES

Visual Impacts

Precedent is a word that has been used many times, whether it be EFSEC precedent from previous projects, or the Scout argument that the Nine Canyon project sets precedent for the HHH project. Tri-Cities CARES disagrees.

Websters Definition Precedent:1. an earlier occurrence of something similar. 2. a : something done or said that may serve as an example or rule to authorize or justify a subsequent act of the same or an analogous kind.

EFSEC routinely sets precedent and is frequently reminded of that by the Applicant. There has been no specific precedent on this topic for EFSEC projects to our knowledge, and we reject the Applicant's argument that the tiny, well designed Nine Canyon is a precedent for this monster project. If EFSEC allow this project to built as the Applicant desires, there will be no limit to encroachment that will take place.

We urge EFSEC to leave the Visual mitigation measures identified in the deliberations in place.

Conclusion-We have shown using our population/proximity interactive tool, Link follows, from a population standpoint alone, the HHH Project is significantly more impactful than other wind projects in the State, in the Northwest, and we believe nationally. The HHH project has approximately 15 times the amount of people located within three miles than the average of all other state wind projects and 7 times the population as the next highest county. We provided population proximity information during the comment period and provided testimony about the stark difference of population to large projects identified by the Applicant and the HHH projects.

Because of the many differences between the NC project and the HHH project, discussed below, we vehemently disagree that NC has set precedence.

The Governor's response to EFSEC. The Governor offers two reasons for rejecting meaningful visual mitigation; 1. His opinion, 2. An argument that the State needs the renewable energy. That argument will be made separately, but by the Applications own documentation, they can only inject 850mw into the BPA system, and even with the reduced project and solar buildout the project would still be the largest ever for Washington State.

Precedent Discussion-Tri-Cities CARES has argued that this project does not follow general wind industry practices, among other things, being a long continuous project that skirts the boundary of a 25-mile metropolitan area of over 300,000 people. The project parallels 4 cities urban grow areas and associated zoned residential communities with many thousands of residents living within 2 and 3 miles of turbines.

We also argue that the NC project is not a precedent for other reasons. From a visual standpoint, the NC original project was sited North of and at the base of Jumpoff Joe Butte. The height of the turbines was largely screened by intervening topography between the turbines and Kennewick. The last phase of the NC project installed larger turbines, but they were blended in with existing vertical

infrastructure on Jumpoff Joe or built South of the Butte. This mitigated the vertical contrast. They were out of sight, and out of mine.

Conversely, the HHH turbines are located on prominent ridges overtopping lower elevation residences. In the West central section where a large percentage of turbines are located the upsloping topography will highlight views of the entire turbine tower, and multiple rows. It should be noted than there are no structures taller than 150' West of HW 395 except temporary met towers, and no structures or towers from Kiona ridge to East of Badger Canyon drainage.

Applicant Visual Representations did not represent Worst Case Impact-The Applicant justified their generic application by saying they were using the worst-case impact scenario. For example, the tallest turbine, largest rotor diameter, etc. The visual representations prepared by the Applicant chose the least visually impactful turbine models for visual impact analysis of each height category. The more visually prominent turbines look short and squatty with low ground clearance. That calls into question whether the entire Visual Section needs to be redone. We are unsure if the was merely a mistake not noticed or corrected after the Applicant added larger different designed turbines. If it was purposeful, there is a provision in RCW 80.50.130 that can cause revocation or suspension of an SCA.

Interactive Tool Application-The Applicant provided no tools to estimate the proximity of the project to population. Similarly, they Applicant did not provide coordinate locations so local landowners and residents could determine the distance from a turbine location and whether topography would screen them visually.

We had an interactive tool developed that combined data from the US Census, and the National Wind Turbine Data Base to easily analyze existing wind projects, and manually input key turbine coordinates from the HHH project not yet on the national wind turbine data base. That allowed a comparison of HHH with other wind projects. We found that the HHH project was in a different stratosphere regarding proximity to people.

For example, the HHH project had 15 times as many people located within three miles compared to the average of all other state projects.

Population Proximity Application

https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiZTgyNGNmY2UtZGFlMS00NmUzLWE2OWItOTEwMmUyNWI3MTRhIiwidCI6IjY3NGQxNWZlLTAzYzYtNGE2Mi1hYzlkLTZkNWNjZWViOGZiYiIsImMiOjN9&pageName=ReportSection16229c66d1b91798e8d2

The Order and Recommendation to the Governor. The Order and The HHH project just went through arguably the longest and most thorough SEPA review process of any project EFSE had ever undertaken.

Both the independent Visual Expert from SWCA, and TCC's own visual expert agreed that the visual impacts were significant and unavoidable.

Order #892 confirmed what all who have studied the project knew. It created significant and unavoidable visual and other environmental impacts.

Screenshots on Google Maps to Demonstrate Proximity-The messaging in the Application references a distance of "4 miles from Kennewick". It is much more than that, the All of Benton City Limits are within 4 miles as is a good part of the Yakima Valley. In the Central Part of the Project

Screenshot #1- The entire city limits of Benton City is within 4 miles of the project. The included google map screenshot measures out the 4 mile distance. The closest residence and business are approximately 0.9 miles from a turbine that towers looms over them by ~2000 feet.

