

From: [connie Krier](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#); [DOR Skagit County Leg Authority](#)
Subject: Goldeneye opposition Sedro Woolley
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 3:15:35 PM
Attachments: [Goldeneye Opposition letter.pdf](#)

External Email

EFSEC Committee and Skagit County Commissioners -

The attached letter is to serve as my opposition to the Goldeneye project in Skagit County and to specifically call into question the legal authority of EFSEC to have jurisdiction over this matter.

Please see the attached letter, additional copies will be coming in hard form to all listed parties.

Sincerely,
Connie Krier, SMS
206-391-8383

August 16, 2024

To the EFSEC Committee, Skagit County officials, Sedro Woolley officials, Governor Jay Inslee, Elected officials, and all whom it may concern:

This letter is to oppose the Goldeneye BESS project proposed in the small rural agricultural area of Sedro Woolley.

August 13, 2024 an open house was held at 5PM, a public meeting at 5:30 and a hearing at 7:30. There was no formal notice given to citizens about this meeting and no normal, formal, or procedural process was followed for notifications to effected citizens of these meetings took place. The irregular and unusual schedule of having all these “required” meetings happen all on the same evening, within a 2-hour time frame was unusual and non-typical for government agencies. This schedule did not provide citizens with time to research or fully digest all the information being presented, before the public meeting took place. A open house is intended to provide information so citizens can research and return with questions or concerns, the meeting should be held for those citizens to express concerns and ask relevant questions.

The rush was clearly due to the application being put in June 27th and the EFSEC was running to close to the 60 day window for an expedited process, the EFSEC stuffed all three meetings into one event. This was NOT the intent of the law and is not normal procedure for EFSEC to schedule these meeting in this manner. Other projects community open houses, meetings and hearings took place on different days.

According the EFSEC presentation that was presented on August 13, 2024 to the public the EFSEC has oversight of

*For siting and permitting of large-scale thermal power plants, nuclear facilities, natural gas and oil pipelines, oil refineries, and underground natural gas storage fields are only facilities requiring certification.**

Any nuclear power facility where the primary purpose is to produce and sell electricity. → non hydro, non-nuclear thermal power plants 350MW or greater. → Clean energy product manufacturing facilities related to clean energy production and transport. (RCW 80.50.020(23)) → Alternative energy resources (Renewable Green or electrolytic Hydrogen production facilities (RCW 80.50.020 (1)(g)), wind, solar, geothermal, wave/tidal, landfill gas, biomass, etc.) “any size may opt-in”. → Transmission Lines greater than 115kV may “opt-in”. Lines greater than 500kV are required. → Pipelines → Refineries and Storage Facilities

The Proposal fails to define the criteria for “storage facilities”.

This proposed BESS project in Sedro Woolley in none of the above listed things. Therefor the presentation made by the EFSEC was intended to lead the public to believe this site fell under this category of authority.

In this case Tenaska is not a “utility” as defined by A Utility is defined as:

RCW 9A.61.010 6) "Utility" means an electrical company, gas company, or water company as those terms are defined in RCW **80.04.010**, and includes an electrical, gas, or water system operated by a public agency.

At best it is a private for-profit storage warehouse of a commodity (which happens to be energy).

Energy Arbitrage Or put another way, the purchasing and selling of electricity to power the BESS asset. As such, BESS assets can earn revenue by purchasing electricity to charge the system during periods of low electricity prices and by selling electricity to the grid when prices are high.

The commodity (energy) is purchased (NOT PRODUCED). The project summary clearly states it is a “stand alone facility”. This BESS Process is clearly intended to be a simple transactional event for profit and benefit of a private company. The BESS is not producing, transmitting nor connecting any electrical plant and is not REQUIRED for the efficient operation and safety as per the definition of “associated facilities” RCW 80.50.020

(4) "Associated facilities" means storage, transmission, handling, or other related and supporting facilities connecting an energy plant with the existing energy supply, processing, or distribution system, including, but not limited to, communications, controls, mobilizing or maintenance equipment, instrumentation, and other types of ancillary transmission equipment, off-line storage or venting required for efficient operation or safety of the transmission system and overhead, and surface or subsurface lines of physical access for the inspection, maintenance, and safe operations of the transmission facility and new transmission lines constructed to operate at nominal voltages of at least 115,000 volts to connect a thermal power plant or alternative energy facilities to the northwest power grid. However, common carrier railroads or motor vehicles shall not be included.

The house bill 1812-2021-22 states

"Storage facility" means a plant that: (a) Accepts electricity as an energy source and uses a chemical, thermal, mechanical, or other process to store energy for subsequent delivery or consumption in the form of electricity; or (b) stores renewable hydrogen or green electrolytic hydrogen for subsequent delivery or consumption.

This Warehouse is specifically designed to use some of the power it takes from the grid as a consumer, as it is an industrial building privately owned. The Company then SELLS back the stored power to the utility, the utility is who then subsequently delivers the power. Purchasing energy for profit to sell back is NOT a system that is not defined as allowed by state governance.

This entire project from appears to be nothing less than government corruption. A private for-profit company established a relationship with the EFSEC as a “PRODUCER” of power in eastern WA. This same company then used that relationship to manipulate the agency for the purpose of gaining access to otherwise protected lands, outside of the authority of the EFSEC’s strictly outlined and defined guidance.

As described in the project description on the EFSEC website

The Project Area was selected by the Applicant for its favorable site suitability characteristics, including proximity to electrical infrastructure, level terrain and opportunities for efficient

construction. The Project will have a number of benefits to the local community and Washington state. Construction of the Project will support up to 50 jobs during peak construction and 2 permanent jobs during operations. The Project will also provide Skagit County with additional tax revenue. In addition, construction of this renewable energy resource will help Washington meet its goal of 100 percent clean electricity supply as set forth in the Clean Energy Transformation Act, passed by the Washington legislature in 2019.

These favorable and suitable characteristics ONLY exist because of the protected nature of the Skagit County Farmlands and the moratorium in place by Skagit County to restrict building and subdividing of this land.

The EFSEC presented on the Expedited process per **WAC 463-43-030** All parts of the expedited process state the compliance with City, county and regional land use plans is necessary.

(2) The project is found to be consistent and in compliance with city, county, or regional land use plans.

The current proposal should not be able to allowed into an expedited process, as it does not meet any of the county regional land use requirements. All parts of WAC 463.43 reference meeting county land use plans.

WAC 463-43-080

Recommendation—Transmittal to governor.

Within sixty days following the granting of expedited processing or such later time as is mutually agreed by the applicant and the council, the council shall forward its recommendation, and if the recommendation is for approval, the council will also forward a copy of a draft site certification agreement to the governor.

This drop-dead date would be August 27, 2024. Unless otherwise agreed upon by the EFSEC and the company. This is a critical timeline that was not provided to Citizens during the presentation. The Citizen was simply told the steps and not the actual dates. This has very bad optics for EFSEC, the county, the Governor's office as well as the legislature.

This process for citizens notifications is riddled with inconsistency, questions, and concerns. The County permitting found incorrect information in the engineering, design, and property environmental information. The fire dist. is woefully under trained and under equipped for any facility of this type in this area. FEMA has not been involved to help the county, EFSEC or the company to understand what would be needed if an evacuation would be required due to fire. Evacuation of livestock, schools, elderly, a local hospital. The long-term environmental impacts have not been properly researched because much of the required information is missing from the contractor. The project is proposed in a earthquake prone area, a lahar zone, a flood zone and within feet of residential properties.

With all these concerns, questions, and lack of proper procedure being followed this project should be immediately rejected at this time for this location.

Sincerely,

Connie Krier

Connie Krier, SMS

CC:

EFSEC Committee

Skagit County Council

Fire Dist 8

Sedro Woolley City Council

Sedro Woolley Fire Department

Skagit County Planning Department

Brandi Kruse The Undivided

Kiro 7 News / Komo 4 News / Q13 News

Skagit Valley Herald

WA Farm Bureau / Skagit Genuine / Skagit Farm association/

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: tyminskikeith@gmail.com

Received: 2024-08-16T20:19:11+00:00

Subject: BESS Sedro-Woolley

Has attachment? False

External Email

EFSEC committee

This letter is to oppose the Goldeneye BESS warehouse project being reviewed, for Minkler Road in Sedro Woolley.

My objection are due to the following concerns, and unanswered critical topics at this time.

The Environmental impact of this facility being located on property with a salmon creek that drains into the Skagit River. The overall impact of irreparable damage to local agricultural farmland. The noise pollution that will be produced by 14 acres of industrial fans running at maximum capacity 24/7, in an otherwise peaceful and quiet farmland. With no noise pollution from industry.

The Human impact of this project in case of emergency (fire, flood, earthquake) if an evaluation is required no emergency plan is currently in place. Our local emergency services only having 2 full time fire fighters in dist 8 and not having adequate staffing or equipment for fighting a fire of this nature. The impact to human life, well water and livestock if a fire were to occur in this area would be catastrophic. The proximity to residential homes, schools, churches and organic farmlands all within a 1 mile radius is an unreasonably risky location for a facility of this type.

The government overreach of the EFSEC to allow a private for profit warehouses to circumvent local county zoning and permitting, through an expedited process. The sole purpose of this stand alone facility is for the sale of a commodity. This is non essential warehouse and could be built elsewhere with the same level of benefit to the state, creating less impact to the environment and people.

This specific location provides no additional benefits to the state or citizens verses building this structure in an industrial or commercial area. Grays Harbor and Chehalis BESS sites are located in industrial areas. The only benefit received from this location, in a environmentally critical area and on historic agricultural farmlands, is a lower building cost and higher profit margin for the privately owned for profit company.

Therefore as a citizen of this community who will be burdened with additional taxes to support emergency services, and whose life could be forever impacted from this facility, I strongly oppose the permitting of this site for Goldeneye BESS.

Sincerely,
Keith Tyminski

Attachments:

[]

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: sheilaroppel892@gmail.com

Received: 2024-08-16T21:13:15+00:00

Subject: Battery storage facility

Has attachment? False

External Email

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1054570489577476/permalink/1055069082860950/?app=fb>

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: rubysbrenda@gmail.com

Received: 2024-08-16T21:16:27+00:00

Subject: Goldeneye BESS warehouse project on Minkler Rd

Has attachment? False

External Email

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

621 woodland square loop se

Lacey, WA 98503

EFSEC committee

This letter is to oppose the Goldeneye BESS warehouse project being reviewed, for Minkler Road in Sedro Woolley.

My objection are due to the following concerns, and unanswered critical topics at this time.

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The Human impact of this project in case of emergency (fire, flood, earthquake) if an evacuation is required no emergency plan is currently in place. Our local emergency services only having 2 full time fire fighters in Dist 8 and not having adequate staffing or equipment for fighting a fire of this nature. The impact to human life, well water and livestock if a fire were to occur in this area would be catastrophic. The proximity to residential homes, schools, churches and organic farmlands all within a 1 mile radius is an unreasonably risky location for a facility of this type.

This specific location provides no additional benefits to the state or citizens verses building this structure in an industrial or commercial area. Grays Harbor and Chehalis BESS sites are located in industrial areas. The only benefit received from this location, in an environmentally critical area and on historic agricultural farmlands, is a lower building cost and higher profit margin for the privately owned for profit company.

Therefore, as a citizen of this community who will be burdened with additional taxes to support emergency services, and whose life could be forever impacted from this facility, I strongly oppose the permitting of this site for Goldeneye BESS.

Sincerely,

Brenda Belisle

Sedro-Woolley home owner

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: erica98284@hotmail.com

Received: 2024-08-17T06:21:14+00:00

Subject: Sedro Woolley Project

Has attachment? False

External Email Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council 621 woodland square loop se Lacey, WA 98503 EFSEC committee This letter is to oppose the Goldeneye BESS warehouse project being reviewed, for Minkler Road in Sedro Woolley. My objection are due to the following concerns, and unanswered critical topics at this time. The Environmental impact of this facility being located on property with a salmon creek that drains into the Skagit River. The overall impact of irreparable damage to local agricultural farmland. The noise pollution that will be produced by 14 acres of industrial fans running at maximum capacity 24/7, in an otherwise peaceful and quiet farmland. With no noise pollution from industry. The Human impact of this project in case of emergency (fire, flood, earthquake) if an evacuation is required no emergency plan is currently in place. Our local emergency services only having 2 full time fire fighters in Dist 8 and not having adequate staffing or equipment for fighting a fire of this nature. The impact to human life, well water and livestock if a fire were to occur in this area would be catastrophic. The proximity to residential homes, schools, churches and organic farmlands all within a 1 mile radius is an unreasonably risky location for a facility of this type. This specific location provides no additional benefits to the state or citizens verses building this structure in an industrial or commercial area. Grays Harbor and Chehalis BESS sites are located in industrial areas. The only benefit received from this location, in an environmentally critical area and on historic agricultural farmlands, is a lower building cost and higher profit margin for the privately owned for profit company. Therefore, as a citizen of this community who will be burdened with additional taxes to support emergency services, and whose life could be forever impacted from this facility, I strongly oppose the permitting of this site for Goldeneye BESS. Sincerely, Erica Griffith Sent from my iPhone

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov;commissioners@co.skagit.wa.us;zia.ahmed@efsec.wa.gov

From: cckrier@gmail.com

Received: 2024-08-19T21:53:32+00:00

Subject: goldeneye BESS oposition, due to housing crisis

Has attachment? False

External Email

To whom It may concern

This letter is to address EFSEC and their use of residential lands for BESS projects.

This state is in a long term housing crisis and allowing industrial style energy facilities to be built on lands otherwise designated as residential is an anti housing practice.

This property in Sedro Woolley currently contains 2 livable residential dwellings (one of which is a rental) that will be demolished to make way for this BESS facility. The contractor states only that "structures" will be removed, and fails to mention the removal of 2 viable residential homes.

This move by WA state to circumvent local permitting, in order to destroy residential housing, for the profit of a private energy firm is nothing less than corrupt.

Residential homes cannot be built in industrial areas, yet requesting permitting for industrial BESS facilities on residential land is now becoming a normal practice for energy firms, due to EFSECs ability to take over permitting from the county auhtority.

The removal of viable residential land from the market is not helpful to solve our housing crisis and in fact makes it worse.

This practice will increase property values making it harder for people to buy homes and land, make housing less and more expensive, it will create higher costs for rent due to less housing and prevent cities from being able to annex in otherwise viable county land for future housing needs.

This BESS facility is located in an area that could in time be easily annexed into the city of sedro woolley, for additional subdivision and housing, due to its proximity to city limits.

These properties are not going on the market for sale to housing builders, but rather being cherry picked by energy firms for their proximity to cities and easy ability to build upon. Both of thos qualities are the same desirable traits for housing builders.

