



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL**

*PO Box 43172 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3172*

**August 30, 2005 Special Meeting Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Luce called the August 30, 2005, special meeting to order at the Hal Holmes Community Center, 209 North Ruby Street, Ellensburg, Washington, at 1:00 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Council members present were:**

Richard Fryhling	Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development
Hedia Adelsman	Department of Ecology (by phone)
Chris Towne	Department of Fish and Wildlife
Tom Sweeney	Utilities and Transportation Commission
Jim Luce	Chair

A quorum was present to conduct business.

**Staff in attendance were:**

Allen Fiksdal – EFSEC Manager, Irina Makarow – Siting Manager

**Guests in attendance were:**

Lee Bates; Harold D. Hochstetter; Helen Wise; Scott Williams – PSE; Aimee Martin – KAPP-TV Yakima; Patti Johnson – Kittitas County; Roger Garratt – PSE; Milt Johnston – DNR; Brian Lenz – PSE; Jennifer Diaz – Horizon Wind Energy; Robert Kruse – Friends of Wildlife and Windpower; Debbie Strand – Economic Development Group of Kittitas County

**3. WILD HORSE WIND POWER PROJECT**

<i>Public Hearing and Consideration of Wind Ridge Power Partners' Request to Transfer Control of the Wild Horse Wind Power Project to Puget Sound Energy</i>	<i>Allen Fiksdal, EFSEC</i>
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Please refer to the attached transcript of the meeting.

**4. ADJOURN**

The Council meeting was adjourned at the conclusion of the tour, at 1:52 p.m.

BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the matter of: )  
 Application No. 2004-01 )  
 )  
 WIND RIDGE POWER PARTNERS, LLC, ) Public Comment Hearing  
 )  
 WILD HORSE WIND POWER PROJECT ) Pages 1 - 42  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )  
 )

A Public Comment Hearing in the above matter was held in the presence of a court reporter on August 30, 2005, at 1:00 p.m., at the Hal Holmes Community Center in the Kittitas Room at 209 North Ruby Street, in Ellensburg, Washington, before Energy Facility Site Evaluation Councilmembers.

\* \* \* \* \*

CHAIR LUCE: The special Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council Meeting for August 30, 2005 will come to order. The purpose of this meeting is to consider and potentially act on a transfer of the site certificate agreement from Wind Ridge Power Partners to Puget Sound Energy.

The clerk would call the roll.

MR. FIKSDAL: Department of Community Trade and Economic Development?

MR. FRYHLING: Dick Fryhling is here.

MR. FIKSDAL: Department of Ecology?

MS. ADELSMAN: Hedia Adelsman by phone.

MR. FIKSDAL: Department of Fish and Wildlife?

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1 MS. TOWNE: Chris Towne is present.  
2 MR. FIKSDAL: Department of Natural  
3 Resources? We note that Judy Wilson is not going to be  
4 here today.  
5 Utilities and Transportation Commission?  
6 MR. SWEENEY: Tim Sweeney.  
7 MR. FIKSDAL: And Chair?  
8 CHAIR LUCE: Chair is present.  
9 MR. FIKSDAL: We do have a quorum,  
10 Mr. Chairman.  
11 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you. Mr. Fiksdal, would  
12 you care to make a statement regarding the purpose of our  
13 presence here today?  
14 MR. FIKSDAL: Thank you. The Energy Facility  
15 Site Evaluation Council on August 8 received a joint  
16 request from Zilkha now known as Horizon Wind Energy.  
17 MS. ADELSMAN: I can't hear anything.  
18 Hello?  
19 MR. FIKSDAL: We're here. We're just trying  
20 to arrange the microphone. Can you hear us now, Hedia?  
21 CHAIR LUCE: Hedia?  
22 MR. FIKSDAL: Hedia, can you hear us?  
23 CHAIR LUCE: We have a quorum. Let's  
24 proceed.  
25 MR. FIKSDAL: On August 8, EFSEC received a

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1 request from Horizon Energy or Horizon Wind Energy and  
2 Puget Sound Energy to transfer a site certification  
3 agreement--  
4 MS. ADELSMAN: Can you hear me?  
5 CHAIR LUCE: Yes, we can hear you, Hedia,  
6 very clearly. You just hang in there.  
7 Go ahead.  
8 MR. FIKSDAL: Request a transfer of the site  
9 certification agreement for the Wild Horse Wind Power  
10 Project from Horizon to Puget Sound Energy and approve  
11 assurances for funding of decommissioning. Also a request  
12 to note the change from Zilkha to Horizon Wind and want to  
13 note that the procedure for amending the site  
14 certification agreement is set out in Chapter 463-60 of  
15 the Washington Administrative Code. The Council's rules  
16 require that a hearing be conducted and receive public  
17 comment on the transfer request of the site certification  
18 agreement, and that is why we are here today.  
19 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, Mr. Fiksdal.  
20 Ms. Makarow, do you have a list of parties  
21 or people who have signed up to testify on behalf of this  
22 proposed transfer?  
23 We have three people that have signed up.  
24 The first person is Lee Bates. Lee, are you here? Lee,  
25 you want to make a public statement with respect to this

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1 meeting?  
2 MR. BATES: Yes.  
3 CHAIR LUCE: Why don't you come forward and  
4 make one. Lee, if you could state for the record your  
5 full name and your address.  
6 MR. BATES: Lee Bates, 1509 Brick Road,  
7 Ellensburg.  
8 CHAIR LUCE: Proceed.  
9 COMMENTS BY LEE BATES  
10 I feel there could be a transfer of control  
11 of the Wild Horse Wind Farm to Puget Sound Energy, but I  
12 think there has been a creation of a lack of trust for the  
13 public. Number one, Zilkha bypassed Kittitas County and  
14 went to EFSEC to decide on the Wind Farm, and one concern  
15 I have is Puget Sound Energy will probably increase  
16 electric rates due to the wind farm.  
17 CHAIR LUCE: Do you have anything else to  
18 add?  
19 MR. BATES: No.  
20 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you. If you have a  
21 written statement, you could give it to Ms. Makarow and we  
22 could put it into the record; otherwise, your statement is  
23 being transcribed by the court reporter, and it will be a  
24 matter of record. But if you have anything beyond what  
25 you've told us today, please give it to Ms. Makarow.