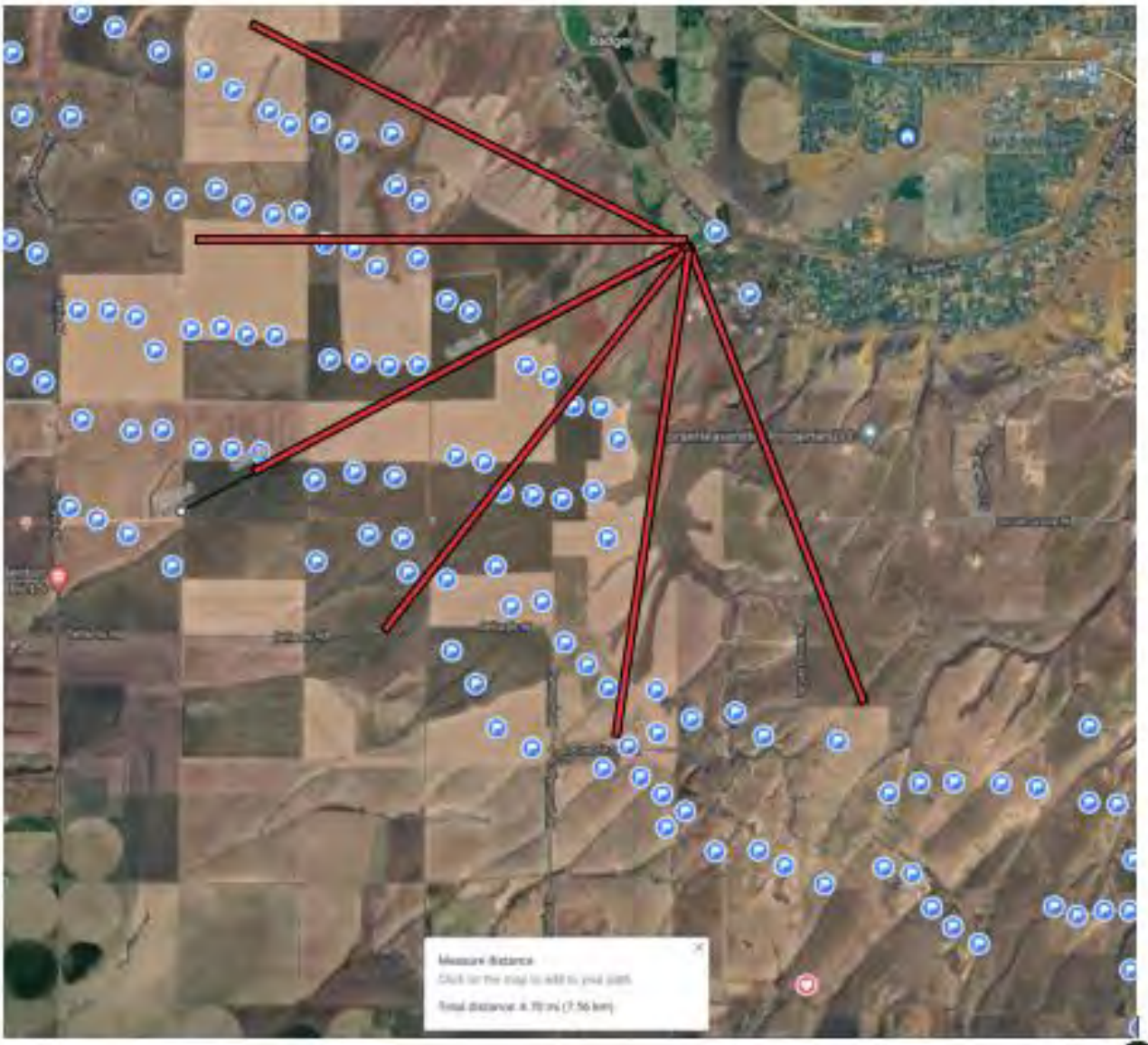
Screenshot #2-In the West Central part of the project shows the project extending just into the Richland City limits at 4 miles, but engulfing communities and urban growth areas from the closest turbine.

Screenshot #2A-This was supposed to be the KOP at which Scout was supposed to create a Visual Representation. It is the closest point of the project boundary to a community. Somehow Scout altered the public comment request for a panoramic view from this KOP and created a new location about 2 miles West on Badger Road overlooking a rural farm setting. This calls into question the methods and basic ethics of this Applicant. Instead of being transparent about the actual visual impact their effort went into obscurement and trickery. I say trickery, because if EFSEC will look back at the early data requests for visual, you will find that Scout effectively tricked you into accepting the new location.