By using EFSEC these firm have no competition to these properties and no local interest in our housing crisis. This is an abuse of EFSECs power, and is in contrast to its mission of bettering WA.

These BESS facilities being prosed, Like Goldeneye in Sedro Woolley, are a direct anti housing move by the state of WA and will fuel our housing crisis and drive it further into dispare.

I oppose the Goldeneye BESS facility.

Connie Krier

Attachments:

□

From: Amanda Pederson <amanda.aj@ORL2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2013 1:12 PM
To: 'L' <L@...>
Subject: Re: Concerned citizen

External Email

Contact Sheet

Full name:	Email:	Phone #
55. Debbie Moxley		360-333-3701
56. Allen H. Talbot		360-547-9284
57. Renee Artr		360-610-8921
58. Jessica Mason	jessicamason74@gmail.com	
59. Bernice Marly		360-421-7078
60. Angella Apple	arapple39@gmail.com	360.230-0381

61 Rhonda Ammons
Rhonda Ammons
360-630-1063

STOP the lithium battery storage site in Sedro Woolley

I am opposed to this site:

S Signature: C Allen

54. Jane C. Allen

55. Debbie Moxley

56. Allen H. Talbot

57. Renee Ortiz

58. Jessica Mason

59. Bernice Marty

Print Full name:

Jane C. Allen

Debbie Moxley

Allen H. Talbot

Renee Ortiz

Jessica Mason

Bernice Marty

60. Angela R. Apple

Angela R. Apple

61 Rhonda Ammons
Rhonda Ammons
360-630-1063

STOP the lithium battery storage site in
Sedro Woolley

I am opposed to this site:

Signature:

Print Full name:

30. Gary Humphreys	Gary C. Humphreys
31. Kris Altizer	Kris Altizer
32. Neenia Stevens	Neenia Stevens
33. Audrey Nash	Audrey Nash
34. Michael Nash	Michael Nash
35. John V. Barker	John V. Barker
36. Lara Joy Gaggins	Lara Joy Gaggins
37. Derek Redding	Derek Redding
38. Kelly J. Jordan	Kelly J. Jordan
39. DR. ROBERT L. LIND	DR. ROBERT L. LIND
40. HAYLEY PARKER	HAYLEY PARKER
41. Adriana Parker	Adriana Parker
42. Stephanie Eliason	STEPHANIE ELIASON
43. 451e SWAIN	451e SWAIN
44. Terrence Folk	Terrence Folk
45. Kayla Patterson	Kayla Patterson
46. Nikki Clontz	Nikki Clontz
47. Trey Clontz	Trey Clontz
48. Fred	Fred
49. Justin Michael Gandy	Justin Michael Gandy
50. Keith Tyninski	Keith Tyninski
51. Kelly Rothenbuhler	Kelly Rothenbuhler
52. Kimberly S Ryan	Kimberly S Ryan
53. Dennis A Collier	Dennis A Collier

Contact Sheet

	Name	email	phone
S 1.	Karen Wilson		360 932-4113
2.	Amanda Pederson	Amanda.elijan0812@gmail.com	360 941-1614
3.	JUDITH THOLSTRUP	Karl.judy@comcast.net	360-941-5352
4.	Debra Bell	dbell@Comcast.net	360 9821707
5.	Cristal Hernandez	300-540-8834	
6.	Tara Carrell	stouttarabode@gmail.com	
7.	Nicole Ellis	ellisx5@gmail.com	
8.	Tim Lanata		360 899-5012
9.	Rose Lanata	ylamrock85@yahoo.com	360-708-3144
10.	Jackie Coggins	Jackie.Coggins074@gmail.com	360 422-0883
11.	John Coggins		360 630 4357
12.	Sharon Howe	glaze.sha@gmail.com	360-254-9854
13.	Mark Carrell	marka.carrell@gmail.com	
14.	Bryton Lengel		
15.	Annette Maes	amaes855@gmail.com	206-660-4926
16.	W.W. Peters III		
17.	Debby Peters	debby.ptrs@gmail.com	360-540-5511
18.	Diana Reper		360-856-0483
19.	John Sladner	j.hunnylee7085@gmail.com	360 333-0840
20.	James Beattie	gymnax44@comcast.net	360-708-1101
21.	IDA WHIDDEN		856-9994
22.	MARION WHIDDEN		856-9984
23.	Karen J. Adams	adamspk2@frontier.com	360 856-4198
24.	Carrie Russell	giggly73@msn.com	360 707-1923
25.	Larry up the grove	GroveccioLJ3980@live.com	425-512-3702
26.			
27.	TAWNA M. BEATTIE	24919 HOEHO Rd # 67	360-708-805
28.	Mario Rocha	Jazzrocha406@gmail.com	360 420 5636
29.	Will Good		360 503 7922
	John Henry Henman	goldhands59@gmail.com	

Contact Sheet

Full name: Email: Phone #

- 30. Hay Lamphear 360-856-4488
- 31. ~~Krisa~~ Krisa1387@outlook.com 360-840-6566
- 32. Neenia Stevens neeniaStevens@gmail.com 360-770-2368
- 33. Audrey Nash vedhotgma@gmail 425-238-6426
- 34. Michael Nash crash345@gmail 360-399-1795
- 35. John Becker piclit@hotmail.com 425-350-3029
- 36. Lara Coggins moorelara0702@gmail.com 360-819-8867
- 37. Derek Reading derekreading@hotmail.com 360-420-1400
- 38. Kelly Jordan Kettg K5Jordan987@gmail.com 509-969-2867
- 39. DAVID ROBERT LSLIE
- 40. HAYLEY HEATHER PARKER haylesmay85@gmail.com 360)421-0177
- 41. Adrianna Parkete AdriannaParker2012@gmail.com
- 42. Stephanie Eliason 552-6980
- 43. ~~S & S~~ 360-941-9291
- 44. Terry Folk 406-552-3945
- 45. Kayla Patterson k.rose.patterson@gmail.com (360) 707-1823
- 46. Nikki Clontz nikkijo7172@gmail.com (360) 935-1424
- 47. Trey Clontz clontz+93@gmail.com 5645650554
- 48. ~~John~~ 539-46-7029
- 49. Justin Michael Gandy justinmgandy@gmail.com 360-202-9766
- 50. Keith Tyminski tyminskikeith@gmail.com 360 840 2635
- 51. Kelly Rothenbuhler kjrothenbuhler@outlook.com 360-770-1198
- 52. Kimberly Ryan mommak775@icloud.com 775 389 7200
- 53. Dennis Colleen Dennis Colleen@gmail.com 360 630 7811
- 54. Jane L. Colleen cookiesforcolleen4@gmail.com 360 410 2188

29. John Henry Herriman

John HENRY HERRIMAN

- 1. ~~John Henry Herriman~~
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- 3. ~~John Henry Herriman~~
- 4. ~~John Henry Herriman~~
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- 48. ~~John Henry Herriman~~
- 49. ~~John Henry Herriman~~
- 50. ~~John Henry Herriman~~

STOP the lithium battery storage site in Sedro-Woolley
I am opposed to this site:

- | | Sign: | name: |
|-----|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | <i>Karen A. Wilson</i> | Karen A. Wilson |
| 2. | <i>Amanda J. Pederson</i> | Amanda J. Pederson |
| 3. | <i>Judith Tholstrup</i> | JUDITH THOLSTRUP |
| 4. | <i>Debra Bell</i> | Debra Bell |
| 5. | <i>Cristal Hernumder</i> | Cristal Hernumder |
| 6. | <i>Tara Carrell</i> | Tara Carrell |
| 7. | <i>Nicole Ellis</i> | Nicole Ellis |
| 8. | <i>Tim Lanata</i> | Tim Lanata |
| 9. | <i>Rose Lanata</i> | Rose Lanata |
| 10. | <i>Jackie Coggin</i> | Jackie Coggin |
| 11. | <i>Sharon Howe</i> | Sharon Howe |
| 12. | <i>Merk Carrell</i> | Merk Carrell |
| 13. | <i>Breyon Lanata</i> | Breyon Lanata |
| 14. | <i>John Coggin</i> | John Coggin |
| 15. | <i>Annette Mae</i> | Annette Mae |
| 16. | <i>Wilbur William Peters III</i> | Wilbur William Peters III |
| 17. | <i>Debbie K. Peters</i> | Debbie K. PETERS |
| 18. | <i>Diana Regal</i> | Diana Regal |
| 19. | <i>John Slayter</i> | John Slayter |
| 20. | <i>James Beattie</i> | James Beattie |
| 21. | <i>IDA Whidden</i> | IDA Whidden |
| 22. | <i>MARION Whidden</i> | MARION Whidden |
| 23. | <i>Karen I. Adams</i> | Karen I. Adams |
| 24. | <i>Carrie Russell</i> | Carrie Russell |
| 25. | <i>Larry Uthegrouse</i> | Larry Uthegrouse |
| 26. | <i>Tanna M. Beattie</i> | TANNA M. BEATTIE |
| 27. | <i>Manio Rocha</i> | <i>Manio Rocha</i> |
| 28. | <i>Will Good</i> | <i>Will Good</i> |

Comments@efsec.wa.gov

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

621 woodland square loop se

Lacey, WA 98503

EFSEC committee

This letter is to oppose the Goldeneye BESS warehouse project being reviewed, for Minkler Road in Sedro Woolley.

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Sincerely,

Comments@efsec.wa.gov

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621 woodland square loop se

Lacey, WA 98503

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This specific location provides no additional benefits to the state or citizens verses building this structure in an industrial or commercial area. Grays Harbor and Chehalis BESS sites are located in industrial areas. The only benefit received from this location, in an environmentally critical area and on historic agricultural farmlands, is a lower building cost and higher profit margin for the privately owned for profit company.

Therefore, as a citizen of this community who will be burdened with additional taxes to support emergency services, and whose life could be forever impacted from this facility, I strongly oppose the permitting of this site for Goldeneye BESS.

Sincerely,

STOP the lithium battery storage site in
Sedro Woolley

I am opposed to this site:

Signature:

Print Full name:

Harry Langhans

~~Kris Altizer~~

Neenia Stevens Neenia Steven

Audrey Nash

Michael Nash

~~John V. Barker~~

Lara Joy Egginis

Kelly J. Jordan

AKW

Gary C. Hampshire

Kris Altizer

Neenia Stevens

Audrey Nash

Michael Nash

John V. Barker

Lara Joy Egginis

Kerry Redding

Kelly J. Jordan
DORIS ROSE LISC

Contact Sheet

Full name:

Email:

Phone #

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Derek Kallins	derekcallins@hotmail.com	360-420-1406
Kelly Jordan	KellyKJordan987@gmail.com	509-949-2867

DAVID STEWART LSLIE

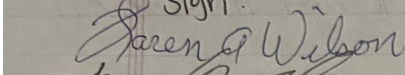
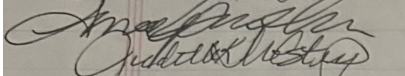
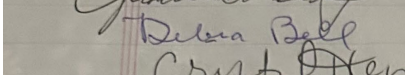
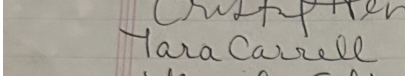
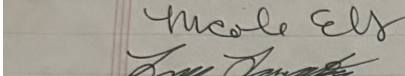
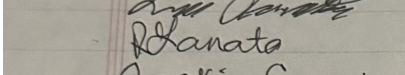
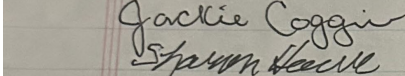
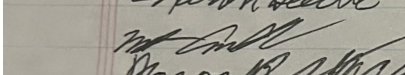
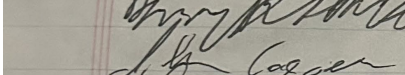
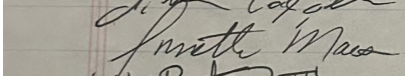
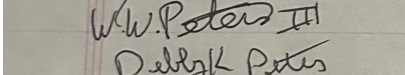
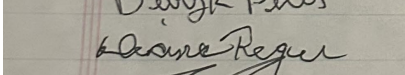
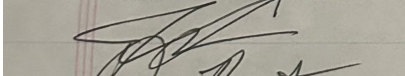
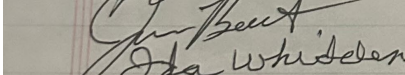
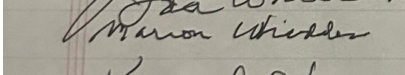
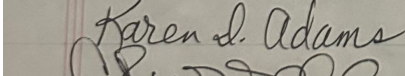
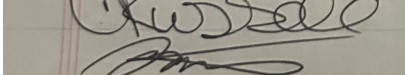
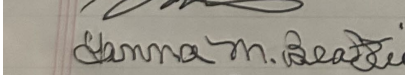
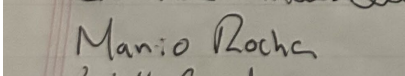
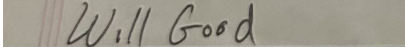








Contact Sheet

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MARION Whidden		856-9984
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TANNA M. BEATTIE	24919 HOBART Rd # 67	360-708- 6805
Mario Rocha	Jazzrocha406@gmail.com	360 420 5636
Will Good		360 503 7922
John Henry Hermann	goldhands59@gmail.com	

John Henry Herriman John HENRY HERRIMAN

[The remainder of the page contains extremely faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper.]

STOP the lithium battery storage site in Sedro-Woolley
I am opposed to this site:

Sign:	name:
	Karen A. Wilson
	Amanda J. Pederson
	JUDITH THOLSTRUP
	Debra Bell
	Cristul Hernuole
	Tara Carrell
	Nicole Ellis
	Tim Lanata
	Rose Lanata
	Jackie Coggins
	Sharon Howe
	Mark Carrell
	Brejon Lanata
	John Coggins
	Annette Mages
	Wilbur William Peters II
	DEBBY K. PETERS
	Diana Reges
	John Slayter
	James Beattie
	IDA Whidden
	MARION Whidden
	Karen I. Adams
	Carrie Russell
	Larry Uthegrouse
	TANNA M. BEATTIE
	Manio Rocha
	Will Good

On Wed, Aug 14, 2024 at 12:57 PM Amanda Pederson <amanda.pederson123@gmail.com> wrote:

To whom this my concern.

Hi I'm reaching out to voice my concerns on behalf of myself, my family, our community here at the Van Fleet Mobile Home Park and residents of Sedro Woolley, WA.

This proposal has raised huge concerns among many people who live near the surrounding area of this proposed project. If this project is approved the city of Sedro Woolley will be placing the lives of it's tax paying citizens in immense fear and uncertainty of the future for their lives and potentially at fault for the deaths of many. These dangers should be considered when it comes to protecting the lives of the people of our community.

