

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Kathryn Eagan ([REDACTED]@yahoo.com)
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 1:46 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: comments regarding Whistling Ridge energy

I am a resident of Underwood renting on Cook-Underwood Rd. I have been in the process of evaluating some property that my husband and I would love to purchase in the area. We have been waiting patiently to see if this proposed project will happen. It will make or break our future settlement in the area. I am a school teacher and my husband is a Chef. We were planning on residing in the county indefinitely until we learned of this project. WE are not alone in our hesitation to make Underwood area our home now that there is a possibility of unnecessary wind turbines rearing their giant ugly faces in such a gorgeous area. We were surprised to learn that such a project would even be considered so close, in fact bordering the scenic area. We wouldn't be able to paint our house any color other than those found in the landscapes that surround us due to such strict regulations in the scenic area- but SDS can put up these horrifying, ugly giant turbines!?!?! How does that make sense? I spent my post-graduate years studying wildlife, another thing that drew me to the area- the impact of this development and toll that this will pay on their already over disturbed habitat is astonishing. The property we want is full of tracks, bear scat and other signs of the glorious wildlife that lives around us. Disturbances of this caliber are not necessary. We generate a surplus of power at Bonneville Dam, so much it has be practically given away at times. Alternative energies are the way of the future's sustainability HOWEVER, we do not need more sources of energy HERE! We have dam powered sources. Why overfill the system? Why not take steps to alternative energy in areas more practical to our specific needs in the area. Why would we clutter our gorgeous GORGE with these unsightly towers? WE are all so lucky to live in this paradise that draws tourism from around the world and fuels our local economy even during recessions and hardships. It is so beautiful here that people still make it a place to visit when money is tight and times are tough. It is where the big city retreats and the foreigners awe. Please do not let SDS take away what makes us so unique. WE don't need it. WE don't want it. We want to cultivate the area with positive contributions that benefit all of the occupants and surrounding wildlife. The like-minded people of the Gorge are what make this such a wonderful place to live the rest of our lives. I would hate to have that all taken away for something so unnecessary. WE just don't need it. Thank you for your time and consider the property depreciations, the unsightly destruction to wildlife habitat and scenic views. Please think of that.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Eagan
970-319-[REDACTED]

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Tom Hons [REDACTED]@gorge.net]
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 7:39 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Whistling Ridge proposed wind farm

I am writing regarding the proposed Whistling Ridge wind farm. I am concerned about the scale of the proposed project. With up to 50 wind turbines, and considering the size of each tower, it will be a huge change to the landscape. There are a large number of unknowns in terms of effects, on an area that has not seen anything of this scale. It would be much more reasonable to propose a project size that allows experience over time to answer the cost/benefit analysis that we as citizens need.

Thomas J. Hons
[REDACTED] Country Club Rd.
Hood River, OR 97031
[REDACTED]@gorge.net

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Dennis and Mary [REDACTED]@gorge.net]
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 9:03 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Whistling Ridge wind turbine project comments

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council members,

I am writing as a resident of the Columbia River Gorge to encourage you NOT to allow the proposed Whistling Ridge wind turbine project. This project would be located in one of the most scenic and beautiful areas of our country, and at least some of the wind turbines would be visible from many locations and viewpoints in the Gorge. Washington and Oregon already have huge wind turbine farms, mostly in the eastern parts of the two states, and it is my understanding that they produce more energy at times than can be used in our current electric infrastructure/grid. Why put up more turbines in such a beautiful area when we already have too many? After considerable study, the Hood River County Commissioners recently decided not to start a wind turbine farm in our county--please follow in their footsteps and nix the Whistling Ridge wind turbine project.

Sincerely,
Mary Carlson
[REDACTED] Barrett Drive
Hood River, OR 97031
541-386-[REDACTED]

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Christine Colasurdo [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 9:35 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: wind project

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed wind-energy project in the Columbia River Gorge. I am unable to attend the hearings so I am submitting this letter to express my strong disapproval of such a detrimental project.

As someone who hikes in the Columbia Gorge and on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, I am appalled that such an invasive, destructive project is being proposed. Erecting turbines in the proposed area would be extremely harmful to wildlife, especially birds, and would destroy views in a national scenic area.

I hope this proposed project will be terminated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Christine Colasurdo
[REDACTED] SW Old Orchard
Portland, OR 97201

RECEIVED

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ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL

1/4/2011

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ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL

To: Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

Wind energy. It's clean, it's abundant, and it's a wonderful welcome change for the future of energy. But while we plan for the future of energy, we also need to slow down long enough to figure out how this new energy fits into the future of the Columbia River Gorge. When the National Scenic Act was being established, huge wind turbines were not even an idea to be considered. When rules were being written for building new homes, great care was given to make clear that new homes must be visually subordinate. Roof lines must not break the horizon, and trees and topography must help the structure to blend with the surrounding landscape. The whole intent of the National Scenic Act is to protect the natural scenic beauty of this gorge, including the skyline.