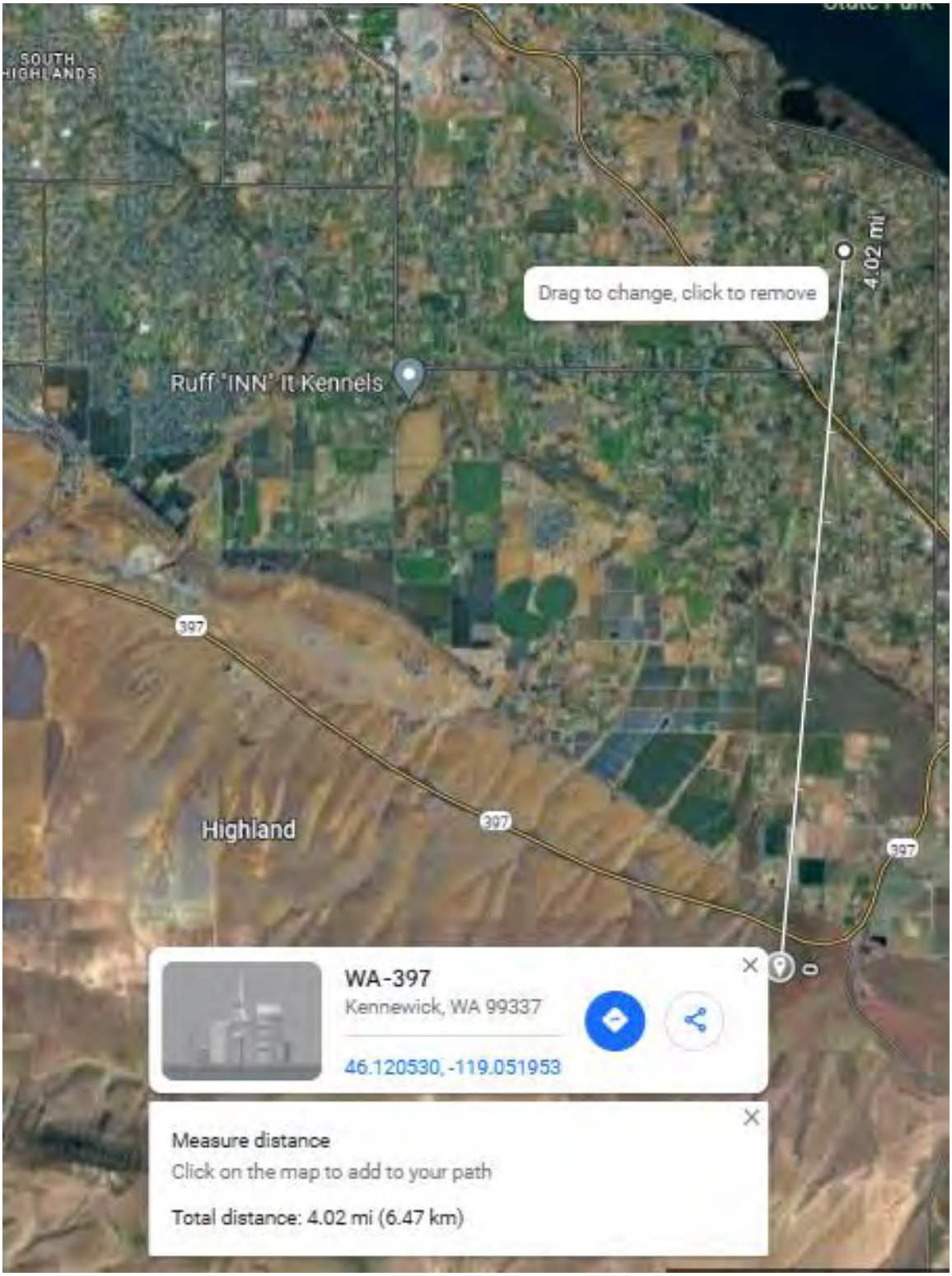
Screenshot 1, Benton City showing the entire City limits within 4 miles.

2- West Central Project-Distance from turbines to the communities between Richland City Limits and the project.

Screenshot 2a-The Real KOP 10-Not the one that was Invented by the Applicant. Length of spokes approximately scaled to 4 miles in length. This is the visual representation that Scout did not want EFSEC to see.



Screen Shot 3-East Project-Extends will into Finley



From:	EFSEC (EFSEC)
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	FW: Reliability of Wind- Washington
Date:	Sunday, August 25, 2024 10:50:36 PM
Attachments:	Reliability of Wind Energy-Public Comment.pdf Nine Canyon Performance-Extreme Weather Examples.pdf

---

From: Dave Sharp <dave@tricitiescares.org>
Sent: Sunday, August 25, 2024 10:49:21 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Reliability of Wind- Washington

External Email

Public Comment
Dave Sharp
Tri-Cities CARES
Topic-Reliability of Wind-Washington
Time Sent 10:49 PM

David Sharp
Vice President, Tri-Cities CARES
Email: dave@tricitiescares.org
Webpage: www.tricitiescares.org

Public Comment-Horse Heaven Hills Project

Dave Sharp
Tri-Cities CARES

Topic-Washington State Wind Energy

Summary-Wind Energy in Washington is very unreliable. Utilities supplying Washington customers are building in Montana and Wyoming to take advantage of more robust winter winds. Solar with battery storage is the renewable technology presently being built in Washington.

Governor's Decision-The Governor's decision directing EFSEC to return the project to near full size does not recognize the complexity and issues in front of the State. The information in his letter does not line up with his own energy strategy and current utility direction, which is to import wind energy from elsewhere.

The Applicant has never committed to provide power to the Washington. Why should a project be approved when there is no commitment to provide electricity?

The Governor should reconsider his reconsideration request. Regardless, EFSEC should stand by their initial deliberative findings for the project.

Washington's Energy Needs-Washington indeed has a need for energy, but reliable energy to meet peak loads. Unreliable wind energy will not fill the bill. The Applicant appears to be developing a merchant plant expecting a lot of profit from market sales, and those sales could go anywhere.

Wind Energy Performance Nine Canyon-Attached is a chart that illustrates the Nine Canyon Project performance during wind droughts in January and July.

Utilities also recognize that renewable alone will not do the job. There is a need for dispatchable power. PacifiCorp is retrofitting a 530mw Jim Bridger unit to fire natural gas to bridge after 2025 when coal cannot be used.

Washington needs to reassess whether pancaking the CETA legislation with the Carbon Commitment Act and the Clean Fuels Act with vehicles electrification is just too much too soon.