I'm a full time single stay at home disabled mother of two young children. I own my mobile home in the Van Fleet mobile home park but rent a space. I'm on a fixed income, how am I supposed to pay to move my home to insure the safety of my children. I cannot afford to sell and rent somewhere else with the way the economy is. I have searched every avenue possible and I found no solution for my situation if this proposal were to pass. Is this city of Sedro Woolley going to pay to move my home to a safer neighborhood?

All I want for my children is for them to be safe, healthy and happy.

I never thought I would have to stress over something such as this. I have Multiple Sclerosis and Fibromyalgia and stress triggers relapses so I'm really trying not to worry too much. I'm praying that God protects us and this situation.

I have many questions and if this passes I will be seeking legal advice and action, as well as many others.

Thank you for your time and God bless.

Amanda Pederson
360-963-3524
amanda.pederson123@gmail.com
47121 Van Fleet Rd apt 48
Sedro Woolley, WA 98254

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: klcummings6860@icloud.com

Received: 2024-08-20T03:23:48+00:00

Subject: Goldeneye BESS warehouse

Has attachment? False

External Email

EFSEC committee

This letter is to oppose the Goldeneye BESS warehouse project being reviewed, for Minkler Road in Sedro Woolley.

My objection are due to the following concerns, and unanswered critical topics at this time.

The Environmental impact of this facility being located on property with a salmon creek that drains into the Skagit River. The overall impact of irreparable damage to local agricultural farmland. The noise pollution that will be produced by 14 acres of industrial fans running at maximum capacity 24/7, in an otherwise peaceful and quiet farmland. With no noise pollution from industry.

The Human impact of this project in case of emergency (fire, flood, earthquake) if an evacuation is required no emergency plan is currently in place. Our local emergency services only having 2 full time fire fighters in dist 8 and not having adequate staffing or equipment for fighting a fire of this nature. The impact to human life, well water and livestock if a fire were to occur in this area would be catstophic. The proximity to residential homes, schools, churches and organic farmlands all within a 1 mile radius is an unreasonably risky location for a facility of this type.

The government overreach of the EFSEC to allow a private for profit warehouses to circumvent local county zoning and permitting, through an expidited process. Tge sole pupose of this stand alone facility is for the sale of a commodity. This is non essential warehouse and could be built elsewhere with the same level of benefit to the state, creating less impact to the environment and people.

This specific location provides no additional benefits to the state or citizens verses building this structure in an industrial or commercial area. Grays Harbor and Chehalis BESS sites are located in industrial areas. The only benefit recieved from this location, in a environmentally critical area and on historic agricultural farmlands, is a lower building cost and higher profit margin for the privately owned for profit company.

Therefore as a citizen of this community who will be burdened with additional taxes to support emergency services, and whose life could be forever impacted from this facility, I strongly oppose the permitting of this site for Goldeneye BESS.

Sincerely,
Katherine Cummings

Attachments:

[]

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: efsec@efsec.wa.gov

Received: 2024-08-20T15:31:13+00:00

Subject: FW: Additional comments on the proposed Goldeneye battery storage facility from Friends of Skagit County

Has attachment? False

From: Ellen Bynum <skye@cnw.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:30:50 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>

Cc: Commissioner Lisa Janicki, BOCC <ljanicki@co.skagit.wa.us>; Commissioner Ron Wesen, BOCC <ronw@co.skagit.wa.us>; Commissioner Peter Browning <pbrowning@co.skagit.wa.us>; Skagit County PD&S Comments <pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us>; Robby Eckroth, AICP, PDS Sr. Planner <reckroth@co.skagit.wa.us>; Jack Moore, Director, SCPD&S <jrmoore@co.skagit.wa.us>; Sarah Stoner <sstoner@co.skagit.wa.us>; Justin Hayton - Ag. Adv. Board <Northfork.inc@gmail.com>; Michael Hughes, Chair - Ag. Adv. Board <michael@hughesfarms.net>; Cindy Kleinhuizen - Ag. Adv. Board <ckdoubleo11@hotmail.com>; Nels Lagerlund - Ag. Adv. Board <lagerwood1@frontier.com>; John Morrison - Ag. Adv. Board <johnmorrisonfarms@gmail.com>; Kim Mower - Ag. Adv. Board <k.mower@yahoo.com>; Steve Omdal - Port of Skagit <steve@portofskagit.com>; Terry Sapp - SC Ag Adv. Board <tfsapp@gmail.com>; Steve Skrinde - Ag. Adv. Board <steveskrinde@gmail.com>; Deidre Stroosma <stroosma5@yahoo.com>; Michael Trafton - Ag. Adv. Board <telesis.trafton@gmail.com>; Steve Wright - Ag. Adv. Board <swright@farmersequip.com>; Tammy Candler, Vice-Chair - SCPC <tcandler@skagitgov.net>; Vince Henley - SCPC <vhenley@skagitgov.net>; Amy Hughes - SCPC <ahughes@skagitgov.net>; Jen Hutchison - SCPC <jhutchison@skagitgov.net>; Kathy Mitchell - SCPC <kmitchell@skagitgov.net>; Tim Raschko, Chair, SCPC <timr@skagitgov.net>; Martha Rose - SCPC <mrose@skagitgov.net>; Joe Woodmansee - SCPC <JWoodmansee@skagitgov.net>; Kim Good Rubenstein, Pres. SPF <kimkce@aim.com>

Subject: Additional comments on the proposed Goldeneye battery storage facility from Friends of Skagit County

External Email

Resource lands under the 1990 Growth Management Act (GMA) are farms, forests and mineral lands. The GMA required counties to first identify and protect all of the natural resource lands (NRLs) to conserve and protect the economic base of most rural counties. Once identified and protected by zoning these lands could only be converted to other zones and uses if there was a mapping error in the Comprehensive Plans, a change in the state law or through a Special Use Permit.

From past Growth Management Hearings Board Cases brought in Skagit County:

- A DR which allows non-agricultural uses in an agricultural RL and does not require such use to be temporary and does not prohibit leaching of toxins, does not comply with the GMA and the county's own agricultural conservation policies. Evergreen v. Skagit County 00-2-0046c (FDO, 2-6-01)
- Where a DR allows a number of uses in RLs, which fail to comply with recent State Supreme Court decisions such uses fail to comply with the GMA. **Requiring a special use permit does not remedy this failure to comply.** Evergreen v. Skagit County 00-2-0046c (FDO, 2-6-01) **Emphasis added.**

The Skagit County Code SCC 14.16.900 Special use permit requires at (A) *The proposed use will be compatible with existing and planned land use.*

We disagree that the proposed use complies with the Skagit County Code or is compatible with existing and planned land use. The RCWs and Skagit County Codes require that land zoned Agriculture - Natural Resource Lands (Ag-NRL) must be used for farming and agricultural activities and that accessory uses must also be soil-dependent, farming related activities. This project does not qualify for being sited in Ag-NRL regardless of how convenient, advantageous or profitable it is for Goldeneye to purchase, develop and operate.

Goldeneye BESS has abandoned the Skagit County Special Use Permit process in favor of the EFSECs certification process which does

not appear to consider the requirements of **RCW 36.70A.103. State agencies required to comply with comprehensive** plans that states:

"...**State agencies shall comply with the local comprehensive plans and development regulations and amendments** thereto adopted pursuant to this chapter except as otherwise provided ... (and) do not affect the state's authority to site any other essential public facility under RCW 36.070A.200 in conformance with local comprehensive plans and development regulations adopted pursuant to chapter 36.70A RCW. **Emphasis added.**

RCW 36.70A.200 Siting of essential public facilities - Limitation on liability (Effective until Jan. 1, 2026.) states at (b) "...Unless a facility is expressly listed in (a) of this subsection...". The Goldeneye BESS is NOT an essential public facility.

The Rural Clean Energy Legislative Report as required by the 2021-2023 Capital Budget section 1064(14)(a) focuses on agricultural related energy programs. The report ignores WA State law RCW 36.70A.103.

Sec. 9. RCW 80.50.090 and 2006 c c205 s 3 and 206 c 196 s 6 were reenacted and amended to read as follows:

"... (2) Subsequent to the information public hearing, the council shall conduct a public hearing to determine whether or not the proposed site is consistent and in compliance with city, county, or regional and use plans or zoning ordinances...on the date of the application...".

The public notice in the County Commissioners' Agenda did not include a notice of the second public hearing that was held after the first information hearing. The Public Notice in the Skagit Valley Herald did include a notice of the land use hearing. Neither notice cited the requirements of RCW 36.70A.103.

Neither the Land Use Consistency Review by TetraTec nor the Dudek memo of August 15, 2023 Alternatives Analysis for the Goldeneye Energy Storage Project Special Use Application File #PL23-023 considers RCW 36.70A.103.

We have seen no cumulative impacts review of the proximity to existing businesses operating via special use permits as required under SCC 14.16.900 (I).

Neither the Public Informational Hearing or the Land Use Consistency Hearing held August 13, 2024 at Sedro Woolley included information regarding state agencies required compliance with RCW RCW 36.70A.103 and analysis of compliance with local comprehensive plans and development regulations.

The announcement for the August 13th meetings states that the application for certification (ASC) for the project had already been submitted to the WA EFSEC.

The proposed use IS NOT allowed in the Ag-NRL zone in the Skagit Comprehensive Plan, policies or codes. Skagit County has a long history of denying requests to use farmland for non-agricultural commercial uses, starting before the Growth Management Act passed in 1990.

Ag-NRLs are so classified by the type of soils they contain. Skagit's different soils types are recognized as the top 1-2% in yield per acre in the world. In 1925 Skagit potato farms produced the highest yield per acre in the U.S. from Skagit's farmland soils. Skagit County's commitment to conserving these soils for food and fiber production has continued from the time the area was drained and diked for farming. The Farmland Legacy Program, a local tax to purchase development rights off of farmland, started because a County survey showed that more than 90% of Skagitonians supported preserving farmland.

Friends of Skagit County asks that the EFSEC deny certification to the Goldeneye BESS on the proposed 15 acres of Ag-NRL and requests the proponent(s) find other land that would be in compliance with the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan, policies and codes as well as the WA State Growth Management Act.

Ellen Bynum, Executive Director
Friends of Skagit County
PO Box 2632 (mailing)
419 S. Main St., #207
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-2632
360-419-0988; friends@fidalgo.net
www.friendsofskagitcounty.org
"A valley needs FRIENDS"
Since 1994 - Common Goals - Common Ground - Common Good
DONATE NOW at Network for Good.

Attachments:

□

From: [Bjorn Lunde](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Lithium Plant near Sedro Wooley
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 12:51:31 PM
Attachments: [LithiumPlant_20240822.pdf](#)

External Email

I oppose the proposed site: Please see the attached letter.
Thanks for your careful consideration!

Comments@efsec.wa.gov

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

621 woodland square loop se

Lacey, WA 98503

EFSEC committee

This letter is to oppose the Goldeneye BESS warehouse project being reviewed, for Minkler Road in Sedro Woolley.

My objection are due to the following concerns, and unanswered critical topics at this time.

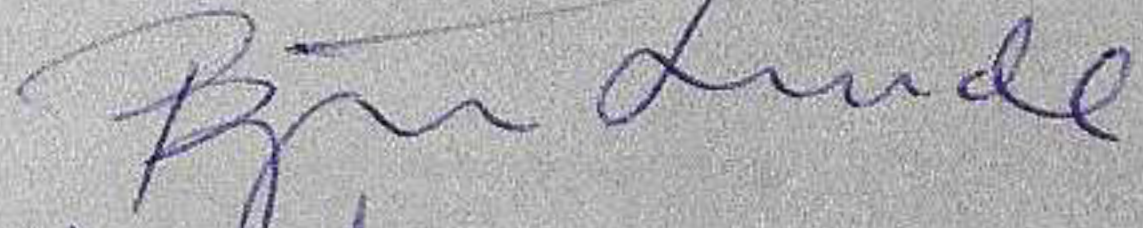
The Environmental impact of this facility being located on property with a salmon creek that drains into the Skagit River. The overall impact of irreparable damage to local agricultural farmland. The noise pollution that will be produced by 14 acres of industrial fans running at maximum capacity 24/7, in an otherwise peaceful and quiet farmland. With no noise pollution from industry.

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Therefore, as a citizen of this community who will be burdened with additional taxes to support emergency services, and whose life could be forever impacted from this facility, I strongly oppose the permitting of this site for Goldeneye BESS.

Sincerely,


Bjorn Lunde

360-265-2775

From: [Joshua Pelonio](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [DOR Skagit County Leg Authority](#); jcarpenter@skagitfire8.org; fwagner@sedro-woolley.gov; skagitfire16@gmail.com
Subject: Goldeneye BESS Application - Opposition Letter
Date: Monday, August 26, 2024 3:36:24 PM
Attachments: [Goldeneve BESS Opposition Letter.pdf](#)

External Email

Good afternoon,

Please find the attached letter opposing the application for the proposed Battery Energy Storage System sited in Skagit County.

Respectfully,

Josh Pelonio
1218 Bradley Ct
Burlington, WA 98233
425-503-3605

August 26, 2024

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

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in strong opposition to the proposed Battery Energy Storage System ("BESS") by Goldfinch Energy Storage, LLC to be sited on agricultural land adjacent to Hansen Creek in unincorporated Skagit County. I have numerous concerns regarding this project, but as an emergency services professional, I will focus on the fire and hazardous material risks to the community and the potential impact on our local emergency services.

In April 2019, a thermal chain-reaction caused by a faulty battery system triggered an unexpected explosion of batteries on fire in an Arizona energy storage facility that ultimately injured eight firefighters (See [Firefighter Safety Research Institute Report](#)). The Arizona BESS facility had a capacity of 2 MW AC/2.16 MWh. By comparison the one proposed in Skagit County has a significantly higher capacity of 200 MW AC/800 MWh.

Reviewing the materials submitted by the applicant, [Attachment N: Fire Protection Plan](#) (on page 5) lists fire stations in proximity to the project as: Sedro-Woolley Fire Department, Skagit County Fire District 6 (which is incorrect and provides an incorrect address of 28406 East Gilligan Creek Road), Skagit County Fire District 16, and Skagit County Fire District 8. The plan fails to acknowledge that these agencies are primarily staffed by volunteers and fails to describe or in any way address the capacity of these agencies to respond to and mitigate a fire and/or hazardous materials incident at the proposed project. The response to a fire and/or hazardous materials incident of any size at this facility would have a significant impact on the capacity of the local emergency response system throughout Skagit County and the surrounding region.