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1 Thank you very much for your comments.  
2 CHAIR LUCE: Mr. Hochstetter, Harold  
3 Hochstetter.  
4 MR. HOCHSTETTER: Thank you.  
5 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you.  
6 COMMENTS BY HAROLD HOCHSTETTER  
7 You can hear me without speaking into the  
8 mic. Harold Hochstetter, 2104 Marina Drive in Moses Lake.  
9 I do not want to impede the wind farm. I think that's a  
10 fairly good preamble every time we get together. My  
11 concern is--how does the old song go? I'm not raining on  
12 your parade. How does that go? No, rivers stay away from  
13 my door--you're the closing road, and that is a bone of  
14 contention for me.  
15 I'm number one in the final thing on the  
16 EIS, and in there Anthony Hoare says I've got information  
17 that shows that that's always been a public road. Well,  
18 isn't that cool? Don't you guys take testimony? Isn't  
19 that what you do? Why don't you say, Tony, put your cards  
20 up? Isn't that fair to ask him for his information, if he  
21 has information? Isn't that the time to give it? Some of  
22 us are pledged to go to jail over this saying that if the  
23 road is closed--and you've got all the cases that I sent  
24 you--if the road is closed, we will cut the lock.  
25 And Tony Hoare says I have got information

1 that says that the gate has been closed, has been locked  
2 to maintain public access. Now why would he say that? He  
3 would say that because he knows that you must maintain  
4 that or it does become public access. That's why he would  
5 make that assertion.

6 But it's the obvious thing for him to say  
7 this, and there's my hold card because some of us think  
8 he's bluffing. Any poker players here? Some of us think  
9 he's bluffing or he would put up his information. Tony to  
10 say that and me to deny it makes an issue, doesn't it?  
11 And the burden of proof rests with Tony. He either knows  
12 it or he doesn't know it. If Tony knows it, he is  
13 inexcusable for not presenting his information and proving  
14 his case. That is if Tony knows it. If Tony doesn't know  
15 it, Tony is inexcusable for sitting on his hands when he's  
16 tried and failed to prove his case. I say Road 18, Beacon  
17 Road, is a public road. I've sent you the cases.

18 I want the wind farm built. Three ways  
19 around this, three ways around this: Do nothing. Let us  
20 drive through like we always did. Secondly, fence the  
21 corridor through it or a road around it so we can still  
22 get to our property. Third, lock the gate and I'll call  
23 the sheriff and I'll call Chris Taylor or whoever is your  
24 designated and say I'm cutting your lock. Let's put this  
25 issue in the courts where it belongs. It doesn't belong

1 in front of the County Commissioners. This is state law.  
2 That's option three: bust me in effect. And, four, it  
3 seems the simple and obvious thing is ask Tony for the  
4 proof. It was a fence wire gate until 1996. You can't  
5 block a fence wire gate. People take it apart. It became  
6 a corral panel gate in '96 through an issue with Larry  
7 Wyatt's horse.

8 One of the things about giving somebody a  
9 key--and I've rehearsed this with you before--my little  
10 wife weighs 110 pounds, comes down to that gate with her  
11 key, and up against that gate is a bunch of unsuccessful  
12 or successful elk hunters in various stages of  
13 inebriation. That I say that, forgive me, elk hunters.  
14 They want out of that gate. They would like to go home.  
15 She's got the key.

16 Now, if you've ever tried to open a gate and  
17 let one horse out, you get the whole bunch. She's in a  
18 real problem because she's going to open that gate and  
19 drive her rig through. But what does she do with all the  
20 rest of all those folks?

21 That's my objection. Take a look at the  
22 thing where Tony Hoare says I have got information. Come  
23 on, Tony. Let us see your whole card. But until then  
24 whoever, Puget Sound or whoever gets this, inherits me and  
25 my problem, don't they? Because I'm going to go up there

1 and call them if they will give me their designated phone,  
2 cut the lock, and drive through there; and I'll call the  
3 sheriff and he'll bust me, and this will end up in the  
4 court where it belongs. But it really needs to be solved  
5 now, and one of those four options ought to work.

6 Thank you so much for listening. You guys  
7 really have a tough job listening to guys like me sound  
8 off, but I don't want to be locked out of my happy home.  
9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, Mr. Hochstetter. We  
11 appreciate your remarks.

12 Mr. Robert Kruse?

13 MR. KRUSE: Kruse.

14 CHAIR LUCE: Kruse. Do you have a statement  
15 to make?

16 MR. KRUSE: Yes, I do.

17 CHAIR LUCE: Why don't you come forward and  
18 please give the court reporter your full name and address  
19 and offer your statement.

20 COMMENTS BY ROBERT KRUSE

21 I am Robert Kruse. I'm here representing  
22 Friends of Wildlife and Wind Power. Address is 5936  
23 California Avenue S.W., Seattle, 98136. I represent a  
24 citizens group that was involved in the adjudicative  
25 hearings process for the Wild Horse Project up to the

1 point of the adjudicative hearings itself. But prior to  
2 the beginning of those and through a process of  
3 negotiation and involvement with Zilkha and Puget Sound  
4 Energy our group was thankfully, graciously received by  
5 Zilkha and Puget Sound Energy to allow us to present our  
6 concerns particularly with respect to wildlife and  
7 wildlife issues, and we went through a wonderful process  
8 of communication and negotiations about the project and  
9 our concerns; and we came to agreement on a number of  
10 points having principally to do with conservation issues  
11 through the course of those negotiations.

12 Our purpose in being here today is to bring  
13 to the floor once again the high points of those  
14 processes, the agreements that we came to, and to assure  
15 that some of those points are passed along by virtue of  
16 this process of the transfer of the ownership from Zilkha  
17 to Puget Sound Energy.