Scout Clean Energy appears to be out of step in several areas. First, building a wind project in Washington when our utilities are building them elsewhere. Second, although advertised as a hybrid project, it is predominantly wind, when solar with battery storage is the choice of other developers in the state. Third the battery storage component is minimal compared to the collective wind and solar. That indicates to me they are designing the project to help them shape the generation into marketable blocks rather than extending generation into the early evening hours.

Wautoma has a 500mw solar project and is planning 500mw of 4-hour battery storage. It appears that project is being designed to sell to instate utilities for Customers, hopefully in state.

Discussion-Washington Wind Resources and Energy Droughts-Washington State Wind Resorcee is rated low to moderate by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory-NREL.

There are just three areas of the state that have wind resources high enough to support wind projects.

1. The downslope of the eastern Cascade Mountains to the Columbia River in the Kittitas Valley and at the top of the Vantage grade.
2. The Columbia River Gorge primarily just East of the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area in Klickitat County
3. The Paloose and area around Dayton.

There is a fourth area on the East end of the Columbia Gorge after topographically flattens in the East Horse Heaven Hills and along a prominent ridge east of Wallula Gap stretching over to Walla Walla.

Meteorologically, Washington, and the Northwest in general, although during some parts of the year have robust winds, during extremely cold or hot periods, inversions dramatically decrease wind. These periods can last just a day or two, but during extreme temperature situations, wind average velocities can drop to effectively to zero for days, a week or even longer. It is not a localized phenomenon. In these situations, all of Washington and Oregon are affected. For lack of better terminology, these will be described as wind droughts.

There were two recent wind droughts within the last year.

From January 12-18, 2024, extreme cold weather temperatures blanketed the Northwest. In the Tri-Cities temperature low were below zero and highs were in the single digits to low teens. Wind dropped to near zero, and virtually all wind in Oregon and Washington was so low that project did not generate.

From July 4-July 9, 2024, high temperature climbed to near 110F in the Tri-Cities, and gradually moderated during the period to the low 100's.

The January event was a true electricity emergency. Over 5000 mw had to imported from all over the West and Canada for the 5 days of the wind drought. The amount of imported electricity is equivalent to 5 Energy Northwest Generating stations. The City of Richland had to ask a major industrial customer to voluntarily cut their electricity use. The customer, a large food processor cut an entire shift. The Northwest indeed was truly on the brink. Lost of any large facility or power line would have triggered active measures to save the grid. It was a wake-up call.

The July event was less dramatic but reinforced that wind droughts are not that rare. In November 2023, there were approximately 20 consecutive days where the BPA balancing Authority, consisting of over 2800 nameplate mw data showed the wind capacity factor averaged under 5%. In December 2023 there was a week with very little wind generation with a similar droughts. The weather was not as cold and system load was down so

Attached is a document with a graph of the Nine Canyon Project Net Generation in 5-minute increments. The January data was obtained the Benton PUD, and the July data was requested through a public information request process because to get prompt results

All these events were region wide, and reinforced what utility planners already knew. Concentrating more wind in Washington was a zero-sum game. Some period of the year there is ample wind, and generation, but during the high load periods, December and January, Late June through late August, and in particular peak demand days, wind cannot be relied upon.

We are carrying all of the eggs in one basket to make an analogy. Therefore, planning organizations such as the Western Electricity Coordinating Council responsible to maintain grid reliability have assessed load carrying capacity for various technologies of generation. There are 5 defined areas within WECC, and each has identified capacity factor values that utilities use to build their generation portfolio.

For Example, the Effective Load Carrying Capacity of wind projects in Eastern Washington and Oregon is 10%. A utility with a 100mw nameplate wind project can only claim 10% for purposes of peak demand periods.