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) bulletin dated August 2022 titled "[Recommended Fire Department Response to Energy Storage Systems](#)" recognizes that compromised lithium-ion batteries can produce significant amounts of flammable gases with potential risk of deflagration and fire. Recommended fire department actions include: defensive operations, allowing the fire to burn itself out, applying water to neighboring battery enclosures and exposures to further mitigate the spread of the hazards, not entering the structure and "in all cases contact manufacturer technical support as soon as possible."

Interestingly, the submitted [Attachment N: Fire Protection Plan](#) (Page 11) states "Plant will have minimal responders available to handle a fire incident" and "Skagit County with Sedro-Woolley Fire Authorities will determine who shall be considered the prime responder to a fire event at the plan." This defective approach to pre-incident planning at a high-risk BESS facility in our community is inadequate, incomplete, and unacceptable. Please require that the applicant provide an actual fire protection plan which includes the review and input of local fire authorities and prioritizes the safety of the public and our first responders.

Respectfully,



Joshua C. Pelonio
1218 Bradley Ct
Burlington, WA 98233
425-503-3605

CC: Governor Jay Inslee
Skagit County Commissioners
Sedro-Wooley Fire Department
Skagit County Fire District 8
Skagit County Fire District 16

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: thedevinhouse@gmail.com

Received: 2024-08-26T01:01:45+00:00

Subject: EFSEC/ Bess SW Wa

Has attachment? False

External Email Comments@efsec.wa.gov Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council 621 woodland square loop se Lacey, WA 98503 If you just have no idea what to say or how to say it, just copy and paste this and sign your name. This is a starting point to get your mind working feel free to copy and modify. Just get a letter sent so they are inundated before their Wednesday update meeting. EFSEC committee This letter is to oppose the Goldeneye BESS warehouse project being reviewed, for Minkler Road in Sedro Woolley. My objection are due to the following concerns, and unanswered critical topics at this time. The Environmental impact of this facility being located on property with a salmon creek that drains into the Skagit River. The overall impact of irreparable damage to local agricultural farmland. The noise pollution that will be produced by 14 acres of industrial fans running at maximum capacity 24/7, in an otherwise peaceful and quiet farmland. With no noise pollution from industry. The Human impact of this project in case of emergency (fire, flood, earthquake) if an evacuation is required no emergency plan is currently in place. Our local emergency services only having 2 full time fire fighters in dist 8 and not having adequate staffing or equipment for fighting a fire of this nature. The impact to human life, well water and livestock if a fire were to occur in this area would be catstophic. The proximity to residential homes, schools, churches and organic farmlands all within a 1 mile radius is an unreasonably risky location for a facility of this type. The government overreach of the EFSEC to allow a private for profit warehouses to circumvent local county zoning and permitting, through an expedited process. Tge sole pupose of this stand alone facility is for the sale of a commodity. This is non essential warehouse and could be built elsewhere with the same level of benefit to the state, creating less impact to the environment and people. This specific location provides no additional benefits to the state or citizens verses building this structure in an industrial or commercial area. Grays Harbor and Chehalis BESS sites are located in industrial areas. The only benefit recieved from this location, in a environmentally critical area and on historic agricultural farmlands, is a lower building cost and higher profit margin for the privately owned for profit company. Therefore as a citizen of this community who will be burdened with additional taxes to support emergency services, and whose life could be forever impacted from this facility, I strongly oppose the permitting of this site for Goldeneye BESS. Sincerely, Casey Haugness 360-224-4925 Sent from my iPhone

Attachments:

[]

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: thedevinhouse@gmail.com

Received: 2024-08-26T01:03:07+00:00

Subject: Goldeneye / Bess Project

Has attachment? False

External Email Comments@efsec.wa.gov Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council 621 woodland square loop se Lacey, WA 98503 If you just have no idea what to say or how to say it, just copy and paste this and sign your name. This is a starting point to get your mind working feel free to copy and modify. Just get a letter sent so they are inundated before their Wednesday update meeting. EFSEC committee This letter is to oppose the Goldeneye BESS warehouse project being reviewed, for Minkler Road in Sedro Woolley. My objection are due to the following concerns, and unanswered critical topics at this time. The Environmental impact of this facility being located on property with a salmon creek that drains into the Skagit River. The overall impact of irreparable damage to local agricultural farmland. The noise pollution that will be produced by 14 acres of industrial fans running at maximum capacity 24/7, in an otherwise peaceful and quiet farmland. With no noise pollution from industry. The Human impact of this project in case of emergency (fire, flood, earthquake) if an evacuation is required no emergency plan is currently in place. Our local emergency services only having 2 full time fire fighters in dist 8 and not having adequate staffing or equipment for fighting a fire of this nature. The impact to human life, well water and livestock if a fire were to occur in this area would be catstophic. The proximity to residential homes, schools, churches and organic farmlands all within a 1 mile radius is an unreasonably risky location for a facility of this type. The government overreach of the EFSEC to allow a private for profit warehouses to circumvent local county zoning and permitting, through an expedited process. Tge sole pupose of this stand alone facility is for the sale of a commodity. This is non essential warehouse and could be built elsewhere with the same level of benefit to the state, creating less impact to the environment and people. This specific location provides no additional benefits to the state or citizens verses building this structure in an industrial or commercial area. Grays Harbor and Chehalis BESS sites are located in industrial areas. The only benefit recieved from this location, in a environmentally critical area and on historic agricultural farmlands, is a lower building cost and higher profit margin for the privately owned for profit company. Therefore as a citizen of this community who will be burdened with additional taxes to support emergency services, and whose life could be forever impacted from this facility, I strongly oppose the permitting of this site for Goldeneye BESS. Sincerely, Judi Haugness 360-224-4925 Sent from my iPhone

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: efsec@efsec.wa.gov

Received: 2024-08-28T05:26:39+00:00

Subject: FW: Ladycabella completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

Has attachment? False

From: Comments WA EFSEC <notifications@engagementhq.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 10:26:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>

Subject: Ladycabella completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

External Email

Ladycabella just submitted the survey Share your comment, upload a document or a picture with the responses below.

Name

Erika Wudtke

Email

ladycabella@gmail.com

Are you part of an Agency or Organization?

No

Share any comment

This project is located on property which crosses Hansen Creek and is spawning ground to anadromous salmon. Hansen Creek flows into the Skagit river, which is one of the largest and longest rivers in Washington State supporting many species of wild salmon which the upper Skagit Tribes depend upon. It is adjacent to rural farm land which supports food growth and production for the residents of the State of Washington and

beyond. There are private residences located near the proposed site. There are schools and hospitals located nearby. This is rural property which demands protection from projects such a these. Yes, there is a dire need to upgrade the power grid all over the United States. However, at what cost? Why is this type of project even being considered after all of the talking points mentioned above? There are miles and miles of desert land in eastern Washington which make much more sense for such a project as this. All in the name of satisfying state, federal, and world SDG's? Shame on Jay Inslee, policy makers, politicians and the contractor for even attempting to force this upon the residents of Skagit County in the name of pushing the green agenda, which is grossly flawed. Case in point, think of lithium and cobalt mining production and the cost to the environment while financially feeding the beast of greed as more and more electronic devices, appliances, machinery, cars, etc. are being introduced and forced into an outdated electrical grid. Lithium battery storage is dangerous and can be fatal to wildlife, humans and property. If a leak, fire, lack of safety compliance resulting in hazardous waste spills, or even sabotage via terrorism or domestic vandalism were to occur it would be catastrophic to this valley. Property does not recover from such as this even after clean-up mitigation. I urge those in your office to change your minds about this current site. Please consider unpopulated areas on the eastern side of the state which make more sense to protect our valuable and irreplaceable lands that our residents are proud of and treasure. The farmers and residents of the Skagit Valley take the stewardship of these lands seriously and we expect our elected officials and those in policy making positions to do the same. Respectfully, Erika Wudtke

Did you also share a video?

No

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: efsec@efsec.wa.gov

Received: 2024-08-31T02:43:23+00:00

Subject: FW: Anonymous User completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

Has attachment? False

From: Comments WA EFSEC <notifications@engagementhq.com>

Sent: Friday, August 30, 2024 7:43:11 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

Tina Rockafellow

Email

nvsmom68@gmail.com

Are you part of an Agency or Organization?

No

Share any comment

Sedro Woolley is opposed! My husband and I are opposed to this facility or any type of facility that undermines our agricultural land, our property, our waterways, our wildlife and our rivers/lakes. For 10 years I was a part of the Salmon Conversation thru our school district and the state. Each year I was given the privilege to raise 350 Coho salmon eggs at our elementary school. I taught our students the duty and responsibilities of

caring for our waterways, the life cycle of our native fish and the importance of being good stewards to our land. Every spring, I would release our fry into Hansen Creek. I prayed that each of them made their journey to the Skagit river and out to the mouth to grow and come back. You will destroy this creek. It will destroy the Magic Skagit! This facility is less than a mile from our home. There are 5 schools with in walking distance of our home. Just around the corner from us is a memory care facility, a group home and down the street are apartment buildings with elderly and the handicapped. There is no "if" there is a fire or a critical emergency.....but when! And I've read your reports about the noise, and I've read from othersyou'll run those coolers long and often! The noise will be impactful. Not just to humans but to ALL wildlife! We have a healthy population of migratory birds and bald eagles, these will also be impacted. It's a hard pass from us. Please do the right thing and locate this in a more appropriate area away from humans, waterways, wildlife, and drinking water. We will all be at the meeting on the 4th! Russ and Tina Rockafellow

Did you also share a video?

No

Attachments:

☐

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: bobwarner1955@gmail.com

Received: 2024-09-01T00:32:21+00:00

Subject:

Has attachment? False

External Email

The Sedro-Woolley site is too close to homes, schools, Hanson Creek, the Skagit River, Judy Reservoir, the downstream Anacortes water treatment plant which supplies both Anacortes and Whidbey Island. If this facility caught fire or exploded it would cause a nightmare for the surrounding community. The potential for human and environmental damage is too great . For these reasons this location is not suitable for a dangerous battery storage facility. I trust that you will agree with this assessment and put a halt on this project.

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov
From: speakout@fidalgo.net
Received: 2024-09-05T04:42:15+00:00
Subject: Goldeneye Bess Site
Has attachment? False

External Email

Dear State of Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluators

RE: Goldeneye BESS Project, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

As a resident of Skagit County, living just 4.8 miles from the proposed Goldeneye BESS facility, I am writing to express my strong opposition to this project.

I stand in solidarity with the Skagit County Board of Commissioners in opposing this facility. The site is in a critical area, with Hansen Creek bordering the facility and the Skagit River only a mile away.

I share the concern that this project threatens decades of work and millions of dollars invested in the restoration of Hansen Creek. The Hansen Creek Alluvial Fan and Wetland Restoration Project has been highly successful. This year alone, I have witnessed beavers, herons, bald eagles, trumpeter swans, belted kingfishers, wood ducks, mallards, coots, grebes, bitterns, and many other species thriving in these wetlands. Hansen Creek is also home to four species of Pacific salmon, including our vulnerable Chinook (**listed on the Endangered Species Act**), as well as steelhead trout and other wildlife. This project endangers not only these species but also the way of life for our indigenous tribes and other citizens of Skagit County.

Given the pressing threats posed by climate change, it is imperative that we protect fragile ecosystems like Hansen Creek and its associated wetlands. Even the Goldeneye project's own documentation acknowledges the environmental sensitivity of this area. According to the EFSEC Solar Application for the Goldeneye Energy Storage Project (Page 155, First Paragraph):

"Hansen Creek has fish presence and is designated critical habitat for Chinook salmon (Puget Sound Evolutionarily Significant Unit) and steelhead (Puget Sound Distinct Population Segment). Additionally, the stream is also designated as NOAA EFH for the following species: Chinook salmon, coho salmon, and pink salmon."

The Washington State Department of Ecology also states:

"Hansen Creek supports chinook, coho, chum, and pink salmon, as well as steelhead and other native trout species."

I am not in opposition of other BESS projects in Skagit, the are going to be located in more industrial areas. In closing, I urge you to listen to the concerns of the Skagitonians and to the land itself. Please halt the Goldeneye BESS project.

Sincerely,
Judith Phillips

Attachments:

☐

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: elev461@ECY.WA.GOV

Received: 2024-09-06T20:04:43+00:00

Subject: FW: Sedro-Woolley not the place for the Goldeneye Battery Storage Facility

Has attachment? False

From: Bob Warner <bobwarner1955@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, September 6, 2024 9:46 AM

To: Gillingham, Kellie (ECY) <KART461@ECY.WA.GOV>

Subject: Sedro-Woolley not the place for the Goldeneye Battery Storage Facility

External Email

Thank you for your email. Does the EFSEC and Governor have the ability to supercede any ecological consideration in regard to this project including the State of Washington Department of Ecology? That is what we are being told by Skagit County and the City of Sedro-Woolley. Could you get clarification on this matter? I am concerned that the Bonneville Power Administration, Puget Sound Energy and their LLC sub contractors. Will steamroll this project without any oversight with the Governor's "Green Energy Mandate".

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Bob Warner

Attachments:

☐

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: devinhousedesign@gmail.com

Received: 2024-09-08T00:19:41+00:00

Subject: Golden Eye - Sedro Woolley

Has attachment? False

External Email OPPOSING ! Opposing Golden Eye - it is being proposed just east of town on 14 Acres of AG zoned land. This property sits within 2 miles of the core of our community. With SFR residences, small farms and a Mobile Home Park within a short walking distance. This project is being streamlined PASSED the local City and County Permitting process. Giving no power to meet normal guidelines. This is a HIGH risk project for our community for many reasons. First of all - Hanson Creek runs thru this property, which has 5 species of salmon in this creek . Hansen creek drains directly into Skagit River. Which is used as a water source for both Skagit County , along with Island County This is A Risk - Hanson Creek often floods over its banks. Which can cause a fire. Even if you put your 60,000 Cubic yards of fill in as you are projecting to do. The flood waters will then flood in different directions and onto parcels that have never been effected before - Another Risk A fire would require evacuation within a 2 mile up to 4 mile radius. Or shelter in place above that zone. Another Risk - The batteries can also leak causing release of deadly gases-Seepage into the ground effecting private wells and if it were to reach the Skagit River it would be Catastrophic. Another Risk -6 Schools sit within this evacuation zone. Another Risk - This projects projected lifetime is 20 years and then it will be decommissioned. Leaving 14 acres of Ag land useless and contaminated. Another Risk and horrible loss of valuable Skagit Valley AG land - Property values will be affected by this project as well. Another Risk My husband and I have lived in SW for the past 12 years. We have invested in our community, Our Historical Home and we Love our community. These Green projects need to be regulated. Yes , that is what they are called a GREEN PROJECT -kind of a joke isn't it . Laws need to be changed on where they can be built. The risks are too high for any community. The process needs to be changed. And changed NOW ! The restrictions need to be made for the cities and counties to have say on what is built around them and in their community. NH The time is now for our community to stand up and oppose this project and any other ones that might try to be built in Skagit County. You want to take our AG Land , jeopardize our waterways, jeopardize our wildlife , and most of all jeopardizes our citizens safety. And for what ? To store power onto your batteries , and sell to the highest bidder out of state While our citizens and community take on all the risks. Sincerely Judi Haugness 360-224-4925 Sent from my iPhone

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov
From: efsec@efsec.wa.gov
Received: 2024-09-09T22:02:22+00:00
Subject: FW: Goldeneye Bess Project
Has attachment? False

From: Kathy Sutton <katsutton97@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 9, 2024 2:37 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: Goldeneye Bess Project

External Email

To: Kathleen Drew, EFSEC Chair and Sonia Bumpus, EFSEC Director

This letter of concern is being presented in regards to the proposed Goldeneye Bess project in Sedro-Wolley. The proposed location is not appropriate for this type of project. It is not common sense to put a BESS in a residential area, and on Ag-NRL designated land.