18 Along with that, however, we wanted to  
19 express our congratulations and appreciation for the  
20 process that Zilkha, Puget Sound Energy, and EFSEC Council  
21 have allowed the public to participate in all of the  
22 issues related to the project that anybody has a concern  
23 about and we feel that it's been a great and viable  
24 process and one that has borne fruit in a lot of different  
25 ways and congratulate you and look forward to a successful

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 project for Puget Sound Energy now.  2 With respect to conservation issues, we  3 first wanted to applaud the inclusion in the final  4 Environmental Impact Statement the acknowledgement that a  5 conservation easement will be placed on the lands of the  6 project, and we look forward to the furtherance of that.  7 We realize it's a process that yet needs to be gone  8 through, but we're very interested in that, and we do hope  9 to see it conclude in a successful way where conservation  10 truly is a part of the continuing operations of the  11 facility and that wildlife will be taken into  12 consideration.  13 As part of that and as part of the  14 negotiations that we went through we brought to Zilkha and  15 Puget Sound Energy our particular concerns of how the  16 springs that are within the project area their sensitivity  17 and importance to wildlife and our belief that great care  18 needs to be taken of the springs, the springs area, and  19 consideration given to their value to wildlife.  20 It appears by virtue of the site  21 certification agreement that acknowledgement of the  22 importance of those springs is very much on the screen of  23 everyone involved in the project, and we just bring it up  24 to let you folks know we are very interested in it as  25 well. There are issues left yet to be resolved. As we</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 impacts that the project will have could have a huge  2 impact on wildlife. We are of the belief that road  3 enhancement and by virtue of that increased human contact  4 with the wildlife resource in the area could be  5 devastating, and so it was agreed amongst us that road  6 enhancement or development would not be promoted or  7 advocated by Zilkha or Puget Sound Energy; and we wish to  8 reinforce that and hope that that continues to play a part  9 in the understanding, the long-term understanding of the  10 project and its impacts on wildlife.  11 We discussed at some length lighting of the  12 finished project. We're concerned light contamination is  13 going to have an impact on the wildlife and humans just by  14 virtue of light pollution, and so Zilkha and Puget Sound  15 Energy have agreed to participate in lobbying efforts with  16 the FAA to the extent possible. We won't profess to have  17 well-developed thinking about just what forum the FAA will  18 allow in the public discussion about lighting issues but  19 discussing that with them to the extent that light  20 pollution can be minimized in the final project is of  21 great interest to us.  22 It is our hope that no daylight lighting of  23 the turbines will be required by the FAA, and that very  24 minimal nighttime lighting will actually be the final  25 decision of the FAA. But in order to achieve that we</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 understand it by the management of wildlife concerns and  2 how to manage the spring areas that responsibility for  3 which is going to be placed with the Technical Advisory  4 Committee.  5 The Technical Advisory Committee is a group  6 that's apparently left yet to be formulated. We're very  7 interested in that, and we applaud what appears to be the  8 efforts to involve people in that group from a wide  9 cross-section of interested parties so that a good  10 spectrum of opinion can be offered up about the proper  11 management of the lands; specific issues such as the  12 springs themselves, whether or not they'll be fenced or  13 not, whether they'll be protected from the degradation by  14 livestock grazing and those kind of things.  15 We're appreciative of the form within which  16 it appears that sufficient consideration for those kinds  17 of issues is going to be given, and we look forward to the  18 evolution of those items. We appreciate it very much as  19 Zilkha and Puget Sound Energy's agreement that they would  20 not advocate or promote the enhancement or development of  21 roadways unnecessarily, roadways or trails within the  22 project boundaries but also outside of the project  23 boundaries.  24 We have specific concerns that road  25 enhancement, if it were to occur, in addition to the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 believe that lobbying efforts are going to be required.  2 We would appreciate the EFSEC Council's participation in  3 that to the extent that you can, but we want to reinforce  4 that Puget Sound Energy has agreed to participate in that  5 particular issue as well.  6 Public access is an item of interest. The  7 site certification agreement and the environmental impact  8 statement speak to the developer's acknowledgement that a  9 plan must be developed. We understand there's no final  10 plan yet developed, but it appears that the developer and  11 the EFSEC Council are hoping to try to put together a plan  12 that gives those necessary interested parties the access  13 that they need in order to access their properties which  14 are in close proximity. I'm one of those property owners  15 and one of the closest property owners to the project  16 site. So members of our group and me do have an interest  17 in that particular issue, and we would enjoy continued  18 participation with Puget Sound Energy and the discussions  19 on those issues.  20 We talked about maintenance and the impact  21 of maintenance activities on wildlife and acknowledge that  22 keeping the disturbance of wildlife with respect to its  23 relationship to maintenance activities to a minimum would  24 be a good thing. Puget Sound Energy agreed to that  25 concept and agreed to manage maintenance processes in ways</p>

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1 which would minimize the impacts to wildlife.  
2 Chris and I had kind of a joking comment  
3 that was developed amongst us that there would never be  
4 more than two guys in a pickup truck maintaining turbines  
5 at one time. We realize that's not possible in some  
6 cases, but that was the general theme of our discussions;  
7 and we would appreciate long-term acknowledgment of those  
8 ideas.  
9 We truly do want to applaud the support of  
10 all three entities--Zilkha, Puget Sound Energy, and EFSEC  
11 Council--and support those efforts of the Trust for Public  
12 Lands and the Cascade Land Conservancy to become more  
13 involved in the project as time passes. The Trust for  
14 Public Lands, of course, is doing the best that it can to  
15 help to preserve and conserve those lands surrounding the  
16 project site. They will play a key role in the  
17 preservation of wildlife and conservation in the area as  
18 will we hope the Cascade Land Conservancy. So we're all  
19 familiar with them. We know what they do. We know that  
20 they're the best in the state when it comes to stewardship  
21 and conservation issues, and we would ask that their  
22 continued involvement and support both politically and  
23 financially be a long-term part of the management of the  
24 Wild Horse Project and the surrounding lands.  
25 Those are the high points of what we wanted