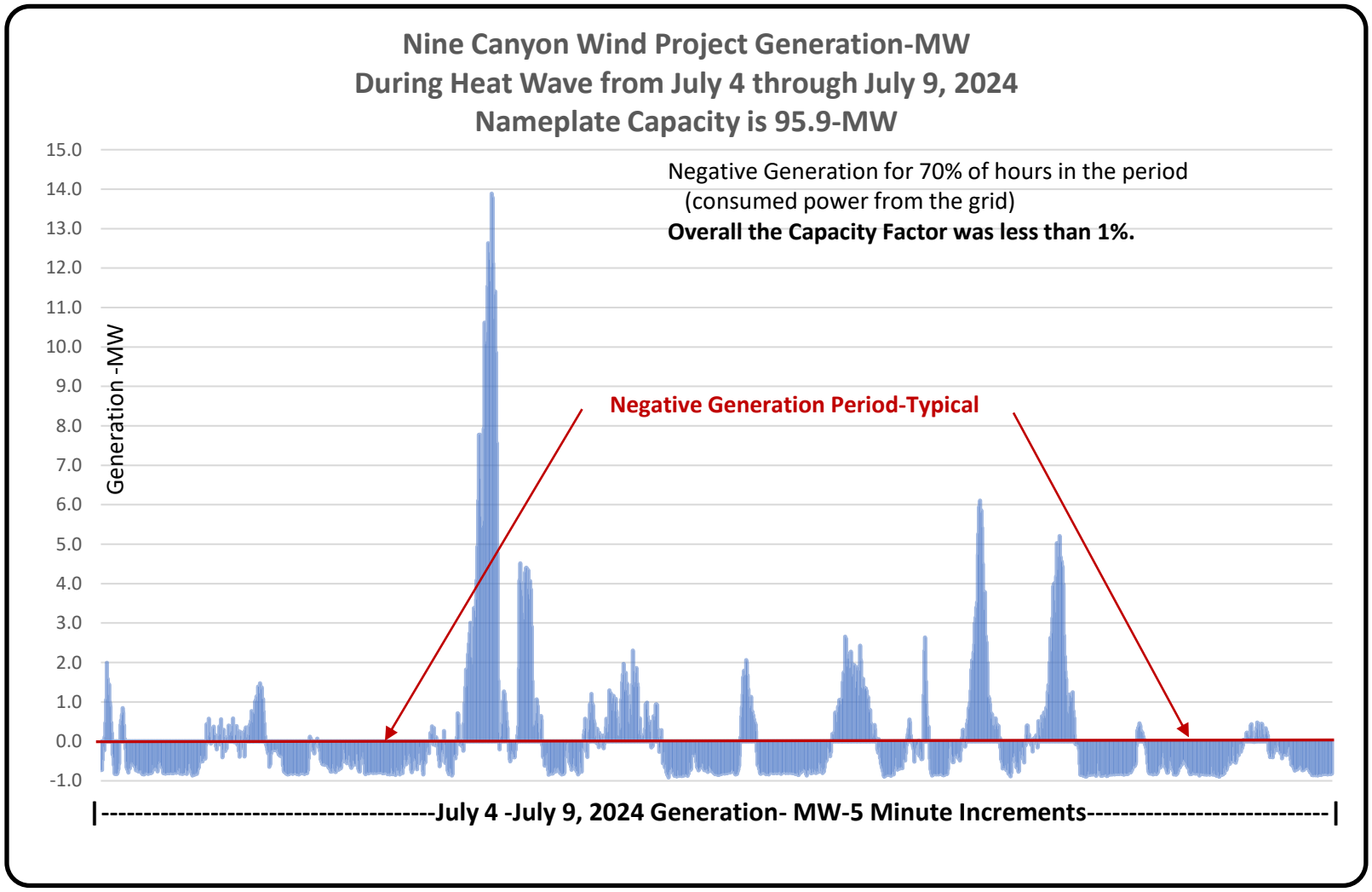
Washington utilities have abruptly stopped new local wind development and are preferring Montana and Wyoming. Montana has much stronger and reliable winter winds, and existing transmission is available as coal generation reduces. Renewable energy development in Washington is mostly solar with battery storage.

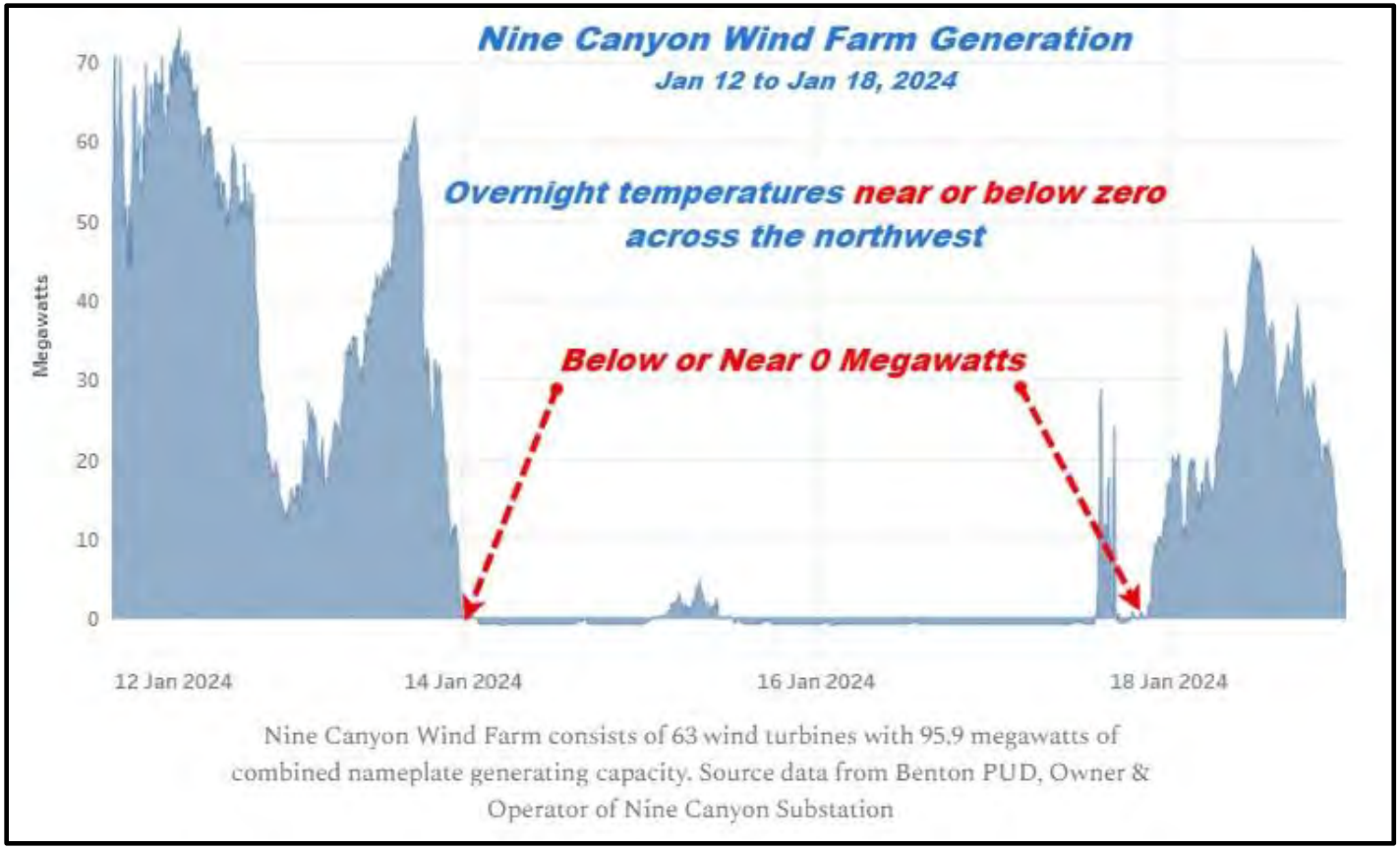
The State energy strategy recognizes this as most of the wind energy is shown as imported. The strategy does not show new wind energy to be built in the State for about 10 years.