The proposed BESS has raised many concerns from local citizens, neighbors of the proposed site, the Skagit County Commissioners, the City of Sedro-Woolley Council, the Upper Skagit Tribe, the Port of Skagit, the Skagit River System Cooperative, and so many others. The risk to our community is far too great, with few resources available to us should the worst happen.

Hansen Creek runs through the proposed property, and is home to all five species of the pacific salmon, which in turn is the main food source for the Pacific Orcas. Hansen Creek has been the focus of restoration for the last several decades, mainly by the Upper Skagit Tribe, and the Skagit River System Cooperative. There are many miles of area around the surrounding Hansen Creek area that have been restored to create a healthy habitat, for the salmon, birds, and other wildlife. The Hansen Creek area is also home to elk, deer, bobcat, cougars, many types of bird life, we have a large population of hawks and eagles. The Chinook salmon and others that inhabit the creek are considered either a federally threatened species, or are a species of concern (as is stated in the Goldeneye Energy Storage Project Application.)

The parcel of property selected for the proposed BESS is also located in the 100 year flood plain. This parcel has been know to severely flood in the past, previously washing out a portion of the roadway. Should any part of the project be undercut by flood waters, it has great potential to create an emergency situation with the lithium batteries stored on the site. During a flood, this site may not be accessible with the flood waters high for maintenance or safety measures. My understanding is that these batteries can be quite volatile under the right circumstances, and water does not mix well with these batteries. If there is a thermal runaway for whatever reason, any water used on the control of the burn, as well as any flood waters that may run through the property will then flow into Hansen Creek, and from there to the Skagit River. Judy Reservoir is located across the Skagit River and supplies most of Skagit County with water. Judy reservoir obtains its main water from local creeks and streams, and during certain times of the year, Judy Reservoir will divert water from the Skagit River. Should either Hansen Creek, and therefore the Skagit River become contaminated during a BESS disaster, the entire water source for the Skagit Valley could be contaminated and not consumable.

Should there be an incident created by these batteries, and an evacuation ordered, please know that within the estimated evacuation area exists:

Sedro-Woolley School District:

Administrative offices

6 elementary schools

middle school

2 high schools

Northern State Recreational area and campus, Cascade Job Corps Center, the Upper Skagit Tribe

many parks and playgrounds, churches, the hospital, a mobile home park-right next door to the proposed site.

City of Sedro-Woolley Downtown area:

Local Businesses

Hotels and Accommodations

City Hall, fire and police stations

Day care for children

Local health services

United General Hospital

Farms, livestock and organic, working farm land

Our annual Logger Rodeo, July 4th parade, fun run, which draws many people from out of town.

If such an incident, or thermal runaway to occur, and there was an immediate evacuation order placed, where do you start evacuating? Which schools to you choose first? Which churches or homes? There are not enough resources in this area to cover this type of catastrophe. It is not a safe location for this type of project, and would be a jeopardy to the city of Sedro-Woolley, and possibly Skagit County.

I strongly oppose this project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kathryn Sutton

Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov
From: thedevinhouse@gmail.com
Received: 2024-09-13T01:34:38+00:00
Subject: Goldeneye Sedro Woolley WA
Has attachment? False

External Email

Please watch attached- recent fire in California at a BESS facility.
In Sedro Woolley the proposed project is 1.5 mile from the core of our downtown Sedro Woolley- 6 schools and many Residents.
Within the evacuation zone.

The proposed project is not in an Industrial Zone- Ag land instead.
I OPPOSE this project

Please watch video

Sincerely

Judi Haugness
369-224-4925

VERY concerned Citizen

Sent from my iPhone

Attachments:

[{"@odata.type": "#microsoft.graph.fileAttachment", "id": "AAMkADU1OGRmNDUyLWNhZDAtNGQ3Mi05N2YwLTkwMwBwASg50NvGhiT597AeISAVy7AAAAAEMAAASg50NvGhiT597AeISAVy7AAFc6RHPAAABEgAQAE4-SKeYo9ZGuQupcFv-DgY=", "lastModifiedDateTime": "2024-09-

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E5030EB94C3E","contentBytes":"/9j/4AAQSkZJRgABAQAASABIAAD/4QCMRXhpZgAATU0AKgAAAQgABQESAAMAA

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: dacooley@gmail.com

Received: 2024-09-16T01:36:36+00:00

Subject: Tenaska's proposed Goldeneye BESS facility in Sedro-Wooley, Washington

Has attachment? False

External Email

Director Buroker,

I am not sure if you are aware of Tenaska energy's proposed project to install a 200MW BESS facility in rural sedro-woolley on agricultural land right next to Hanson Creek. Governor Inslee has greenlighted the project and they have no ecological/environmental survey. When asked at the City council meeting when they had 5 of their people present, they glossed over the question of when the survey was done, and the findings from it.

In the area they have presumably already purchased the land, there are bald eagles that hunt and most likely nest on that area. There is also an endangered species of falcon that has been sighted there as well. Not to mention the 40 years of work and millions of dollars that have gone into bringing Hanson creek back to health, including the 5 native species of Salmon that haven't been seen there in years have started coming back. In their proposed plans to keep the plant out of the flooding that naturally occurs in that area, they are talking about bringing in 65000 cubic yards of soil to elevate the facility. Water has to go somewhere, so all that extra water will be directed at Hanson creek, and also cause more extensive flooding in the area. There are farms and homes within 400 yards of their proposed site that will be devastated as well.

The next issue is the toxic waste in case of an accident. In the council meeting, they lied to the Mayor, the counsel and all citizens there by saying it is extremely safe, the batteries don't have a liquid electrolyte that can leak like previous forms of Lithium Ion batteries. When asked specifics about the batteries, they said they did not have specifics, as the batteries they used would be determined AFTER construction started. I am in the electronics industry, and have been for years. There are absolutely 0 forms of Lithium based batteries that do not have a liquid electrolyte in production today.

The 2 common electrolytes are Lithium tetrafluoroborate (LiBF_4) and Lithium hexafluorophosphate (LiPF_6), which is the most common. When these compounds leak, those chemicals are toxic to all living creatures, Humans and animals. These pollutants will contaminate Hanson creek, AND the Skagit river. The Skagit river provides drinking water for Anacortes, Oak harbor etc downstream from Hanson creek. This will put thousands of lives at risk that aren't even in the local danger zones. The other issue is Fire. There have been quite a few major fires at BESS facilities in the USA in the last few years. Those fires burn hot enough to disassociate the electrolyte into Hydrogen Fluoride gas, Hydrogen Bromide gas, Hydrogen Chloride gas, Hydrogen Cyanide gas, Carbon Monoxide, Sulphur Dioxide, Phosphorus Pentafluoride and Phosphoryl Fluoride. The first 3 combine with moisture in the air, or water from fire suppression to form Hydrofluoric acid, Hydrobromic acid and Hydrochloric acid. They state that in case of a fire, residents in a 1 mile radius have 3-5 minutes to evacuate. outward to a 4 mile radius, you have 10-15 minutes to evacuate. There are 6 schools within the 4 mile radius. They also state there will be no workers on site once it is up and running, but it will be "remotely monitored". The facility in Escondido, California was remotely monitored, and the remote monitoring failed when it caught fire due to thermal runaway on one of the battery containers. The fire department wasn't notified until 15 minutes AFTER the incident occurred, and that was from Citizens that were having medical issues from the pungent fumes that were carried into residential areas. That facility was located in a heavy industrial area. Schools were evacuated and closed for several days while they tried to put the fire out. Reading online, there are still people that are having severe health effects from the fumes that continue to rise from that site.

Governor Inslee doesn't care what happens in Washington, and this was a project that padded his and Bob Ferguson's pockets. Inslee is moving to Idaho when he leaves office, and he has not approved sites for Pierce and King counties, near where their families reside currently. The counties and cities are left helpless since the companies that build these death traps go to the state level first and Bypass all county and city regulations. This is something we do NOT need, nor want, anywhere near our residents, farms, watershed etc. Please help us to fight this death trap that is being set for our wildlife and residents.

Thank you,

David Cooley
Skagit county resident for 9 years.

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: skagitneighbors@icloud.com

Received: 2024-09-16T17:47:23+00:00

Subject: ARE YOU KIDDING US?

Has attachment? False

External Email You aren't receptive to citizen input regarding the ridiculous effort to install a battery farm on Skagit Valley farmland near Hansen Creek? We cannot believe this stupid idea is getting any serious attention from the state of Washington. It's clearly a profit play by an east coast developer attempting to take advantage of Washington's belief in green energy. There's no way in hell such a high risk notion should be implemented adjacent to a neighborhood residential area, close to a fish habitat that's received considerable restoration support, and nearby the Skagit River on our precious farmland. A lot of people didn't even know about this idea until after you received the application and it's evident to us that you're attempting to minimize citizen involvement in such an important decision. You know, a lot of citizens support green energy in our state, not to mention the reality that Washingtonians are generally environmentally conscious. But if you shove this kind of bullshit down our throats you're going to set back citizen support for green initiatives fifty years. We hope Skagit County bans all battery farm development on all Skagit County farmland. You need to limit this sort of thing to specific places far away from environmentally sensitive, human occupied places. Finally, we want to make the important statement that no demonstrated need has been established for this kind of power storage capability in Skagit Valley. It doesn't produce power; it just facilitates the profitable transfer of it. To hell with stupid ideas like this! Dave Hallock Skagit Neighbors

Attachments:

☐

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: efsec@efsec.wa.gov

Received: 2024-09-19T14:20:42+00:00

Subject: FW: Anonymous User completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

Has attachment? False

From: Comments WA EFSEC <notifications@engagementhq.com>

Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2024 7:20:28 AM (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

benbakir hocine

Email

benbakir_hocine@yahoo.fr

Are you part of an Agency or Organization?

Yes (please specify) - bonjour. mesdames et messieurs. federal d'etats united state of américain.
SSA/1099(1042S) N/827 addition convention administration prémaire d'etats governor indian republicain VII*
democratic présidence constitution montana division les relation sur le territoire national de la géopolitique
méditerran d'algeria.

Share any comment

code de ma constitution indian réf:22812 object: de ma requête que a été relatives dés reglement de ma

conduite jurisprudence plus haut niveau de la magistrature suprême administration américain. je vous souhaite
des bonne nouvelle information complémentaire dans ce grande projet des études les enseignement
supérieurs politique et juridique et dictature militaire de la pecté nation-unis international de l'Onu new york.
je vous remercie d'avance. veuillez.d'agreer.monsieur.l'expression de nos salutation distingué

Did you also share a video?

Yes

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: efsec@efsec.wa.gov

Received: 2024-09-24T16:58:01+00:00

Subject: FW: Anonymous User completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

Has attachment? False

From: Comments WA EFSEC <notifications@engagementhq.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 9:57:55 AM (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

Breanna duffy

Email

breduffy6@gmail.com

Are you part of an Agency or Organization?

No

Share any comment

I live near the proposed BESS facility. As a mother of four I beg you to discontinue this project. The research shows that this facility will be a threat to our community. It is dangerous on multiple levels and should not be near our residential homes, schools no matter what the potential benefits could be. The safety of our children should be the number one priority. The long term health and well-being of our future generations matter. So

please, I kindly ask you to reconsider. Please listen to the voice of the people. If the BESS passes, my family will consider moving. I am tired of my voice not being heard.

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: efsec@efsec.wa.gov

Received: 2024-09-24T23:34:21+00:00

Subject: FW: Anonymous User completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

Has attachment? False

From: Comments WA EFSEC <notifications@engagementhq.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 4:31:54 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

Nancy Lee

Email

nancy@doublebarrelbbq.com

Are you part of an Agency or Organization?

No

Share any comment

Please see the attached letter regarding the Goldeneye BESS facility proposed for Sedro-Woolley. Please note that the ENTIRE city government is against this facility, as are THOUSANDS of law-abiding, tax-paying citizens. There is NO NEED for this facility and tremendous risk involved. Our very way of life is threatened by this proposed project.

Upload your document (optional)

<https://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-us-california/9e17e7678af8ed05ca1543dfde93c9152fdaecd1/original/1727220710/0e1eb2f9443cbcdff676ed6782419>

Did you also share a video?

No

Attachments:

□

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: efsec@efsec.wa.gov

Received: 2024-09-24T23:49:09+00:00

Subject: FW: SigridNovak completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

Has attachment? False

From: Comments WA EFSEC <notifications@engagementhq.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 4:49:01 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>

Subject: SigridNovak completed Share your comment, upload a document or a picture

External Email

SigridNovak just submitted the survey Share your comment, upload a document or a picture with the responses below.

Name

Sigrid Novak

Email

SigridNovak7@gmail.com

Are you part of an Agency or Organization?

No

Share any comment

It is unconscionable to build a battery storage station on Skagit Farmland ! In the event of a fire our property would be environmentally devastated and its value destroyed! Do not build this here ! Our farm property is less than a mile from there. You have no right to impact our lives this way

Did you also share a video?

No

Attachments:

☐

To: cease2020@aol.com

From: cease2020@aol.com

Received: 2024-10-04T15:00:21+00:00

Subject: C.E.A.S.E. BATTERIES WON'T SAVE US!

