



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

PO Box 43172 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3172

November 22, 2024

The Honorable Jay Inslee  
Office of the Governor  
Post Office Box 40002  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee:

Subject: Wautoma Solar Project – Recommendation for Approval

The Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC or Council) has completed its review of the Wautoma Solar Project (Project) application from Innergex Renewable Development to construct and operate a 470-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic generation facility with battery storage located in unincorporated Benton County. For reasons explained fully in the Recommendation Report, the Council unanimously recommends approval of the Project with conditions listed in the draft Site Certification Agreement (SCA).

In making this recommendation, the Council has carefully considered the record along with the statutory directive to protect the interests of all Washingtonians in the siting of energy facilities. Included with the Recommendation Report is the draft SCA, the Final Revised Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance, the Order determining Land Use Inconsistency, the Order containing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law following the adjudicative proceedings, and public comments received throughout the process, both orally during public meetings and in writing.

EFSEC worked closely with Washington state agencies and the Cultural Resource Program staff of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation to gather input on impacts and mitigation to such issues as wildlife movement, prime agricultural land, and cultural resources in particular. The SCA lists the specific terms and conditions for the site that EFSEC proposes for construction, operation, decommissioning, and site restoration. The Council has determined that the conditions listed in the SCA will ensure that the interests of the public and the environment are protected.

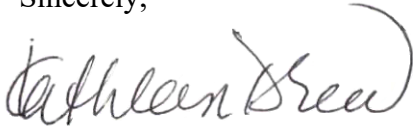
RCW 80.50.010 requires that within sixty days of receipt of the Council's recommendation, you do one of the following: a) approve the Application by executing the site certification

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Wautoma Solar Project Recommendation

agreements; b) reject the Application; or c) direct the Council to reconsider certain aspects of the proposed site certification agreements. Please consider the date of this letter as the beginning of the sixty day gubernatorial review.

If your decision is to approve the Project, please execute the proposed Site Certification Agreement by signing the documents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Drew". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Kathleen Drew  
EFSEC Chair