Eastern Washington is generally sunny compared to the West side of the Cascades, and only limited by the high latitude during winter months. One peculiarity with the Horse Heaven Hills area is that during November and December we receive an inordinate amount of heavy fog, sometimes freezing. That could make solar generation even less reliable during those months.

Nine Canyon Performance-Extreme Weather Examples.pdf

Figures show the poor performance during extreme weather in the Tri-Cities Area. Bonneville Power Wind performance was Typical.





Nine Canyon Wind Farm consists of 63 wind turbines with 95.9 megawatts of combined nameplate generating capacity. Source data from Benton PUD, Owner & Operator of Nine Canyon Substation

From: EFSEC (EFSEC)
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: FW: Visual Impact- HHH Project Application Tool Link.
Date: Sunday, August 25, 2024 10:59:34 PM
Attachments: Public Comment Visual August 25.pdf

From: Dave Sharp <dave@tricitiescares.org>
Sent: Sunday, August 25, 2024 10:59:07 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Visual Impact- HHH Project Application Tool Link.

External Email

Public Comment-Horse Heaven Hills Project
Dave Sharp
Topic-Visual
Time Sent 10:58 PM August 25, 2024

This link below is the Application that TCC developed that uses the National Wind Turbine Data with the US census data to determine the population living distances from wind turbines. An earlier comment that had the link in the body of the attachment, I inadvertently left it out of the comment email. If am also including the original attachment so they are in the same document.

https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiZTgyNGNmY2UtZGFlMS00NmUzLWE2OWItOTEwMmUyNWI3MTRhIiwidCI6IjY3NGQxNWZlLTAzYzYtNGE2Mi1hYzlkLTZkNWNjZWViOGZiYiIsImMiOjN9&pageName=ReportSection16229c66d1b91798e8d2

David Sharp
Vice President, Tri-Cities CARES
Email: dave@tricitiescares.org
Webpage: www.tricitiescares.org

Public Comment

Dave Sharp representing Tri-Cities CARES

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We urge EFSEC to leave the Visual mitigation measures identified in the deliberations in place.

Conclusion-We have shown using our population/proximity interactive tool, Link follows, from a population standpoint alone, the HHH Project is significantly more impactful than other wind projects in the State, in the Northwest, and we believe nationally. The HHH project has approximately 15 times the amount of people located within three miles than the average of all other state wind projects and 7 times the population as the next highest county. We provided population proximity information during the comment period and provided testimony about the stark difference of population to large projects identified by the Applicant and the HHH projects.

Because of the many differences between the NC project and the HHH project, discussed below, we vehemently disagree that NC has set precedence.

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We also argue that the NC project is not a precedent for other reasons. From a visual standpoint, the NC original project was sited North of and at the base of Jumpoff Joe Butte. The height of the turbines was largely screened by intervening topography between the turbines and Kennewick. The last phase of the NC project installed larger turbines, but they were blended in with existing vertical

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Population Proximity Application

https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiZTgyNGNmY2UtZGFlMS00NmUzLWE2OWItOTEwMmUyNWI3MTRhIiwidCI6IjY3NGQxNWZlLTAzYzYtNGE2Mi1hYzlkLTZkNWNjZWViOGZiYiIsImMiOjN9&pageName=ReportSection16229c66d1b91798e8d2