Has attachment? False

External Email

Hi, BESS battery energy storage systems will not provide the storage capacity to provide a small amount of the electricity needed. This is just more taxpayer's money wasted and harm done to the environment. Renewables will never replace traditional methods of energy production. Renewables are destroying America. Greg Wagner C.E.A.S.E. CITIZENS EDUCATED ABOUT SOLAR ENERGY
cease2020.org

<https://www.mackinac.org/blog/2024/better-batteries-wont-save-the-energy-grid>

Attachments:

☐

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: ESTABLISHING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS IN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY (DISTRICTS: ALL)
Date: Thursday, July 18, 2024 4:53:28 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)

From: James DeLay <jamesdelay@hotmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2024 4:21 PM

To: contact@duwamishcleanup.org; paulina@drcc.org; Robin Schwartz <robin@drcc.org>; Magdalena Angel Cano <maggie@drcc.org>; sframe@king5.com; John Ryan <jryan@kuow.org>; bkaczaraba@gmail.com; Larry Delaney [WA] <LDelaney@washingtonea.org>; JWhite@WashingtonEA.org; Aimee Iverson [WA] <aiverson@washingtonea.org>; mhowes@washingtonea.org; Rich Wood [WA] <rwood@washingtonea.org>; RTom@washingtonea.org; Lisa Kodama [WA] <LKodama@WashingtonEA.org>; Djibril Diop [WA] <DDiop@Washingtonea.org>; Mike Gawley [WA] <mgawley@washingtonea.org>; ATG MI CRC Complaint Processing <crc@atg.wa.gov>; catherine@toomanydogs.com; WA47DEMS@outlook.com; DOR Skagit County Leg Authority <commissioners@co.skagit.wa.us>; EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>

Subject: ESTABLISHING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS IN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY (DISTRICTS: ALL)

External Email

Good afternoon,

Happy Thursday!

I hope you are all doing well!

Did you hear that the developer of the proposed Covington BESS has submitted their first BESS permit application through the EFSEC? It is for their Skagit location in a residential and farming area next to rivers and with wetlands on it- oh, and it is in an unincorporated area , just like the BESS proposed next to Mattson Middle School which is in Covington... I believe I told you that Tenaska withdrew all their local level BESS permit applications with local governments/permitting agencies and instead was planning to switch to the state level permitting process through the EFSEC where Jay Inslee is the ultimate and sole decision maker/approver. They are bypassing the will of cities and counties and going directly to Jay Inslee for approval (through the EFSEC process).

Here's the link to their recent application for their Skagit County BESS:

<https://www.efsec.wa.gov/energy-facilities/goldeneye-bess>

[Goldeneye BESS | EFSEC - The State of Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council](#)

Project background The Applicant proposes to construct and operate the Project in unincorporated Skagit County, Washington (Figure 1 in Attachment A). The Project is a stand-alone 200 MW/800 MWh BESS (Battery Energy Storage System), with related interconnection and ancillary support infrastructure. The Project is located just outside the eastern edge of Sedro-Woolley, off www.efsec.wa.gov

The only way you will know if a developer tries to bypass your will and local process and goes through the EFSEC permitting process instead, is if you subscribe to notifications through the EFSEC which can be found in that link.

With all that said, please read the following, as I feel that it gives excellent starting point to crafting safety-first BESS standards/rules for siting and cities and counties should definitely make a BESS ordinance/rule/regulation...

In light of San Diego County having three BESS fires at two of its three BESS (the Valley Center BESS had its first fire in 2022 and second fire in 2023) all of which forced evacuations and shelter in place orders- the most recent BESS fire at Otay Mesa had mandatory evacuations while it burned for two weeks- San Diego County's SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT at the SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, Jim Desmond, recommends the following in drafting BESS Development standards for siting BESS:



JIM DESMOND
SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: July 17, 2024

08

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT:

ESTABLISHING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS IN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The County's vision for decarbonization through a transition away from traditional sources of energy, such as contemplated in the "Regional Decarbonization Framework" (RDF) gives considerable attention toward solar and wind generation capabilities interlinked by the grid. Due to the intermittent nature of these sources of energy, an inherent component of this vision – then - is the need for battery storage of the renewable electricity generated during off-peak hours to power homes and businesses throughout the night and to prevent black and brownouts. As this transition continues to unfold, demand for battery storage projects (typically referred to as "battery energy storage systems" (BESS) will only increase.

Currently, the County does not have specific definitions nor development standards in place to guide the review process for new BESS projects. Because of this, the County's department of Planning & Development Services (PDS) processes these types of projects consistent with the nearest comparable land use categories in the Zoning Ordinance, such as minor and major impact utilities. Land uses considered minor impact utilities include cellular antenna facilities, electrical substations, and small water tanks. Examples of major impact utilities include large wind turbines, water treatment facilities, and steam, fossil, or nuclear power plants. It is not unreasonable to accept that BESS projects are comparable in scope and scale to some of these land uses. However, certain aspects of BESS projects are especially unique and often utilize cutting-edge technology that must be specifically accounted for, such as the operating characteristics and safety requirements for lithium-ion battery storage.

Beyond the uniqueness of BESS facilities, these projects also often generate public controversy and opposition, particularly when located near existing residential neighborhoods. By and large, this is based on an understanding of the associated public health and safety risks, such as fire, thermal runaway, and release of toxic gases. For example, the 250-megawatt Gateway Energy Storage facility located in East Otay Mesa (District 1), approved by the County in 2018 caught fire in May of this year and continued to reignite despite efforts to contain it. This incident prompted an evacuation warning for nearby businesses, deployment of firefighters and HAZMAT teams to

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS IN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY (DISTRICTS: ALL)

put out the blaze, monitor air quality conditions and discharge of waterborne contaminants in firefighting suppression activities, and establishment of a 600-foot buffer from the site due to potential for release of toxic gases. In Valley Center (District 5) a much smaller, but nonetheless concerning fire occurred recently at the County-approved Terra-Gen BESS facility. This resulted in temporary road closures and evacuation orders for nearby homes. Clearly, public fixation on the health, safety and environmental risks posed by these facilities is well warranted.

Given the unique operating characteristics of BESS facilities, their inherent safety concerns, and a growing public awareness of their impacts – particularly when located near or within residential neighborhoods - the County must adopt specific development standards for guiding our review process of new BESS project applications. In this spirit, today's action directs the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to establish development standards for siting BESS projects in the unincorporated areas and orders a temporary pause on any new application submittals until standards have been developed and adopted.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)
SUPERVISOR JIM DESMOND**

- 1) Find that the proposed actions are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to SCEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c)(2) and (3), Section 15061(b)(3), and 15378(b)(5) because the action is an administrative action that does not commit County to a specific project and will not have a reasonably foreseeable direct or indirect effect on the environment.
- 2) Direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to establish development standards for siting battery energy storage system (BESS) projects in the unincorporated areas. This process shall be informed by community, industry, and all other relevant stakeholder input as deemed appropriate. At a minimum, standards should include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a) Avoid locating BESS projects in residential areas.
 - b) Avoid locating BESS projects near sensitive receptors, such as schools, day care centers, senior care centers and hospitals.
 - c) Incentivize locating BESS projects in commercial and/or industrial zones.
 - d) Incentivize BESS projects that can co-locate with existing utility facilities, electrical substations, etc., unless located in a residential area.
 - e) Specific safety requirements for thermal runaway, fire and explosion risks, emergency response, hazardous materials, toxic gases, and noise.
 - f) Specific development regulations for setbacks, building height, etc.
 - g) Specific design standards for aesthetics, community character, lighting, and landscaping.

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS IN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY (DISTRICTS: ALL)

- h) Consider exemption criteria based on project location, size, and/or other metrics as deemed appropriate and as consistent with sub-recommendations a – g (above).
- 3) Direct the CAO to work with applicants with BESS projects currently under review to align their submittals with today’s recommendations, to the extent feasible. The CAO shall also, at the next possible meeting, prepare and bring back an ordinance temporarily (45 days) pausing any new BESS project application from being accepted, pursuant to Government Code Section 65858 as an urgency measure to protect public health, safety, and welfare. This pause shall include two additional one-year extensions, each to be executed until BESS development standards have been adopted.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Battery energy storage system (BESS) projects may pose significant health, safety, and environmental risks to surrounding communities, especially when located within or near existing residential neighborhoods. These risks range from acute noise nuisances to fire and thermal runaway hazards. To protect and buffer residential areas from these risks, and to ensure historically disadvantaged communities don’t bear the brunt moving forward, the County must adopt standards and guidelines for siting future BESS projects that considers their unique operating characteristics, potential health and safety risks, and appropriateness for locating them within close proximity to existing communities and other sensitive receptors.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

While there are many benefits of BESS facilities that contribute to the County’s sustainability goals, such as strengthening grid reliability and increasing energy efficiency, there are also several potential adverse consequences. These include fire and thermal runaway risks, managing the limited life cycle and degradation of batteries over time, and extraction of rare earth minerals that can have devastating environmental and societal consequences (unethical mining practices, etc.). The key here is striking a balance between the pros and cons of these facilities. Adopting rules for how we process and locate BESS projects in the unincorporated areas is a necessary first step.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 Operational Plan in Planning & Development Services (\$1.0 million) and San Diego County Fire (\$0.25 million). If approved, this request will result in costs and revenue of approximately \$1.25 million to establish development standards for siting battery energy storage system (BESS) projects, depending on the complexity of the environmental review required. The funding source is one-time General-Purpose Revenue. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

N/A

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS IN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY (DISTRICTS: ALL)

BACKGROUND

Over the past few years, we have seen a growing increase in both proposed and approved/constructed BESS projects in the unincorporated areas. Since 2018 the County has approved three of them, ranging in size from 40 megawatts (MW) to 250 MW. Some of these have been in commercial or industrial areas like East Otay Mesa in District 1, while others have been located near residential areas such as in Fallbrook and Valley Center in District 5. Beyond those that have already been approved, there are *twelve* active applications currently under review with PDS in various stages of the process. What's more, utility companies such as San Diego Gas & Electric (SDGE) are building their own BESS facilities in the unincorporated areas, while often being able to circumvent the local permitting process. Now is the time to establish specific and transparent guidelines, and effectively telegraph the County's stance on permissible locations and intended standards for new BESS projects.

Given the County's reliance on intermittent sources of energy going forward, demand for BESS facilities will almost certainly continue to grow in the coming decades. For this reason, it's imperative the County adopt specific development standards while it's still relatively "early" enough to have any meaningful impact. Due to the public health and safety concerns, having appropriate standards in place will ensure new BESS facilities are designed, located, and constructed with safety as the top priority. Moreover, since BESS facilities are going to be a critical component in meeting future electricity demand, building and gaining the public's trust and acceptance of them appears to be a necessary requirement. To this end, standards would establish clear rules and definitions that will enable the County to gather more meaningful community input, provide better transparency for the public during the review process, and address specific safety and other environmental concerns such as fire risk, air quality, noise, and visual impacts.

Given the unique operating characteristics of BESS facilities, their inherent safety concerns, and a growing public awareness of their impacts, the County must adopt specific development standards for guiding our review process of new and future BESS project applications. In this spirit, today's action directs the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to establish development standards for siting battery energy storage system (BESS) projects in the unincorporated areas, and also orders a temporary pause on any new application submittals until standards have been developed and adopted.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

Today's proposed actions support the *Sustainability: Climate; Equity; Health; and Community: Engagement, Safety, and Quality of Life* Strategic Initiatives in the County of San Diego's 2024-2029 Strategic Plan.

Respectfully submitted,



JIM DESMOND
Supervisor, Fifth District

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS IN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The County's vision for decarbonization through a transition away from traditional sources of energy, such as contemplated in the "Regional Decarbonization Framework" (RDF) gives considerable attention toward solar and wind generation capabilities interlinked by the grid. Due to the intermittent nature of these sources of energy, an inherent component of this vision – then - is the need for battery storage of the renewable electricity generated during off-peak hours to power homes and businesses throughout the night and to prevent black and brownouts. As this transition continues to unfold, demand for battery storage projects (typically referred to as "battery energy storage systems" (BESS) will only increase.

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RECOMMENDATION(S)

SUPERVISOR JIM DESMOND

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standards have been adopted.

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SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

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BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT N/A

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT N/A

BACKGROUND

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been located near residential areas such as in Fallbrook and Valley Center in District 5. Beyond those that have already been approved, there are twelve active applications currently under review with PDS in various stages of the process. What's more, utility companies such as San Diego Gas & Electric (SDGE) are building their own BESS facilities in the unincorporated areas, while often being able to circumvent the local permitting process. Now is the time to establish specific and transparent guidelines, and effectively telegraph the County's stance on permissible locations and intended standards for new BESS projects.

Given the County's reliance on intermittent sources of energy going forward, demand for BESS facilities will almost certainly continue to grow in the coming decades. For this reason, it's imperative the County adopt specific development standards while it's still relatively "early" enough to have any meaningful impact. Due to the public health and safety concerns, having appropriate standards in place will ensure new BESS facilities are designed, located, and constructed with safety as the top priority. Moreover, since BESS facilities are going to be a critical component in meeting future electricity demand, building and gaining the public's trust and acceptance of them appears to be a necessary requirement. To this end, standards would establish clear rules and definitions that will enable the County to gather more meaningful community input, provide better transparency for the public during the review process, and address specific safety and other environmental concerns such as fire risk, air quality, noise, and visual impacts.

Given the unique operating characteristics of BESS facilities, their inherent safety concerns, and a growing public awareness of their impacts, the County must adopt specific development standards for guiding our review process of new and future BESS project applications. In this spirit, today's action directs the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to establish development standards for siting battery energy storage system (BESS) projects in the unincorporated areas, and also orders a temporary pause on any new application submittals until standards have been developed and adopted.

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Respectfully submitted,
JIM DESMOND
Supervisor, Fifth District"

https://bosagenda.sandiegocounty.gov/cobservice/cosd/cob/content?id=0901127e810e1fdb&fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAR2ZOnmMw1b1Ty-4fs9c7EHP7WRPoKI_WvJTZMyvIJODpiOHRXU1e1asns0_aem_beNGk_uo29rVM077PSpLYQ

Please note, he only mentioned one of the Valley Center BESS fires- not both...

We need to get laws, ordinances, and standards in place that protect people, wildlife, and the environment and have clear guidance for siting BESS.

Thank you,

James

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Skagit BESS Goldeneye
Date: Monday, August 5, 2024 3:11:17 PM

From: Nancy jorauch <sawdustnancy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 1:56 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Skagit BESS Goldeneye

External Email

I'm wondering how the seasonal flooding, that exists for the proposed site on Minkler Road, will be handled. Especially curious if the water will be dealt with on-site, as opposed to flowing it to an adjacent property.

See you on Aug 13 meeting.

Thank you,
Nancy Jo Rauch
521 Ball St
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Goldeneye battery storage system
Date: Thursday, August 8, 2024 2:17:58 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Jon Fleurichamp <jonfleur@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 1:43 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Goldeneye battery storage system

External Email

I am the property owner just south of the project along Hanson Creek. My only concern with the project is the stormwater runoff. I've lived on this property for 43 years and I have seen the Hanson Creek run at maximum a few times. My main concern is the culvert at Hohen Road, it is the choke point that runs at 100% at least 12 times a year, i've looked at the projects flood study. It talks about how the state straightening a creek between Highway 20 and Minkler it also talks about the covert at Minkler Road, which has been replaced with a bridge does not address downstream from the project again which is a choke point. be an idea for State to look at putting a bridge to replacing the culvert just my two cents worth I just don't want my house to get flooded thank you.