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1 to say today to reinforce some of the high points of the  
2 agreements that were discussed and come to in some cases  
3 with Zilkha and Puget Sound Energy, and we would like to  
4 make sure that those concepts and agreements are passed  
5 along with this transfer of ownership. Thanks and best  
6 wishes to you all and congratulations on where you've  
7 taken the project thus far. We truly support wind power  
8 in this state.  
9 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you very much, sir. I  
10 think Councilmember Towne may have one question for you.  
11 MS. TOWNE: Mr. Kruse, we had a letter in  
12 our record from the attorney who represented your  
13 organization, David Bricklin, which laid out the points  
14 that you have described today--  
15 MR. KRUSE: Yes.  
16 MS. TOWNE: --and wanted to know for the  
17 record do you endorse what he has set forth in his letter  
18 to EFSEC?  
19 MR. KRUSE: Wholeheartedly.  
20 MS. TOWNE: All right. One of the points in  
21 there you did not touch on was your request for a seat on  
22 the Technical Advisory Committee; is that correct?  
23 MR. KRUSE: I haven't brought that up today.  
24 MS. TOWNE: Do you so ask?  
25 MR. KRUSE: We are very interested in having

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1 a member of our group participate in the Technical  
2 Advisory Committee, yes.  
3 MS. TOWNE: Thank you.  
4 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, sir. I appreciate  
5 your remarks.  
6 MR. KRUSE: Thank you.  
7 CHAIR LUCE: Do we have other members of the  
8 public that would like to testify at today's hearing?  
9 Yes, please come forward and state your  
10 name.  
11 MS. STRAND: Debbie Strand.  
12 CHAIR LUCE: And your address?  
13 MS. STRAND: Yes. Debbie Strand, Economic  
14 Development Group of Kittitas County, 221 East Fourth,  
15 Ellensburg, Washington.  
16 CHAIR LUCE: Debbie.  
17 STATEMENT OF DEBBIE STRAND  
18 I just wanted to say that the organization  
19 has been in support of this project since its beginning,  
20 and we do support the transfer of the application from  
21 Zilkha/Horizon Wind to Puget Sound Energy and would do  
22 whatever we can to help facilitate this transfer happening  
23 quickly.  
24 When Puget Sound Energy takes over the  
25 project there will be some additional tax benefits that

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1 would not be available if it was in the hands of a private  
2 company. So we wholeheartedly support this transfer and  
3 would do whatever we can to help facilitate it as an  
4 intervenor in the project.  
5 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you. Anything else to  
6 add?  
7 MS. STRAND: No, that's it.  
8 CHAIR LUCE: Do we have other members of the  
9 public that would like to testify today?  
10 I'm going to close the hearing in a minute  
11 and turn it over to the Council and to the Applicant and  
12 PSE. So I'm going to ask again do we have other members  
13 of the public that would like to testify today?  
14 Before I close the hearing, I want to offer  
15 special thanks to Kittitas County and their representative  
16 Patti Johnson and all the work that we've been able to put  
17 together here. I think it's been a very cooperative  
18 effort between both the Energy Siting Council and the  
19 County and Wild Horse Wind Partners and PSE. So thank you  
20 very much, Kittitas County and Kittitas County  
21 Representative.  
22 It there anyone else who wishes to testify  
23 at this hearing? Hearing no one else, the hearing is  
24 closed.  
25 Mr. Fiksdal, would you please explain the

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1 order and resolution that are now pending before the  
2 Council for action.  
3 MR. FIKSDAL: Actually we will have  
4 Ms. Makarow do that.  
5 CHAIR LUCE: Ms. Makarow, would you please  
6 describe to the Council.  
7 MS. MAKAROW: I will and just to close off  
8 the item with respect to public comment, the only other  
9 written public comment that was received by the Council  
10 was that that was referred to by Councilmember Towne and  
11 Mr. Kruse from David Bricklin, and it was distributed to  
12 all the Councilmembers here today, and it pretty much  
13 reflects what Mr. Kruse told you on the record.  
14 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you very much.  
15 MS. MAKAROW: So before you, you have a  
16 request from Zilkha/Horizon Energy dated August 4, 2005  
17 jointly with Puget Sound Energy to transfer the site  
18 certification agreement to Puget Sound Energy. The  
19 transfer of the site certification agreement would also  
20 lead to amendment of the site certification agreement to  
21 reflect the new certificate holder would be Puget Sound  
22 Energy. The procedure for transferring and amending a  
23 site certification agreement is governed by EFSEC statute  
24 Chapter 80.50 of the Revised Code of Washington and EFSEC  
25 rules Washington Administrative Code 463-66.

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1 Staff is proposing a two-tiered approach to  
2 the Council's consideration of this request. First, the  
3 Council through an order would approve or not transfer of  
4 the project to PSE, and once that first part of the action  
5 would be taken, and if it is positive and the project is  
6 transferred to PSE, PSE would then notify the Council of  
7 the actual transfer having taken place, and the Council  
8 would issue a resolution that would allow amendment of the  
9 site certification agreement to reflect that.  
10 So in your packets you have a proposed  
11 Council Order No. 815, an order on application for  
12 transfer of site certification agreement and approval of  
13 other assurances pursuant to Article VIII.D.3 of the site  
14 certification agreement and a proposed resolution of the  
15 No. 314 modification to the Wild Horse Wind Power Project  
16 Site Certification Agreement, and I will walk you through  
17 these two documents.  
18 Starting with the Council order there is a  
19 section on the background of this request indicating that  
20 the Council received a letter dated August 4 jointly from  
21 Wind Ridge Power Partners and Puget Sound Energy that  
22 requested transfer of the site certification agreement to  
23 PSE. By the same letter PSE requested that pursuant to  
24 Article VIII.D.3 of the Wild Horse Wind Power Project Site  
25 Certification Agreement--that is the article that relates