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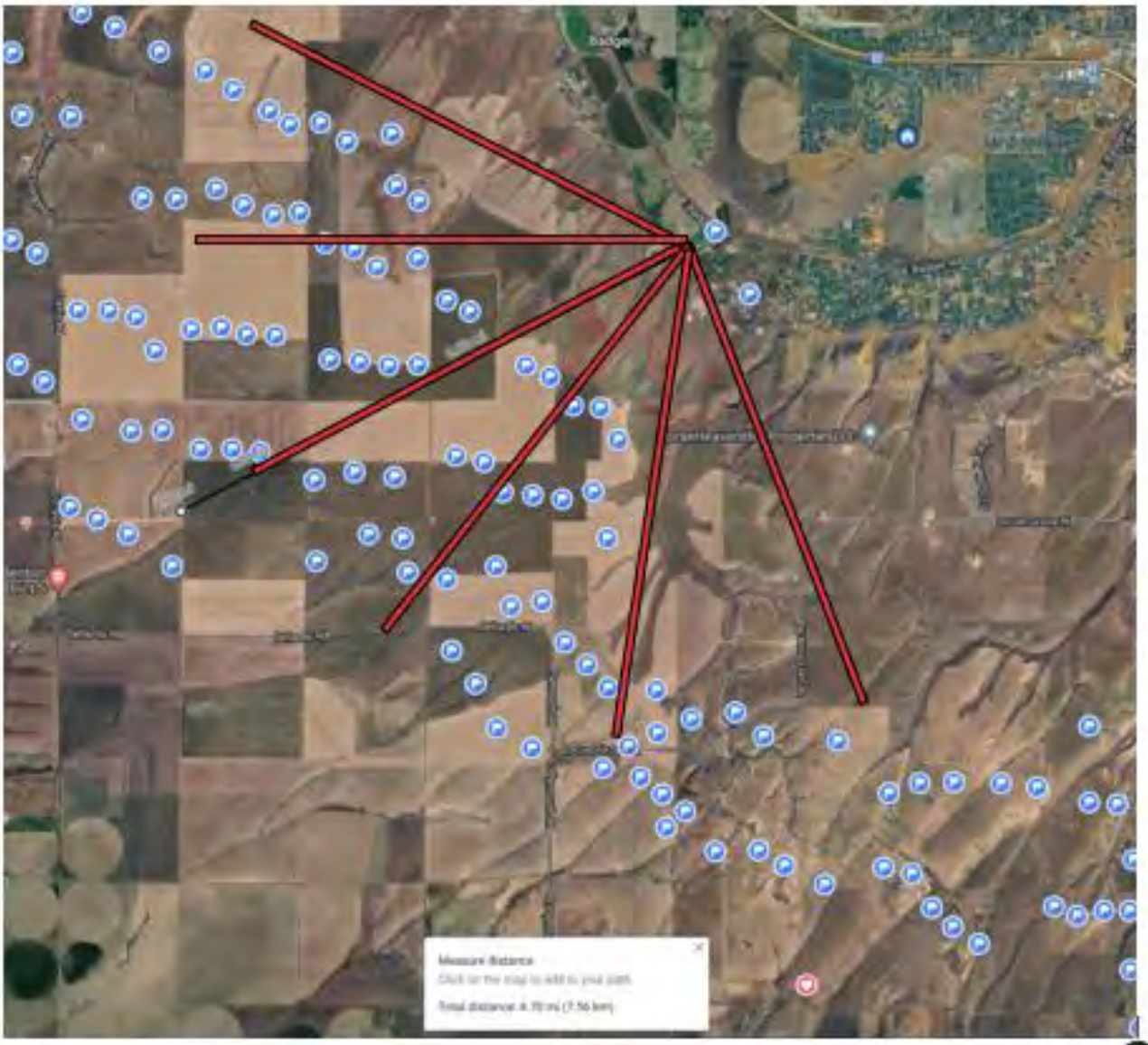

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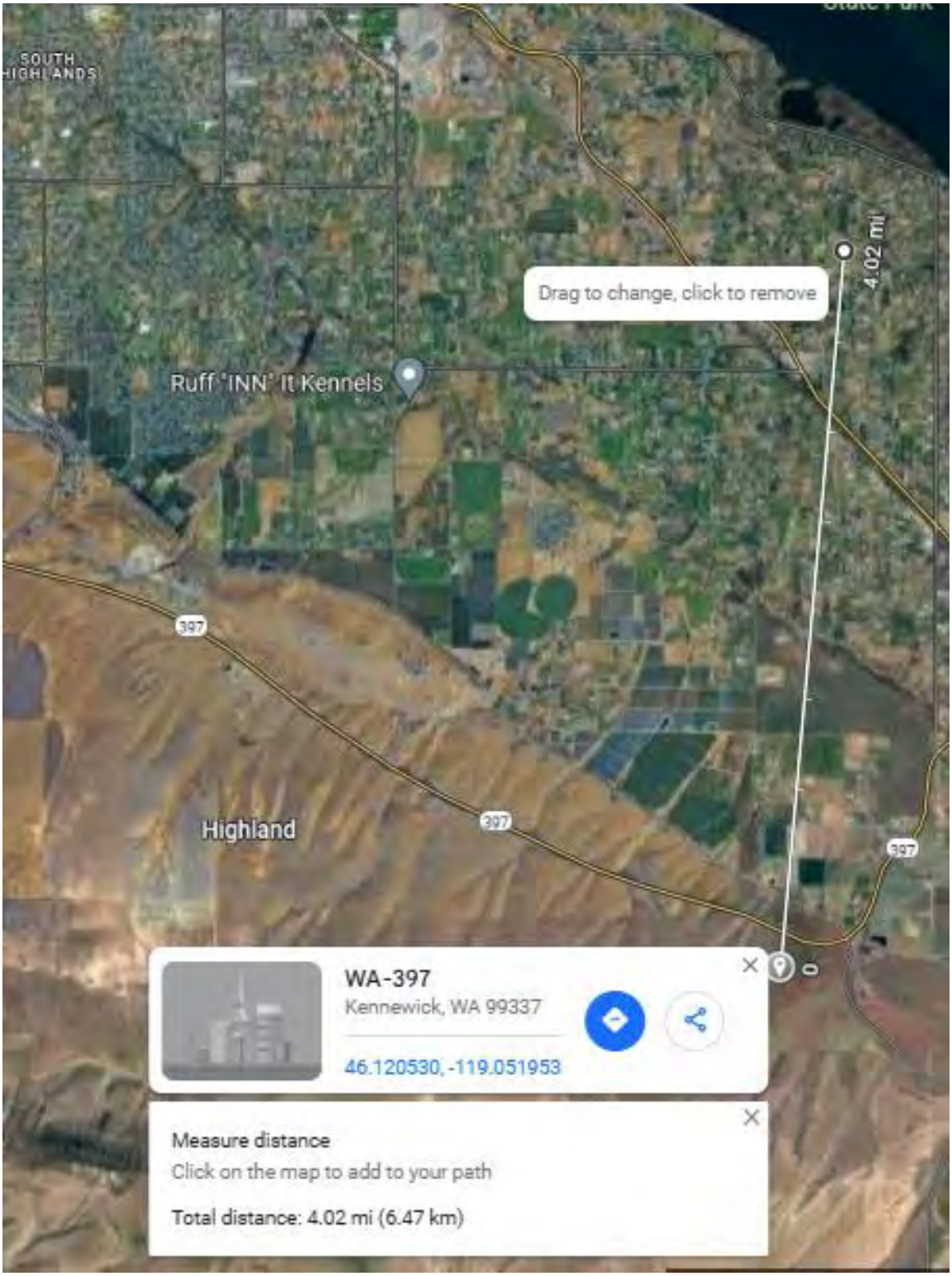