Jon Fleurichamp
Sent from my iPhone

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Statement Against the Goldeneye Battery Energy Storage System Project
Date: Thursday, August 8, 2024 8:51:31 PM

From: N F <nfields1225@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 8:51:07 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Statement Against the Goldeneye Battery Energy Storage System Project

External Email

Statement Against the Goldeneye Battery Energy Storage System Project

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed Goldeneye Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Project in Skagit County. While the advancement of renewable energy is crucial, this specific project raises significant environmental, safety, and land use concerns that should not be overlooked.

First, the environmental impact of a large-scale battery storage facility in an unincorporated area of Skagit County is worrisome. The site chosen for this project is near sensitive ecosystems that could be adversely affected by the construction and operation of the facility. There is a potential risk of chemical leaks from the batteries, which could contaminate local soil and water sources. The proximity of this project to farmland and residential areas increases the likelihood of long-term environmental degradation, threatening both the local agricultural economy and the health of nearby residents.

Second, safety concerns regarding battery energy storage systems cannot be ignored. Despite advances in technology, the risk of fire or explosion in large-scale battery facilities remains a serious issue. The potential for such incidents poses a significant threat to the surrounding community, particularly in rural areas where emergency response times may be longer. Implementing this project without thoroughly addressing these safety concerns could lead to devastating consequences for both people and property.

Finally, the proposed site for this project does not align with current land use plans and zoning ordinances. Skagit County has a strong tradition of preserving its natural landscapes and agricultural heritage, which this project threatens to undermine. Allowing a large industrial facility in an area not designated for such use sets a dangerous precedent, potentially opening the door to further industrial encroachment in rural and agricultural zones.

For these reasons, I urge the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council to carefully reconsider the Goldeneye BESS Project and explore alternative locations or approaches that would better align with the environmental, safety, and land use priorities of Skagit County. The potential risks of this project far outweigh the benefits, and it is imperative that we prioritize the well-being of our community and environment.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nicole Fields
Sedro-Woolley Resident

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to proposed Skagit County Battery Storage Facility, 2508 Minkler Rd., Sedro Woolley, WA
Date: Monday, August 12, 2024 8:28:07 AM

From: Ellen Bynum <skye@cnw.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 11, 2024 12:10 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Cc: Commissioner Ron Wesen, BOCC <ronw@co.skagit.wa.us>; Commissioner Peter Browning <pbrowning@co.skagit.wa.us>; Commissioner Lisa Janicki, BOCC <ljanicki@co.skagit.wa.us>; Mayor Julia Johnson <swmayor@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us>; Sedro Woolley City Council <CityCouncil@sedro-woolley.wa.gov>
Subject: Opposition to proposed Skagit County Battery Storage Facility, 2508 Minkler Rd., Sedro Woolley, WA

External Email

Friends of Skagit County opposes the proposed battery storage facility at 25080 Minkler Road, Sedro Woolley, WA by Goldfinch Energy Storage.

The WA State Growth Management Act requires Skagit County to identify and conserve farmland zoned Agricultural - Natural Resource Lands (Ag-NRL) solely for food and fiber production in perpetuity.

Skagit County Comprehensive Plan, countywide policies and codes all uphold and enforce the requirements of the GMA. Conversion of Ag-NRL to any other uses, other than soil-dependent activities as accessory uses, is prohibited.

We ask that you fully deny the siting of this project in compliance with state and local laws that protect farmland solely for future food and fiber production.

Sincerely,
Ellen Bynum

Ellen Bynum, Executive Director
Friends of Skagit County
PO Box 2632 (mailing)
419 S. Main St., #207
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-2632
360-419-0988; friends@fidalgo.net
www.friendsofskogitcounty.org
"A valley needs FRIENDS"

Since 1994 - Common Goals - Common Ground - Common Good
DONATE NOW at Network for Good.

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Lithium Battery Storage
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 7:24:20 AM

From: Tarrence Molendyk <tjmolendyk@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 7:25 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Proposed Lithium Battery Storage

External Email

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing of my concerns as a Skagit County and Sedro-Woolley concerned citizen of a proposed Lithium battery storage facility. As a veteran who served in Iraq exposed to open burn pits, I see this as a catastrophic decision that will impact people, ecosystems, and land. I have witnessed first hand the dangers of the toxic smoke and suffer from its effects. Where this proposed storage facility is going to be is dangerous not only for Sedro-Woolley but also for the kids that attend schools. You do not and will not have any safe measures for when disaster strikes. Many of my fellow soldiers have died from health issues due to Lithium batteries being burned illegally. As for the ecosystem the leakage from the batteries will poison our drinking water and destroy the wetlands displacing many wildlife. The land will not be able to be inhabited because of the toxicity of the batteries. These batteries are dangerous and should be disposed of in other ways not stored until they get too hot or start burning which then becomes an even worse ecological disaster. People breathing this toxic smoke would die from cancers and lung diseases. Our children would be exposed to this and will have long lasting effects from this. I respectfully ask that you reconsider this and respectfully ask that our Governor will rescind his position in favor of this so called Lithium battery storage facility.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this message.

Sincerely,

Tarrence J Molendyk

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Say NO to the proposed energy storage facility in Skagit County
Date: Monday, August 12, 2024 9:43:59 AM

From: Stephen Aghjayan <saseacom@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 9:07 AM
To: Aghjayan Stephen <saseacom@mac.com>
Subject: Say NO to the proposed energy storage facility in Skagit County

External Email

I support an energy storage facility being built in Skagit County.

That being said it should NOT be built on farmland.

The Skagit County Code **prohibits conversion of Ag-NRL lands to ANY uses other than those related to soil-based activities**. Additionally, this project does not fit the County's criteria for siting a farm related accessory use.

https://www.goskagit.com/news/local_news/battery-energy-storage-facility-proposed-in-skagit-county/article_48314900-54de-11ef-97dd-7b2e77486ad4.html

Stephen Aghjayan
7344 Skagit View Drive
Concrete, WA 98237
360 202-3066
saseacom@mac.com

From: [John Sternlicht](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: EFSEC Docket No. 240004
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 9:55:29 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[EFSEC Goldeneye 08122024.docx](#)

External Email

To whom it may concern:

Please include the attached letter of support in the package for the above-referenced matter.

Thank you.

Feel free to contact me directly with any questions.

Respectfully yours,

John B. Sternlicht, JD, CEc.D

CEO

Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County

1932 E. College Way, Suite B

PO Box 40

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Office: 360.336.6114 x105

www.skagit.org

email: john@skagit.org

he/him

***EDASC carries out business attraction, retention and expansion,
and collaborative engagement to achieve a prosperous, sustainable
and equitable community while maintaining Skagit County's natural
beauty and quality of life.***



[Facebook](#)

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/economic-development-alliance-of-skagit-county>

[Sign Up for the EDASC Newsletter \(skagit.org\)](#)



August 12, 2024

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
PO BOX 43172
Olympia, WA 98503-3172

RE: Goldeneye BESS

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council:

I am writing to express our strong support for the Goldeneye Energy Storage project. This proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) presents a significant opportunity for energy resiliency, economic growth and environmental sustainability in Skagit County.

This project will bolster the local grid as we transition to intermittent renewable sources of power and work to protect our community from service interruptions caused by extreme weather events and increases in electrical demand spurred by electric vehicles, population growth, and other factors. Skagit County currently faces a power shortfall that hampers its ability to attract new businesses and foster growth. The Goldeneye project will serve as an anchor project within the region, attracting additional investment and development opportunities. The presence of a utility-scale BESS facility will ensure a stable power supply for households, businesses, and critical infrastructure, while sending a strong signal that Skagit County is a prime location for innovative projects, fostering economic activity and growth. The construction of the Goldeneye Energy Storage project will create new jobs for local union workers, ranging from skilled technical positions to various support roles. This influx of jobs, even though temporary, will stimulate the local economy and increase local spending by keeping workers and the wages they earn close to home. Once operational, the project will generate a new long-term source of tax revenue that can be used to spur investment and support public services for our residents.

We have met many times with the developer behind the project and have confidence in their approach to safety and sustainable development. They use the highest standards and work with both independent experts and local first responder agencies on the design of the project and all necessary safety plans and processes. The project is sited responsibly and is well-suited to coexist in Skagit County's landscape, with minimal environmental and social impact. BESS facilities are operationally quiet, do not generate air emissions or harmful radiation, and require a small physical footprint. The project will incorporate feedback from local environmental conservation groups to create appropriate fencing and landscaping that blend with the local community environment, ensuring it integrates seamlessly into the surrounding area.

Given these significant benefits and the robust EFSEC review process, we urge your favorable support of Goldfinch Energy Storage's Application for Site Certification (ASC). This initiative

represents a valuable opportunity to promote sustainable development, enhance grid reliability, and stimulate economic growth in our region.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Sternlicht". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "J".

John B. Sternlicht, CEO

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: change of land use
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 1:29:27 PM

From: Betty Moore <bettys@whidbey.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 1:20 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: change of land use

External Email

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

My family and I are strongly opposed to this plan and any other similar project. That area is noted for drainage problems and more excess water drainage is not needed. Farm land should not be destroyed. Lithium batteries are highly flammable, dangerous, and the materials used to produce them are in short supply as well as being produced by slave labor in poor nations. This plan could and will impact our environment. We vote no! and hope that our representatives making the decision regarding this will do the same.

Jim and Sharon Hinton, John and Kristen VanValkenberg and daughters, Betty Moore, Gary Hunsucker

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Comment on Goldeneye Project
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 10:04:01 PM

From: Andrew Ashmore <spomountain1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 10:03:36 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: EFSEC (EFSEC)
Subject: Comment on Goldeneye Project

External Email

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be required for the Goldeneye Battery Energy Storage System Project. There were a number of environmental concerns raised in comments at the Informational Public Hearing that need to be analyzed and addressed.

Thank you,
Andrew Ashmore
PO Box 1121
La Conner, WA 98257

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Energy Facility Sedro
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 6:43:13 PM

From: Barbara Smart <bsmart53@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 6:38 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Energy Facility Sedro

External Email

Water: site in a FEMA flood plain and with about 2 acres of wet lands.

The Skagit River provides drinking water for Skagit county west of the site.

1. What happens if there is leakage contaminates our drinking water.
2. What happens if there is a fire and all the water it will take to put it out drains into the wetlands and then into the Skagit River.
3. Why put facility on a flood plain. Why not a place away from river (drinking / fish).
4. You are taking 16 acres of agricultural land.

Barbara Smart
2419 Vista Lane
Anacortes Wa 98221
206-719-5016

From: [jon fleur](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Fw: Goldeneye battery storage system
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 7:18:25 PM

External Email

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: jon fleur <jonfleur@yahoo.com>
To: "comment@efsec.wa.gov" <comment@efsec.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 07:04:06 PM PDT
Subject: Fw: Goldeneye battery storage system

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Jon Fleurichamp <jonfleur@yahoo.com>
To: "efsec@efsec.wa.gov" <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 at 01:43:29 PM PDT
Subject: Goldeneye battery storage system

I am the property owner just south of the project along Hanson Creek. My only concern with the project is the stormwater runoff. I've lived on this property for 43 years and I have seen the Hanson Creek run at maximum a few times. My main concern is the culvert at Hohen Road, it is the choke point that

runs at 100% at least 12 times a year, i've looked at the projects flood study. It talks about how the state straightening a creek between Highway 20 and Minkler it also talks about the covert at Minkler Road, which has been replaced with a bridge does not address downstream from the project again which is a choke point. be an idea for State to look at putting a bridge to replacing the culvert just my two cents worth I just don't want my house to get flooded thank you.

Jon Fleurichamp
Sent from my iPhone

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Stop BESS in Skagit county.
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 1:30:39 PM
Attachments: [STOP BESS.pdf](#)

From: Shawna Turcott <shawna@shelterpm.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 12:55 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Cc: Tony Branson <Tony@olsenlawfirm.com>; Mike Simonitch <mike@shelterpm.com>
Subject: Stop BESS in Skagit county.

External Email

Stop BESS in Skagit county. Save our county the Judy reservoir and the Skagit river from this potential disaster.

I manage Van Fleets MHP in SedroWoolley we have 75 families in our senior park. What about our septic systems and drain fields if they have to use 100's of thousands of gallons of water to put a battery fire out. I can not imagine the noise we will here at our park. This location is about a block away from the park .

Kind regards

Shawna Turcott

24919 Hoehn Rd Unit 35

Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Van Fleets Mobile Home Park 55+ Community, Manager

Please help STOP this BESS from endangering us, our families, our homes, and Sedro Woolley!



Industrial lithium Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility is being located east of Downtown and on Hansen Creek.

This facility will house 10-acres full of 100s of containers full of dangerous lithium batteries (with loud AC units) and will try to keep them from overheating and spontaneously combusting & releasing deadly chemicals and gasses.

There is no known method of extinguishing Lithium battery fires- so when there is a fire, it can't be extinguished and the millions of lithium batteries could burn for weeks requiring evacuations for everyone within 2 miles and shelter-in-place orders for everyone within 5 miles until the fire extinguishes itself.

The toxins/gasses release by the Lithium battery fires are so dangerous that firefighters in HAZMAT gear wait for the gasses to thin out (get blown away by the wind) before getting close to the fire- here are a few of the gasses/toxins released during a lithium battery fire: **Hydrogen cyanide (HCN), Ammonia (NH₃), Chlorine (Cl₂), Hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), and Hydrogen Fluoride (HF) aka hydrofluoric acid when mixed with water.**

When there is a fire, the gasses/smoke can kill everyone if not evacuated in less than 3 minutes of exposure to the deadly gasses/smoke.

Firefighters will spray up to 20 Millions gallons of water (as seen in the recent Otay Mesa, CA BESS fire) on nearby containers to attempt to keep them cool in the hopes to prevent them from spontaneously combusting- but water can NOT extinguish a Lithium battery fire and will only become contaminated and run off site..

Nothing can prevent nor extinguish Lithium Battery fires- so no Fire or Safety Codes can help.

They want to locate this massive industrial battery energy storage facility next to Hansen Creek on Minkler RD and close enough to downtown Sedro Woolley to force evacuations for all schools, homes, and businesses for **up to two weeks** when there is a fire..

This proposed industrial facility is called the "GoldenEye" BESS and it is bypassing local and county permitting requirements by seeking approval at the state level (going through the EFSEC- where Jay Inslee has exclusive approval powers and is being built by Tenaska- a Nebraska based oil, gas, and energy company.