There is nothing natural or scenic about a huge turbine. When the boundary lines were made for the Scenic Area, I am positive that they would have made the line further away from the river had they known that these monstrous towers would threaten the beauty of the gorge. So I beg you, please do not place wind turbines within the National Scenic Area. There is plenty of land available to build turbines. There is only one Columbia River Gorge. Just because something can be built, doesn't mean it should be built.

Please show respect for the Gorge and all the thousands of people and the years they spent trying to protect this beautiful place. We are protecting this gorge for your children's children to enjoy, just as we enjoy this beauty today.

Thank you for allowing us to comment on this important issue.

Sherri Irish
Gorge Resident



██████ SE Zitzelberger Road
Washougal, WA 98671-7502

360-606-██████

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: John Howard [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 8:15 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Turbines

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Portland area resident and frequent visitor to the Hood River to The Dalles section of the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area, I am strongly OPPOSED to the proposed wind farm on Whistling Ridge.

These huge turbines do not belong in or near a National Scenic Area. They are visually intrusive, noisy, and a danger to wildlife. They are absolutely contrary to the important scenic and natural values upon which the National Scenic Area was founded.

I have hiked in the vicinity of Whistling Ridge and am certain that my experience would have greatly degraded had there been 40-50 wind turbine towers along the ridge.

I urge the council to DENY THE PERMIT to build these power-generating windmills in the WRONG LOCATION.

Thank you,

John Howard

John Howard --- Skyline Communications
[REDACTED] Preakness Way, West Linn, Oregon 97068

Phone: 503-650-[REDACTED]

E-Mail: [REDACTED]@comcast.net

Website: <http://www.byline-skyline.com>

Travel Articles: <http://www.examiner.com/x-6251-Portland-Scenic-Travel-Examiner>

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Derek Gendvil [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:02 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Derek Gendvil
Las Vegas, NV

Derek Gendvil
[REDACTED] W. Sahara Ave. #360
Las Vegas, NV 89117

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Norma Reich [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:04 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Norma Reich
[REDACTED] SW 10th Ave. Unit 1107
Portland, OR 97204

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Linda Stone [REDACTED]@loveable.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:04 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Linda Stone
[REDACTED] NW 137th Avenue
Portland, OR 97229

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Steven Wheeler [REDACTED]@arrisi.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:06 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Steven Wheeler
[REDACTED] NE Broadway
Portland, OR 97213

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: chuck ware [REDACTED]@egreen.wednet.edu
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:06 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,
Gorge lover Chuck Ware (kayaker and hiker/backpacker)

chuck ware
PO Box
Vancouver, WA 98687

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: George Cummings [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:11 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

George Cummings
[REDACTED] NE 17th Avenue
Portland, OR 97212

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Joseph Yuska [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:11 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Against wind turbines at Whistling Ridge

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I'm against the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please consider denying the project in your recommendations to Governor Christine Gregoire.

Whistling Ridge would place highly visible turbines along the edge of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. These 25 to 50 turbines that would be visible from lots of locations in the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area would really compromise the view in a spectacular area.

For the small amount of energy Whistling Ridge would produce, it is not worth locating this project in such a visible area, where it would compromise the scenic views and degrade the tourism potential of the area. I believe there are many areas, further from this national scenic resource, where this project could be located. Please oppose this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Joe Yuska
[REDACTED] SW Brier Place
Portland, OR 97219

Joseph Yuska
[REDACTED] SW Brier Place
Portland, OR 97219

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Jean Butcher [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:11 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

My husband and I support sensibly sited wind energy projects; this does not fit that description. Please preserve what seems to be a dwindling number of truly special places like the Columbia Gorge for future generations.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Jean Butcher
[REDACTED] SW 70th Ave
Portland, OR 97225

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Brenda and John Morris [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:16 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Brenda and John Morris
[REDACTED] SW Burlingame Ave.
Portland, OR 97239

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Carolyn Eckel [REDACTED]@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:18 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Eckel
PO Box [REDACTED]
Portland, OR 97292

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Al Kapuler [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:21 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

This project is in the wrong place at the wrong time.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The wind turbines are noisy and their construction destroys natural habitats that contain rare and disappearing species of plants and animals. By the time we have enough energy, we will be living in a artificial environment sterilized by our greed for energy.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,
Alan M. Kapuler Ph.D.

Al Kapuler
[REDACTED] SE Thompson St
Corvallis, OR 97333

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: kyenne williams [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:24 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: My opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear WA Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Yes, we live in challenging times, with an uncertain economy and equally uncertain energy supply. Many individuals react to these circumstances from a place of fear, and ANY proposal that promises to increase energy supplies and create jobs receives a rubber stamp of approval. However frightening, a sense of urgency should not override common sense and thoughtful consideration - the old adage to "act in leisure and repent in haste" is wise.