From:	EFSEC (EFSEC)
To:	EFSEC mi Comments
Subject:	FW: Public Comment- HHH Visual Impacts
Date:	Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:29:26 AM
Attachments:	Public Comment Visual August 25.pdf

From: Dave Sharp <dave@tricitiescares.org>
Sent: Sunday, August 25, 2024 10:35 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Public Comment- HHH Visual Impacts

External Email

Public Comment-HHH Project
Dave Sharp
Tri-Cities CARES
Topic-Visual Impacts
Time Sent: 10:34 PM August 25, 2024

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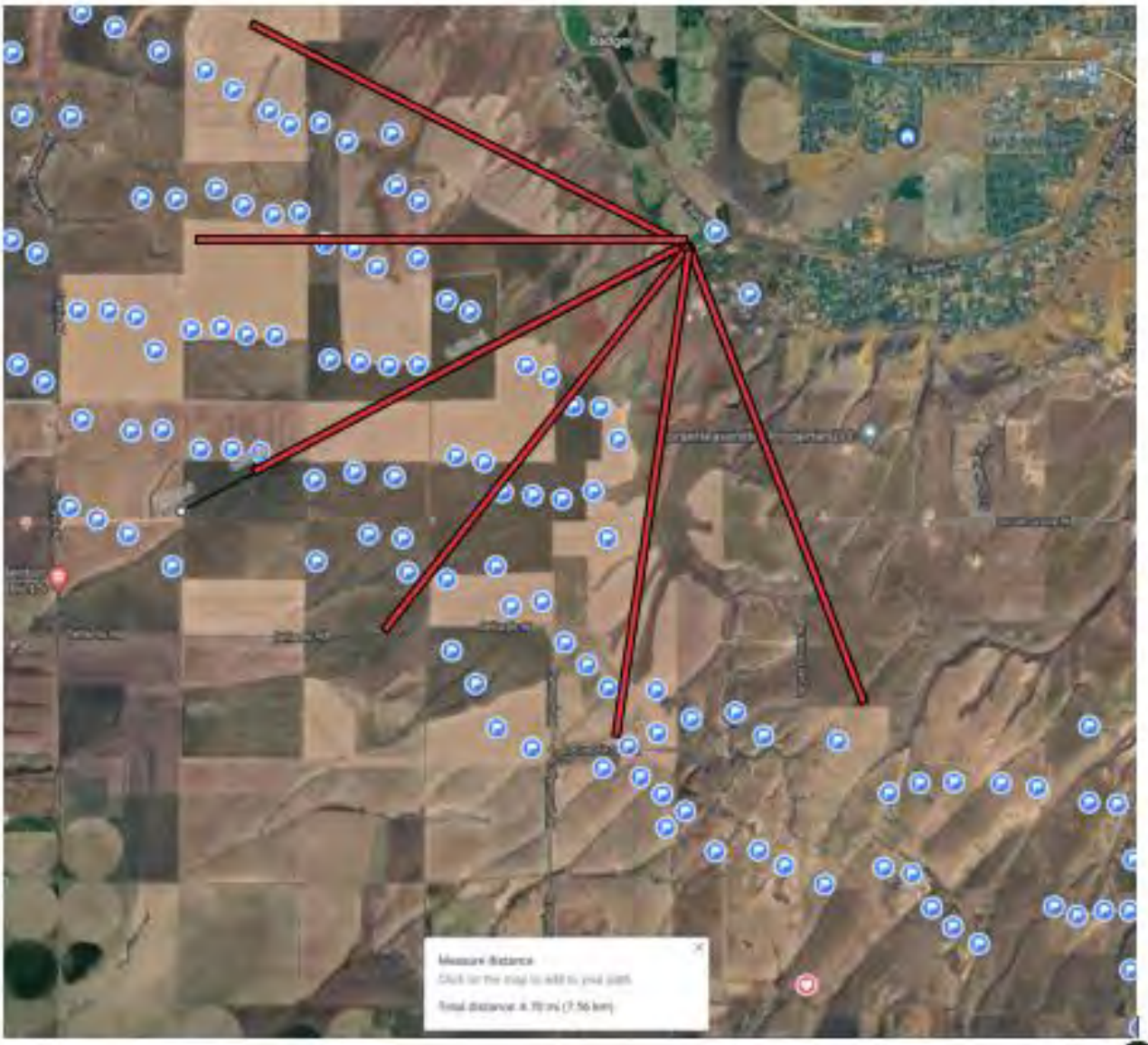

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