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1 to site decommission--that EFSEC would consider and  
2 approve another financial instrument or assurance that  
3 would provide for the certificate holder's performance of  
4 its decommissioning obligations mainly of those assurances  
5 provided in Section 6.4 of Attachment 4 to the site  
6 certification agreement, which is the development  
7 agreement entered into between Wind Ridge Power Partners  
8 and Kittitas County.  
9 PSE is a Washington regulated utility, and  
10 the background information gives information about the  
11 service to 1,000,000 electric customers and 672,000  
12 natural gas customers. PSE's total assets are over five  
13 billion dollars and its annual operating revenues are over  
14 two billion dollars and it has 2,200 employees. PSE also  
15 filed copies of the 2004 annual report providing a more  
16 detailed description of PSE's organization and its  
17 affiliation in the Wild Horse Wind Power Project and you  
18 have all received copies of that annual report.  
19 PSE is the largest and oldest utility in the  
20 State of Washington, and it is, of course, regulated by  
21 the WUTC, which is the Washington Utilities and  
22 Transportation Commission.  
23 The process for considering a request to  
24 transfer a site certification agreement is outlined in WAC  
25 463-66-100(4), and it indicates the relevant factors that

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1 the Council must consider prior to a decision.  
2 First, that the applicant satisfies the  
3 provisions of WAC 463-60-015 and 463-60-075, and these are  
4 the provisions for submittal of an application for site  
5 certification agreement relating to assurances and  
6 insurance, that the applicant for transfer is entitled to  
7 possession of the energy facility described in the  
8 certification agreement, and that the applicant agrees to  
9 abide by all the terms and conditions of the site  
10 certification agreement to be transferred and demonstrates  
11 it has the organizational, financial, managerial, and  
12 technical capability and is willing and able to comply  
13 with the terms and conditions of the site certification  
14 agreement being transferred. With respect to each of  
15 these three issues pursuant to WAC 463-66-100 through the  
16 joint letter, PSE, the successor in interest, has filed a  
17 formal petition to continue operation or other activities  
18 at the certificated site.  
19 Pursuant to WAC 463-66-100(1) and again  
20 through the joint letter, Wind Ridge filed a formal  
21 application to transfer the site certification agreement,  
22 and this application also has demonstrated PSE's  
23 organizational, financial, managerial, and technical  
24 capability to comply with the terms and the conditions of  
25 the site certification agreement.

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1 PSE agrees to comply with the assurances  
2 required by WAC 463-60-075, and I will go through those in  
3 a little bit more detail in a few moments, and in WAC  
4 463-66-100(3) and again through the joint letter, the  
5 current certificate holder has provided written consent to  
6 the transfer of the Wild Horse Wind Power Project Site  
7 Certification Agreement.  
8 As required by Council rule, notice was  
9 mailed to approximately 340 people on the Council's  
10 mailing list with respect to this project. The notice  
11 advised that this transfer was being requested and that a  
12 special meeting and informational hearing would be held  
13 today, August 30, 2005, in Ellensburg. Notice was also  
14 published in the Daily Record and notice also indicated  
15 that the Council would take comments here today. I note  
16 for the record that we received comments from four persons  
17 and one written comment letter also.  
18 With respect to the entitlement to  
19 possession of the energy facility described in the site  
20 certification agreement, Wind Ridge Power Partners and  
21 Puget Sound Energy have entered into an agreement to sell  
22 100 percent of the ownership interest of Wind Ridge Power  
23 Partners, LLC, a Delaware limited company, to Puget Sound  
24 Energy. This would be called the proposed sale.  
25 Following closing of the proposed sale, PSE would cause

Page 23

1 the assets of Wind ridge Power Partners to be transferred  
2 to PSE, and that would include the Wild Horse Wind Power  
3 Project.  
4 It is staff's opinion that the 2004 PSE  
5 annual report provided an appropriate description of the  
6 new certificate holder's organization and affiliation with  
7 the Wild Horse Wind Power Project.  
8 With respect to the insurance issues that I  
9 had mentioned earlier, PSE has consented to meet all the  
10 assurances made by Wind Ridge Power Partners, LLC, as  
11 presented in Section 4.1 of the application for site  
12 certification, and you have an excerpt of that section in  
13 your packets. Because of the nature of PSE is a large  
14 utility with much greater assets than the original  
15 certificate holder, PSE would self-insure significant  
16 portions of its risk, and for those applicable insurances  
17 listed in 4.1 for which it does not self-insure PSE will  
18 provide separate insurance policies such as for pollution  
19 liability coverage.  
20 PSE, however, would not provide business  
21 interruption insurance as referred to in Section 4.1.1.3  
22 of the application because PSE is not required to maintain  
23 such insurance by its customers and lenders. Finally, PSE  
24 further commits to all the financial assurances required  
25 by the development agreement between Kittitas County and

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1 Wind Ridge Power Partners which was approved as a  
2 stipulation by EFSEC and attached as Attachment 4 to the  
3 site certification agreement.  
4 Kittitas County has preapproved the transfer  
5 to PSE in the development agreement and the financial  
6 requirements of the development agreement include but are  
7 not limited to those requirements related to project site  
8 abandonment and restoration. An excerpt of those  
9 commitments is also included in your packet.  
10 Through its August 4, 2005 letter, PSE has  
11 shown that it agrees to abide by all the terms and  
12 conditions of the SCA. PSE has also provided information  
13 shown as the organizational, financial, managerial and  
14 technical capability and is willing and able to comply  
15 with the terms and conditions of the site certification  
16 agreement and also other than any changing indications in  
17 the site certification agreement that PSE would now be the  
18 certificate holder, and there would be no other changes to  
19 the site certification agreement.  
20 Finally, the staff recommends that the order  
21 contain a statement that says that to the extent the  
22 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
23 decision might be necessary in a future time, the WUTC  
24 will make a separate decision on a separate record using  
25 separate evidence to answer a separate question that would

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1 arise from application of another statute or set of  
2 statutes, and therefore this order is not intended to  
3 affect any future WUTC actions within that agency's  
4 jurisdiction.  
5 With respect to PSE's request for approval  
6 of other assurances pursuant to Article VIII.D.3 of the  
7 site certification agreement, WUTC requests that the  
8 Council accept as assurance that PSE will provide as a  
9 general obligation utilities to provide funding for  
10 decommissioning of the Wild Horse Wind Power Project. PSE  
11 supports this request by having given information to the  
12 Council that it is an investor-owned electrical utility  
13 regulated by FERC and the WUTC and that PSE's substantial  
14 assets in Washington State are sufficient to cover any  
15 such funding.  
16 Therefore, PSE proposes that the obligation  
17 to fully decommission the project when due shall be a  
18 general obligation of PSE in accordance with Section 6.4  
19 of the March 4, 2005 development agreement entered into by  
20 Wind Ridge and Kittitas County, and pursuant to article  
21 VIII.D.3 of the site certification agreement the Council  
22 is authorized to consider and approve such assurance.  
23 The order would conclude with the following  
24 findings:  
25 With respect to the transfer of the site

