I. INTRODUCTION

The Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority ("KCPEDA") respectfully submits its Petition for Intervention under the authority of RCW 34.05.443, 80.50.090 and WAC 463–30–091, and in accordance with the Notice of Opportunity and Closing Date to File Petitions for Intervention issued by the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council.

The KCPEDA promotes economic development in Klickitat County and supports the development of wind energy facilities as a means of stimulating such development. Wind energy development is an integral part of Klickitat County's tax revenues, job base and economy. KCPEDA has an interest in the outcome of this Project Application insofar as Klickitat County will provide and house many of the workers on the Project and otherwise contribute its resources thereto, and will experience many of the
impacts of the Project, but is not going to be a recipient of any property tax revenues
generated from this neighbor county project or otherwise have a seat at the Siting
Council table when Project decisions are made.

Moreover, KCPEDA has a very significant interest in the interpretation to how far the
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (NSA) boundaries and their legal effects can
extend, if at all. Portions of the NSA lie within this county and an interpretation of the
applicability of the NSA legislation beyond NSA boundaries would significantly affect
future wind energy siting in this county.

KCPEDA’s interests in the Whistling Ridge project are not represented by the parties to
this matter, and its ability to protect such interests would be impaired if intervention is
not granted.

Petitioner’s Information:

Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority
Michael Canon, Executive Director
MS-CH-26
127 West Court
Goldendale, WA 98620
Phone: (509) 773–7060
Fax: (509) 773–4521

II. PETITIONER’S INTEREST IN THESE PROCEEDINGS

The KCPEDA is a body comprised of elected representatives of Klickitat County, various
municipalities, the Port, and various business representatives. Its board meets
regularly to discuss, develop, implement and promote economic and business policies
and actions. Klickitat County has been a state leader in recognizing the potential of
wind as a renewable energy resource and the role its development could play in rural
counties. As Klickitat County is home to several operating commercial wind energy
facilities already, with several others in various stages of development, the KCPEDA has
developed a significant body of experience in identifying, understanding and
addressing the various benefits and impacts a project such as Whistling Ridge can
have. Given much of the confusion, fear and misinformation that can swirl around the
unknown, such as the first-time development of commercial scale wind energy
generation facilities in Skamania County, KCPEDA has unique first-hand insights based
on its experience that can serve to clarify and assist in understanding and reviewing
the Project and proposed conditions for its development.

In addition, KCPEDA also has an interest in ensuring that its own economic and impact
interests related to the Project are addressed, notwithstanding the fact that the Project
will be sited in a neighboring county. KCPEDA understands the pressures, impacts,
opportunities and consequences of development of a large-scale energy facility. It has
first-hand experience in helping developers formulate mitigation that assures a county
that it is left in a viable position relative to its infrastructure both during and following
construction, and intimately understands the housing, transportation and other needs
of the small cadre of construction workers that will converge in the area in order to
develop the Project.

KCPEDA also needs a voice on the question of how far the effects of the Columbia River
Gorge National Scenic Area (NSA) legislation should extend, if at all. Portions of the
NSA lie within Klickitat County, and there is significant wind development in Klickitat
County that can be seen from inside the NSA's boundaries. The investment made by
energy companies to develop and operate electrical generation facilities here is one of
the cornerstones of our economic viability, both now and in the future. If EFSEC is going to address the effects of NSA legislation, its decision will have major and potentially devastating impacts on Klickitat County.

Specifically stated, KCPEDA is concerned about and wishes to obtain intervention regarding the following issues:

1. The benefits and impacts, as well as associated mitigation measures, that development of this Project will have on KCPEDA’s membership and constituency; and

2. Whether or not the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area’s legislation and effects should extend beyond the NSA boundary.

III. LEGAL ANALYSIS

EFSEC’s regulations, at WAC 463-30-091, allow that “[o]n timely application in writing to the council, intervention shall be allowed to any person upon whom a statute confers a right to intervene and, in the discretion of the council, to any person having an interest in the subject matter and whose ability to protect such interest may be otherwise impaired or impeded.”

As the Klickitat County–based authority charged with economic development, and given its deep experience with siting, construction and operation of several large, commercial–scale wind farms, KCPEDA has a direct and significant interest in the adjudicative proceedings related to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Many of the mitigation measures imposed on the Project will affect Klickitat County. Many of the workers on the project will temporarily or already permanently reside in Klickitat County.
County. KCPEDA's constituency also includes many supply-chain providers of services and supplies necessary to the construction and operation of wind energy projects.

Ours is an economy that has evolved to include wind energy as a major component. County-wide policy decisions have been made based on the continued viability of the county's Energy Overlay Zone, and considerable human and financial resources have been invested by our constituent groups, including both the public and private sectors, in support of the continued development of energy generation facilities in Klickitat County. Decisions related to the Whistling Ridge project will inform both the Applicant and KCPEDA of what resources may and may not be utilized in development of the Project.

Finally, the consequences of a decision on the reach of the NSA legislation have a direct and critical bearing on the KCPEDA. We understand that the issue of whether visual buffers should be applied to areas that can be seen from the NSA has already been raised. How far those buffers would extend, and the breadth of development that such buffers could be used to prohibit wind and other development, is unclear. However, it is a certainty that wind development in Klickitat County can be seen from within the NSA. Any decision regarding the effect and reach of the NSA legislation will be of major significance to KCPEDA representatives' economic policies, finances, land use interests, work force and social fabric.

KCPEDA's participation will afford all parties the opportunity to learn from others' first-hand experiences on a multitude of wind energy facility issues. At the same time, KCPEDA will be directly impacted by myriad decisions made regarding Project size, siting, conditions and operations. However, as the Project is located in Skamania
County (despite its proximity and relationship to Klickitat County) and many of the revenues and benefits will flow to Skamania County. We recognize that this presents a tremendous and much-needed opportunity for our neighbor to the west, yet ask the Council allow our intervention in recognition of the fact that many of the Project’s impacts and effects will be felt here. Last, the consequence of any decision on the NSA legislation could have a direct and significant effect on the future of Klickitat County and KCPEDA. KCPEDA’s position regarding the effects of the NSA is not represented by the parties to this action, and given the energy development policies upon which the economy of Klickitat County is already founded, KCPEDA’s participation on the issue of NSA applicability is of vital interest to us. KCPEDA’s participation in this matter, if intervention is granted, will not unduly delay or impede these proceedings, and KCPEDA will abide by the Council’s rules and regulations as requested.

IV. CONCLUSION

By this Petition, KCPEDA respectfully requests that the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council consider and grant this Petition for Intervention, and allow KCPEDA’s full participation in all issues that affect the siting, size, and conditioning of this Project as they may affect the Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority and its membership.

DATED this 16th day of July, 2009.

KLICKITAT COUNTY PUBLIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

By: Michael Canon
Its: Executive Director

Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority
Petition for Intervention, EFSEC 2009-01 6
VERIFICATION

COMES NOW Michael Canon, and states and declares as follows:

I am the Executive Director of the Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority, which is the party seeking intervention through this Petition for Intervention. I have personal knowledge of the facts in this declaration and am competent to testify to those facts.

I have read the foregoing Petition for Intervention. I verify that the factual allegations in the Petition for Intervention are true, and request that the Petition for Intervention be granted.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Michael Canon

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 16th day of July, 2009.

(Signature of Notary)

(Crystal D. McEwen)

(Legally Print Name of Notary)

Notary public in and for the State of Washington, Residing at Goldendale
My appointment expires 1/31/11