If you want more info about risks/dangers/impact on your homes' value, there is a lot of data at another local group's FB group page "Stop the proposed Covington Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)"

What can you do to help?

Tenaska is giving their sales pitch to the EFSEC in Sedro Woolley TOMORROW **Tuesday (August 13th) at 5pm**. You can show up in person, online, call in, AND please also email to voice your concerns- and to speak, please register before 5:00 pm on August 13, 2024.:

Please join in Person: Sedro-Woolley Community Center 703 Pacific St Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Please join by Telephone: +1 (564)-999-2000. Conference ID: 507869111#

Please also email your concerns to: efsec@efsec.wa.gov

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Tenaska Request for a BESS in Skagit County
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 7:24:37 AM

From: kmweise@comcast.net <kmweise@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 7:44 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Tenaska Request for a BESS in Skagit County

External Email

Please do significant research regarding the addition of a BESS unit in Skagit County. We continue to push back in Covington and here is why:

Tenaska came to speak at the Covington City council meeting to inform of us of their proposal. Since that meeting we have found:

They lied about Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) batteries being safe- when, in fact, while only having a 100 degree higher ignition temperature- LFP actually releases a more deadly cocktail of smoke/gas and has proven to be the battery type involved in about 75% of recent BESS fires..

-They lied about sound levels- just like with the Sound Study provided for the Sedro Woolley BESS, they had the engineers run their sound study with the AC and other components operating at 40% capacity- when in Fact, the worst case daily operating levels will be in the 80%-100% capacity and will be exponentially louder (average sound levels for BEES are 96db to 106db) and they only provided the sound levels created by a single BESS container- not all the containers sound levels as a whole- as other BESS sound studies have shown here: <https://www.facebook.com/.../permalink/3479047982403050/>

-They lied about the BESS benefitting us locally- but said they would be selling the power out of state to "wherever the demand is highest" even if we were "dark" and out electricity was out. They should have to sign a contract saying NO power will be exported out of WA state- and if that isn't acceptable, then they should be charged a gross receipts tax (at a 80% or higher tax rate) for every kilowatt exported out of WA State- as exporting power for their private company's profits doesn't benefit WA state and especially Sedro Woolley....

-They lied and said they were building this to help WA state and PSE hit the State's CETA energy storage goals- but will be exporting the power other states- leaving thie batteries empty or depleted if/when we need the power. They will be charging and discharging (selling the power) the batteries as fast as they can running to make as much profit as possible- FYI, other state utilities have paid BESS owners as much as \$5,000 per kilowatt and this BESS will hold 800,000 Kilowatts in a single 4-hour charge (the equivalent of 200k homes' electrical usage) and could make \$4,000,000,000 (\$4 BILLION with one charge if sold at the highest recent prices)

-They lied about the tax revenues- The only taxes that will be seen are sales tax by construction

workers buying lunch if they don't bring their own lunches.

-They lied about jobs, the jobs will all last a couple months as the whole facility is plug and play after the gravel and concrete pads are completed with wiring. There is no long term benefit- only risks....

They lied about the risks- they minimize the risk for fire and events. They don't provide an evacuation plan. They don't even know what tactics will be used when there is a fire- but there will be a QR code for firefighters to read!

They didn't mention defensive fire-spray water run-off containment as there could be up to 20 million gallons of defensive water spray run-off

They didn't mention till the end of the Covington City Council presentation that they will try to sell the BESS to wipe their hands clean of any future risks. Nor did they mention their incident plan if they are still the owner- which is have GoldFinch Enrgy LLC FILE BANKRUPTCY and leave Sedro Woolley and Skagit holding the cleanup bill...

Please do not allow this facility to move forward. The cost to the citizens of Skagit County, the land and animals in the area is just not worth it.

Thank you,

Kristen Weise

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Concerned citizen
Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 4:30:29 PM

From: Amanda Pederson <amanda.elijah0812@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 12:58 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Concerned citizen

External Email

To whom this my concern,

Hi I'm reaching out to voice my concerns on behalf of myself, my family, our community here at the Van Fleet Mobile Home Park and residents of Sedro Woolley, WA.

This proposal has raised huge concerns among many people who live near the surrounding area of this proposed project. If this project is approved the city of Sedro Woolley will be placing the lives of it's tax paying citizens in immense fear and uncertainty of the future for their lives and potentially at fault for the deaths of many. These dangers should be considered when it comes to protecting the lives of the people of our community.

I'm a full time single stay at home disabled mother of two young children. I own my mobile home in the Van fleet mobile home park but rent a space. I'm on a fixed income, how am I supposed to pay to move my home to insure the safety of my children. I cannot afford to sell and rent somewhere else with the way the economy is. I have searched every avenue possible and I found no solution for my situation if this proposal were to pass. Is this city of Sedro Woolley going to pay to move my home to a safer neighborhood?

All I want for my children is for them to be safe, healthy and happy.

I never thought I would have to stress over something such as this. I have Multiple Sclerosis and Fibromyalgia and stress triggers relapses so I'm really trying not to worry too much. I'm praying that God protects us and this situation.

I have many questions and if this passes I will be seeking legal advice and action, as well as many others.

Thank you for your time and God bless.

Amanda Pederson
360 941-1614
[Amanda.elijah0812@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.elijah0812@gmail.com)
24919 Hoehn Rd unit 48
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: No to Sedro
Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 8:52:42 AM

From: Aprill Graham <aprill.graham@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 9:09 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: No to Sedro

External Email

No BESS in Sedro Woolley. Please and thank you. Homeowner, taxpayer, healthcare professional with 4 degrees, no!

Thanks

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Sedro Woolley Lithium Batteries Storage facility
Date: Thursday, August 15, 2024 11:34:17 AM

From: Earl Stanley <gratefulness93@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2024 9:20 AM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Sedro Woolley Lithium Batteries Storage facility

External Email

To Whom It Concerns:

It occurs to me that this matter "concerns" or affects MANY more people and generations to come than will ever read this message.

Why? Why put this facility right in the middle of a wetland, supposedly protected, that is fragile and floods regularly. An accident - which will surely happen; accidents always happen - will cause destruction all the way to Puget Sound. Destruction of some of the most fertile land in the country. WE fought off a nuclear reactor in the 70's. And we'll fight this. The pristine nature of Skagit Valley is why we live here. This is a threat, plain and simple. And being sneaky about avoiding local due process for a direct deal through the Governor's office (This one, or the next one?) only indicates that you all know good and well what you are trying to do, here. It doesn't even pass the smell test. Our infrastructure will not support this monstrosity. You are trying to jam a square peg into a round hole.

Why? Why not put your operation somewhere that is already damaged from failed promises of toxic enterprises such as this? Like Hanford, Gulf of Mexico/BP, Bhopal, Three Mile Island, Valdez, or wherever. That list of domestic environmental disasters is long enough. Do not bring your operation here! Not HERE, please!

Sincerely,

Tim Maloy
E Gateway Heights Loop
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

From: [Jon Fleurichamp](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Sedro Woolley BESS
Date: Thursday, August 15, 2024 7:11:11 PM

External Email

good afternoon my name is John Fleurichamp. I live on a parcel land just south of the proposed battery energy storage along Hanson Creek.

I was looking online noticing that battery energy storage sites do have a reputation of catching on fire, may not be big ones but still require a lot of water to keep it under control. Where is the water going to go, that has toxic chemicals and it is it gonna get eventually flushed out to Hanson Creek

and into the Skagit river which is a wild and scenic river Department needs to get on the ball on this one

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Goldeneye
Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 10:01:11 AM

From: Sally Carlson <sallyin.sedro@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 18, 2024 8:11 AM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Goldeneye

External Email

Dear people of efsec,

Thank you so much for your time informing the small town of Sedro-woolley of this upcoming project. Now it's time I inform you of a few things.

1. People in our community were not informed of this project, this includes the general public and our local Tribes.
2. We here in Skagit valley are generational. This project is proposed on land that has raised beef and dairy cows, strawberries, peas, potatoes and corn. We like to eat, don't you?
3. This is also on land that has a salmon spawning creek on it.
4. It is in very close proximity to a trailer park with 100+ older folks and families who could not afford to relocate in the event of a lithium ion battery fire!

In conclusion, this is a very bad idea. Please reconsider your decision.

Sally Carlson

From: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Lithium proposed site in Sedro-Woolley
Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 10:01:18 AM

From: stephannie estrada <stephannie1estrada@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 8:29 PM
To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>
Subject: Lithium proposed site in Sedro-Woolley

External Email

This site is not wanted as it poses a risk to our lives and others as well as our river and lands. If a fire should happen we haven't a place to go or monies to do so. We have pets that haven't a place to go. I wouldn't have time to get important papers together, medication, necessities and medication. I can't believe you would want to place something that could be so hazardous so close to human activity. The people here wouldn't be able to sell their homes . Cordially, Stephannie Estrada

From: [connie Krier](#)
To: [Ahmed, Zia \(EFSEC\); EFSEC mi Comments; DOR Skagit County Leg Authority](#)
Cc: Ljanicki@co.skagit.wa.us
Subject: Goldeneye information request / Public Records request
Date: Saturday, August 17, 2024 4:10:33 PM

External Email

Zia -

Thank you for being available to the public for information regarding the Goldeneye project in Skagit County. My name is Connie Krier, I am the moderator of a facebook page opposing the Goldeneye project. This page gained 343 local members, in 24 hours, and is growing daily. There is much information needed and additional concerns are growing. You have been designated as the POC for EFSEC regarding this project and your email and name is who we are directed to contact for information.

The community has MANY questions about the process, the actual timeline, what notification process is being followed, the vagueness of information presented by the contractor, the contractor lack of knowledge of how many BESS plants they currently operate, How the public's comments will be responded to from the public comment meeting (if at all).

Please provide the following information

- What rules does EFSEC follow regarding public notifications?

Please provide the WAC or RCW that governs public notices for WA state or EFSEC in regard to notifying the public, affected residents and interested parties of proposed projects.

- Please provide an exact timeline for submission of information required from the contractor, along with relevant review timeline dates, and exact dates for public comments. Or how many days from each step to the next. for both the regular and expedited process.

-When using the expedited process Per WAC 463-43 as stated at the public meeting, what Criteria is required by the contractor to be eligible for that process?

- Is this project currently on the expedited process track? If so , have they met the local permitting and zoning requirements required by WAC 463-43?

- if local permits and zoning requirements have been met, please provide a copy of that information.

- The contractor claimed during their presentation "communications with agencies, stakeholders and tribes had taken place" who were these communications with? Specifically with what officials and agencies, who are the stakeholders, who wee the tribal members, what was discussed in those meetings (as none of them seem to have been aware of these communications when asked).

All this information should be available through public disclosure: the names of those agencies, the date of the meeting or communications, the form of communications, who was present or involved in those communications and what was discussed?

- The Joint open house/ public meeting/ hearing that took place on a single day seems to be out of the normal procedure for EFSEC.

why did the open house, public comment and hearing all take place within 2 hours of each other?

What the standard procedure for holding these 3 meetings?

How were citizens, stakeholders, agencies and tribal governments informed the hearing was a judicial matter?

- Many small rural areas and Tribal governments have never had to deal with EFSEC's ability to override local authority as this is the first time a contractor has applied directly to EFSEC to circumvent local Permitting. The contractor was aware and EFSEC was aware there would be a judge, attorneys and sworn in witnesses at the hearing. Yet none of our local county commissioners, citizens or tribal governments knew this legal proceeding would be taking place at 7:00PM after a public comment meeting.

How does EFSEC work with small rural communities, Local Tribal governments and stakeholders of small areas to notify, educate and inform them of the legal process steps for EFSEC and their rights when legal proceedings will be taking place?

- What is the Official application Date for the Goldeneye project that is being used as the "start" time for permitting process including the expedited process?

- What are the requirements for public notification of public meetings? or where - can those state requirements be found?

- Type of project this is being permitted under?

- How is this project connected to a power plant?

-Is this project considered to be a power plant?

- Is this project a necessity for the operation and safety of a transmission system? if so how?

- Is this facility a delivery system for energy or simply a storage system?

- Is This project being Fast Tracked per WAC 463-43-0303?

- Does EFSEC intend on using the 60 day requirement for fast tracking this project, based on the application date? or has a different date been agreed upon?

If a different date has been agreed upon, what is that date?

- What is the date of the next public comment opportunity?

- Will the EFSEC meeting on 8/21 allow for public comment?

- Will the EFSEC meeting on 8/21 in any way move the project forward to the next step or allow for any type of voting by the council to occur for this project?

-When will the state department of ecology be conducting an environmental study based on the salmon creek and wetlands independent of the contractors paid for environmental study?

- When will EFSEC or WA state department of ecology be conducting baseline noise monitoring at the proposed site, to determine the environmental impact of this facility based on "normal" current conditio, per WAC 173-58 and WAC 173-60?

- When will the baseline monitoring report showing the potential comparison of that baseline against the noise monitoring from a BESS facility with fans running at more than 50% and at 100%? (as we are aware the contractors noise monitoring information was incomplete when presented,)

- If no baseline noise sampling will be occurring in this currently agricultural, non industrial, no noise producing area, Why is baseline noise monitoring non necessity?

-How many currently active and running BESS facilities are owned by Tenaska in the US? (information not available on their website)

- How many active permits for BESS facilities does Tenaska have open in WA state at this time?

- How many times has Tenaska not used local zoning and permitting, and applied directly to EFSEC for a BESS facility permit?
- Is the representative from the AG's office intended to be available for community protection or for representation of the EFSEC advice?
- Is the EFSEC prepared to conduct any public meetings where citizens will have the ability to ask questions and receive answers?
(The meeting on the 13th, allowed the EFSEC director to ask unspecific leading questions to the contractor and receive generic answers, while citizens were told to comment and no response would be given because appropriate time was not available).
- How many BESS sites are currently active in WA state?
- Where are the active BESS sites in WA specifically located?
- How has EFSEC determined the long term effects of these BESS facilities on the communities and environments?

This is a start on the questions being asked, due to the expedited timeline from EFSEC on this project, the unknown schedule of the project to the public, and the late date of the public meetings (day 46 of the 60 day requirement), the answers to these questions are quick and quick response. IF there is going to be a delay in the answer to any of these questions, there should also be a delay of the same time frame in place for the project as a whole.

All communications regarding this project with EFSEC, and the contractor with stakeholders, should be public record and kept documented and easily accessible for review and distribution to the public.

This email is enough per state law, to be considered a public records request. However if for some reason the EFSEC decides they have a different set of rules to follow for information/ public records requests please provide the information on what EFSEC requires, and why they require a different process than state law?

Thank you for your time and expedient response.
Connie Krier, SMS