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 certification agreement that by letter dated August 4,  2 2005, Wind Ridge Power Partners and Puget Sound Energy  3 jointly request the Council approve the transfer or  4 control over the Wild Horse Wind Power Project Site  5 Certification Agreement to PSE pursuant to WAC 463-66-100.  6 That Wind Ridge Power Partners and Puget  7 Sound Energy have entered into an agreement to sell 100  8 percent of the ownership interest of Wind Ridge Power  9 Partners, a Delaware limited liability company and owner  10 of the Wild Horse Wind Power Project, to Puget Sound  11 Energy.  12 That upon closing of this sale PSE would  13 cause the assets of Wind Ridge Power Partners to be  14 transferred to PSE.  15 That the Council has considered the factors  16 outlined in WAC 463-66-100(4) and finds that PSE satisfies  17 the provisions of assurances in WAC 463-60-015 and 075,  18 that PSE is entitled to possession of the energy facility  19 described in the certification agreement, and PSE agrees  20 to abide by all of the terms and conditions of the site  21 certification agreement to be transferred and has  22 demonstrated it has the organizational, financial,  23 managerial, and technical capability and is willing and  24 able to comply with the terms and conditions of the  25 certification agreement being transferred.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 Finally, this order is not entitled to  2 affect the Washington Utilities and Transportation  3 Commission in any way from independently exercising its  4 statutory authority.  5 To close, the Council's decision would be  6 that staff recommends that the Council's decision be that  7 the proposed change in control of the project be approved  8 pursuant to WAC 463-666-100, that the Council approve  9 pursuant to Article VIII.D.3 other assurances that would  10 provide for the certificate holder's performance of its  11 decommissioning obligations, and finally that upon the  12 Council's receipt of notification that the proposed sale  13 is closed, the Council shall issue a resolution that  14 amends the site certification agreement to replace Wind  15 Ridge by PSE as the certificate holder.  16 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, Ms. Makarow. Now,  17 we also have a resolution, but I believe that, first of  18 all, I would ask, Councilmembers, you have received copies  19 of the Council Order Draft No. 815 and Resolution No. 314;  20 is that correct?  21 COUNCILMEMBERS: Yes.  22 CHAIR LUCE: And you've had an opportunity  23 to review that; is that correct?  24 Mr. Sweeney, yes?  25 MR. SWEENEY: Yes.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 The final finding with respect to the  2 transfer, that the Council find no substantive term or  3 condition of the SCA will be modified by the proposed  4 change in the certificate holder, and in accordance with  5 WAC 463-66-090 the Council's approval of the transfer  6 request and amendment to the Wild Horse Wind Power Project  7 Site Certification Agreement shall be by resolution.  8 With respect to approval of the other  9 financial instruments or assurances, the Council would  10 make three findings:  11 First, that PSE has requested that pursuant  12 to Article VIII.D.3 of the site certification agreement  13 EFSEC consider and approve other financial instruments or  14 assurances; namely, those assurances provided in Section  15 6.4 of Attachment 4 to the site certification agreement  16 for investor-owned electrical utility regulated by FERC  17 and WUTC.  18 That the Council would find that the PSE  19 proposal to the obligation to fully decommission the  20 project when due shall be a general obligation of PSE in  21 accordance with the conditions of the March 2005  22 development agreement entered into by Wind Ridge and  23 Kittitas County and that will provide adequate  24 decommissioning funding for the Wild Horse Wind Power  25 Project.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 CHAIR LUCE: And, Ms. Towne?  2 MS. TOWNE: Yes.  3 CHAIR LUCE: The Chair has reviewed.  4 Mr. Fryhling, have you had an opportunity?  5 MR. FRYHLING: Yes.  6 CHAIR LUCE: Hedia, have you had an  7 opportunity, if you're still with us?  8 MR. FIKSDAL: I don't think she is.  9 CHAIR LUCE: So the Council has had an  10 opportunity to Review Council Order 815. Much of the  11 material contained in Resolution 314 is duplicative of  12 Council Order 815, and the Chair does not feel that it's  13 necessary to review the resolution in particular unless  14 Councilmembers individually feel that that's important.  15 I guess I would ask at this time, staff,  16 would you like Puget Sound Energy and Wind Ridge to come  17 forward and answer any questions?  18 I think that would probably be good from the  19 Chair's point of view.  20 So if representatives of the Wind Ridge  21 Power Partners and PSE would come forward and answer any  22 questions that the Councilmembers may have.  23 Thank you very much. If you could state for  24 the record your names and addresses, please, and your  25 respective positions within your company.</p>

1 Maybe, Mr. Taylor, we'll just start with you  
 2 and go right across the line here, and if you could give  
 3 your name, your address, and your position with your  
 4 company that would be appreciative for the record.  
 5 MR. TAYLOR: Chris Taylor, Director of  
 6 Development here on behalf of Horizon Wind Energy and Wind  
 7 Ridge Power Partners. Address 210 East Fourth Street,  
 8 Ellensburg, 98926.  
 9 MR. PEEPLES: Darrel Peeples representing  
 10 attorney for Horizon. Address 325 Washington Street N.E.,  
 11 Olympia, Washington 98506.  
 12 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, Mr. Peeples.  
 13 MR. WILLIAMS: Scott Williams representing  
 14 Puget Sound Energy. Address P.O. Box 97034, Mail Stop  
 15 PSE-10S Bellevue, Washington 98004.  
 16 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, Scott.  
 17 MR. GARRATT: Roger Garratt representing  
 18 Puget Sound Energy. I'm the Director of Resource  
 19 Acquisition. Same address as Mr. Williams.  
 20 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, Roger.  
 21 MS. TOWNE: Just for clarification, the new  
 22 name?  
 23 MR. PEEPLES: Horizon.  
 24 MS. TOWNE: Where did that come from? We  
 25 never heard it until today. I just wanted to make sure we

1 have the right name.  
 2 MR. FIKSDAL: May I interject. We have  
 3 received notice that Zilkha Renewable Resources changed  
 4 their name to Horizon; so the Council did receive that.  
 5 MR. PEEPLES: It's only a name change.  
 6 CHAIR LUCE: Hasn't been acquired by a  
 7 different company?  
 8 MR. PEEPLES: It's only a name change.  
 9 MS. TOWNE: This is the Goldman Sachs  
 10 transaction.  
 11 MR. TAYLOR: That's correct.  
 12 MS. TOWNE: Gotcha.  
 13 CHAIR LUCE: Councilmembers, the floor is  
 14 open to any questions that you may have of either PSE or  
 15 Zilkha.  
 16 MR. SWEENEY: I'll start.  
 17 CHAIR LUCE: Go ahead.  
 18 MR. SWEENEY: This will be for Mr. Williams  
 19 and Garratt. We heard reference about rates. Can Puget  
 20 Sound Energy raise their rates without permission?  
 21 MS. TOWNE: Don't you wish?  
 22 MR. GARRATT: No, PSE is required to go  
 23 through a rate-making process with the Utility Commission  
 24 in order to raise rates. In fact, we're currently in such  
 25 a process in connection with our Hopkins Ridge Wind

1 Project and some other power costs, and we would  
 2 anticipate going through either that similar sort of  
 3 process or a general rate case to put the Wild Horse  
 4 Project into rates.  
 5 MR. SWEENEY: Thank you. Has it been your  
 6 experience with the--and by Utilities Commission you mean  
 7 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.  
 8 Has it been your experience that PSE has  
 9 always gotten what they've asked for when they've applied  
 10 to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission?  
 11 CHAIR LUCE: That's a leading question, and  
 12 I don't practice law anymore.  
 13 MR. SWEENEY: A simple no would be okay.  
 14 MR. WILLIAMS: Can we object here?  
 15 MR. GARRATT: I don't believe it's been our  
 16 experience that we've always gotten the rate increase  
 17 we've asked for.  
 18 MR. SWEENEY: The reason I'm asking obvious  
 19 questions, you and I are very familiar with the process,  
 20 but I wanted to make it clear that Puget Sound Energy does  
 21 need to apply to a different body for a rate increase and  
 22 has been on occasion that the Utilities Commission has  
 23 chosen not to honor exactly the request you made. In  
 24 fact, sometimes you don't always get what you want when  
 25 you ask for a rate increase; is that correct?

1 MR. GARRATT: It is correct.  
 2 MR. SWEENEY: As painful as that may be to  
 3 admit. So in the event that perhaps a portion or all of  
 4 the costs that you're seeking in rates for this project  
 5 are denied, as painful as that might be, what would happen  
 6 to those costs? What does that mean then--I guess I'm  
 7 kind of jumping ahead--as a general obligation of Puget  
 8 Sound Energy? Who would be responsible for those costs if  
 9 ratepayers are not allowed to recover all those costs for  
 10 the company?  
 11 MR. GARRATT: So the answer to your question  
 12 of who is responsible for the costs if they are disallowed  
 13 in a rate case is the shareholders, and so as a business  
 14 matter if there's a disallowance in the rate case, then  
 15 that being a public corporation also regulated by the  
 16 Securities and Exchange Commission we would make an  
 17 accounting adjustment to our books to reflect that  
 18 adjustment. But the gist of all of that is that those  
 19 sort of disallowances are absorbed by shareholders of PSE;  
 20 so the owners of the company.  
 21 MR. SWEENEY: Thank you. That's a very good  
 22 response. That's what I was looking for. So then the  
 23 decision we make today in terms of approving a transfer of  
 24 the project is it true that that doesn't have any bearing  
 25 on the fate of a rate increase request you may have before

1 the Utilities Commission on this project?  
 2 MR. GARRATT: That is correct. We are  
 3 certainly optimistic that the Utility Commission will find  
 4 the acquisition of this project to be prudent, but we  
 5 clearly recognize that that's a different organization in  
 6 a different venue for that decision to be made.  
 7 MR. SWEENEY: Okay. Thank you.  
 8 CHAIR LUCE: Anything else, Mr. Sweeney?  
 9 MR. SWEENEY: No.  
 10 CHAIR LUCE: Ms. Towne, do you have  
 11 questions?  
 12 MS. TOWNE: No, I don't.  
 13 CHAIR LUCE: Mr. Fryhling?  
 14 MR. FRYHLING: No.  
 15 CHAIR LUCE: Hedia, are you on the phone?  
 16 Hedia's not on the phone.  
 17 I think are there questions for Zilkha or  
 18 Horizon Power Partners?  
 19 Mr. Sweeney?  
 20 MR. SWEENEY: Not on this project.  
 21 CHAIR LUCE: Ms. Towne?  
 22 MS. TOWNE: No.  
 23 CHAIR LUCE: Mr. Fryhling?  
 24 MR. FRYHLING: No.  
 25 CHAIR LUCE: The Chair has no questions.

1 MR. FIKSDAL: Could I ask a question?  
 2 CHAIR LUCE: Well, staff doesn't vote, but  
 3 they can ask questions.  
 4 MR. FIKSDAL: Thank you. I promise not to  
 5 vote. In the order and what Ms. Makarow was talking about  
 6 was some assurances and insurances. One of the statements  
 7 was that about some self-insurance and some other  
 8 insurance that you will have to provide. Do you have a  
 9 list of those assurances--  
 10 MR. GARRATT: I do.  
 11 MR. FIKSDAL: --that you will obtaining for  
 12 this project? Could you just mention some of those.  
 13 MR. GARRATT: Well, the site certificate  
 14 application lists several categories of insurance in  
 15 Section 4.1.1: commercial general liability insurance,  
 16 automobile insurance, property insurance, machinery  
 17 insurance, workers' comp., and Washington stop gap  
 18 liability, environmental impairment insurance. We are  
 19 insured. We have insurance for all of those particular  
 20 areas.  
 21 I think as a clarification with respect to  
 22 self-insurance, there is limits below which we  
 23 self-insure, and then we purchase insurance from the  
 24 insurance markets to protect us above that limit. But in  
 25 all of these areas we end up purchasing insurance products

1 to protect the company. I think the one, probably the  
 2 only clarifying point is on the business interruption  
 3 insurance where the nature of that sort of insurance is if  
 4 you're an independent power company, then in essence a  
 5 project like this where a single project is the entirety  
 6 of the business of this entity; and so if some incident  
 7 occurs to shut that project down say for a month or two  
 8 there is a business interruption. The thing at a utility  
 9 company and owning multiple generating plants if we have  
 10 that same sort of incident that shuts us down for a period  
 11 of time, that's not a business interruption per se. We  
 12 still have all of our other plants, and we have an  
 13 obligation to serve our customers and provide power to  
 14 them. So we wouldn't be able to make a claim as far as  
 15 business interruption. We do carry property and machinery  
 16 insurance that we may be able to make a claim under this  
 17 hypothetical scenario.  
 18 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, Mr. Garratt. Any  
 19 other questions?  
 20 MR. FIKSDAL: No, that's all.  
 21 CHAIR LUCE: I don't know whether you have  
 22 separate statements you would like to make, but we would  
 23 be willing to hear any if you want to make them.  
 24 MR. TAYLOR: Real briefly just from our  
 25 perspective, this is consistent with what's been

1 described. For the record, Chris Taylor representing  
 2 Horizon. I just want to state for the record this is the  
 3 understanding that I think was part of the public process  
 4 both in front of Kittitas County and in front of EFSEC.  
 5 Puget Sound Energy and the same folks that are here today  
 6 have participated in the hearing process, and this has  
 7 been widely understood and publicly known the intent was  
 8 to do this transfer of asset for some time now; and I  
 9 think everything has been proposed, and the order is  
 10 consistent with the way that's been proposed and presented  
 11 from the time we reached a business agreement with Puget  
 12 Sound Energy.  
 13 CHAIR LUCE: Wild Horse has had an  
 14 opportunity to review Council Order No. 815 and Resolution  
 15 No. 314 and is in accord with those resolutions?  
 16 MR. TAYLOR: Yes.  
 17 MR. PEEPLES: The only thing I would add is  
 18 I believe all the requirements of 80.50 and 463-66 have  
 19 been met for transfer.  
 20 CHAIR LUCE: And Puget Sound Energy likewise  
 21 has had a chance to review Council Order 815 and  
 22 Resolution No. 314 and accepts the terms and conditions  
 23 required therein?  
 24 MR. GARRATT: Yes.  
 25 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

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1 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you very much. Well, it  
 2 sounds like, Horizon, you want a transfer and Puget wants  
 3 to accept until the wind bloweth no more which in Kittitas  
 4 County is unlikely to happen.  
 5 I will ask now is there a motion on the part  
 6 of the--do you have another question?  
 7 MR. SWEENEY: I was hoping staff would tell  
 8 us what order.  
 9 MR. FIKSDAL: I would suggest, Mr. Chairman  
 10 and Members of the Council, that you adopt or take action  
 11 on Order No. 815, and then I think we'll talk about what  
 12 happens after that.  
 13 CHAIR LUCE: Do we have a motion to adopt  
 14 Order 815?  
 15 MS. TOWNE: So moved that the Council  
 16 approve Ordinance 815 as drafted.  
 17 MR. FRYHLING: I second that.  
 18 CHAIR LUCE: There's a motion and a second.  
 19 Is there a discussion?  
 20 Hearing no discussion, call for question.  
 21 MR. SWEENEY: Question.  
 22 CHAIR LUCE: The question has been called  
 23 for. All in favor say aye.  
 24 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.  
 25 CHAIR LUCE: Done.

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1 Mr. Fiksdal.  
 2 MR. FIKSDAL: Thank you. You have before  
 3 you Resolution No. 314 that is referred to in the order  
 4 that you just approved. This is the actual amendment to  
 5 the site certification agreement, and the proposal is that  
 6 this amendment would become effective upon receipt of  
 7 notice from Puget Sound Energy and Horizon that the  
 8 transfer or the closing of the deal had taken place. So I  
 9 think by your action today you would approve issuing this  
 10 resolution upon receipt of that notice.  
 11 CHAIR LUCE: It's an action with a condition  
 12 subsequent.  
 13 MR. FIKSDAL: Yes.  
 14 CHAIR LUCE: Yes, I understand that.  
 15 MS. TOWNE: Move that the Council adopt  
 16 Resolution 314 at such time as EFSEC receives notice of  
 17 the consummation of the proposed sale of the asset.  
 18 CHAIR LUCE: Let me clarify. I move that we  
 19 adopt with the conditions subsequent with that.  
 20 MS. TOWNE: Accept the friendly amendment.  
 21 CHAIR LUCE: Second?  
 22 MR. FRYHLING: Second.  
 23 CHAIR LUCE: Motion and second. Discussion?  
 24 Question?  
 25 Question has been called for.

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1 All in favor say aye.  
 2 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.  
 3 CHAIR LUCE: Done. Thank you for  
 4 participating. We appreciate very much the cooperative  
 5 efforts again that's been shown between Kittitas County  
 6 and PSE and Horizon and good luck. Thank you.  
 7 Thank you members of the public for being  
 8 here today. We appreciate your comments. The hearing is  
 9 adjourned.  
 10 \* \* \* \* \*  
 11 (Whereupon, the hearing was adjourned at  
 12 1:52 p.m.)  
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AFFIDAVIT

I, Shaun Linse, CCR, Certified Court Reporter,  
do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript  
prepared under my direction is a true and accurate  
record of the proceedings taken on August 30, 2005,  
in Ellensburg, Washington.

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Shaun Linse, CCR  
CCR NO. 2029