With that in mind, I oppose the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project. I am sure you will receive more scientific responses and my opposition is based on fairly straight forward reasoning:

- placement on the ridgeline of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington (what happened to protecting the scenery)
- placement within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington (is the owl now disposable?)
- significant opposition by the United States Forest Service, the National Park Service Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

Please recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

kyenne williams
[REDACTED] NE Hassalo St
Portland, OR 97220

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: thomas lange [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:26 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

thomas lange
[REDACTED] sw idaho st
portland, OR 97221

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: linda starr [REDACTED]@toast.net
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:28 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

I agree with every point made by Friends of the Gorge.

In addition, having seen the turbines in other locations across Oregon and Washington and the visual changes to the landscape, I just can't understand why you feel compelled to do this in one of the most dramatically beautiful areas in the world. In fact, it appalls me.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,
Linda Starr

linda starr
[REDACTED] canyon creek road
woodland, WA 98674

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Nora Polk [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:30 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Nora Polk
[REDACTED] SE 62nd Ave
Portland, OR 97206

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: John and Patricia Edmundson [REDACTED]@centurytel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:33 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

John and Patricia Edmundson
PO Box [REDACTED]
Heppner, OR 97836

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Natalie Arndt [REDACTED]@pobox.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:34 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: DENY - Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Please ask Gov. Gregoire---

"DENY" the W. Ridge Energy Project:

- 1- It's very problematic.
- 2- It's PERMANENT- my nat'l scenic area and forested land become INDUSTRIAL.
- 3- POLLUTION will damage many birds and HUMANS.
Factor in the healthcare and human costs!

Thank you for your work on this,
Natalie Arndt

Natalie Arndt
[REDACTED] SE 50th- Mngr/Arndt
PORTLAND, OR 97215

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Brian Mullis [REDACTED]@sustainabletravel.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:36 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Whistling Ridge Energy Project Opposition

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

On behalf of Sustainable Travel International, I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Brian T. Mullis, CEO
Sustainable Travel International

US - Costa Rica - UK - Malaysia - Taiwan - Brazil
Phone: +503-488-[REDACTED] (International), +44-780-221-[REDACTED] (UK)
Web: www.sustainabletravel.com / www.green.travel
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Brian Mullis
[REDACTED] SW William Drive
White Salmon, WA 98672

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Ian Shelley [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:38 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

Ian Shelley
[REDACTED] SW Wilshire St.
Portland, OR 97225

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Brenda Fulle [REDACTED]@stpiusx-pdx.org]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:40 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Brenda Fulle
[REDACTED] Oswego Summit
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: carolyn ganus [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:46 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

I love the Columbia Gorge and I am horrified by the prospect of the incredible views there being destroyed. The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

carolyn ganus
[REDACTED] E Burnside
Portland, OR 97233

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Ralph and Barbara Reed [REDACTED]@oregonstate.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:49 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposition to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy wind turbine project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

There are plenty of sites that are not in one of the most scenic areas of the USA, the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ralph and Barbara Reed
[REDACTED] McBee Rd
Philomath, OR 97370

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Robert Graham [REDACTED]@cardas.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:52 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I would like to recommend that Governor Gregoire turns down this project.

The Columbia River Gorge is one of the most beautiful and scenic natural areas in the world. I don't want and don't need to see wind turbines when I drive the Gorge.

Please recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

Robert Graham

Robert Graham
[REDACTED] Jackson, S.W.
Bandon, OR 97411

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Kate McSherry [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 12:55 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Kate McSherry
[REDACTED] ne killingsworth st.
Portland, OR 97211

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Jane Steadman [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:00 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Jane Steadman
[REDACTED] SE Tibbetts
Portland, OR 97202

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Gigi Siekkinen [REDACTED]@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:01 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

1. The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area is a treasure that should be preserved for future generations. The proposed wind turbines would detract from the scenic beauty of this unique area.
2. During a field trip to Bonneville Dam last year, I learned that the Bonneville power plant does not typically operate at full capacity. I question the logic of producing power in sensitive areas when our existing facilities are not fully utilized.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in the Pacific Northwest, but such projects must be considered in a larger context and deserve the same scrutiny as other power projects. Such projects should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge, the Lewis and Clark Trail, and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Gigi Siekkinen

Gigi Siekkinen
[REDACTED] Summitview Dr
Hood River, OR 97031

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Stephen Bachhuber [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:05 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Stephen Bachhuber
[REDACTED] SE Idelman Rd.
Happy Valley, OR 97086

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Janice Sherer [REDACTED]@gorge.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:10 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Janice Sherer
[REDACTED] Ekone Road
Goldendale, WA 98620

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Steve Hocker [REDACTED]@sanfordrose.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:15 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and would be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Steve Hocker
Elliot Hocker
Noah Hocker
Nathan Hocker

Tigard, Oregon

Steve Hocker
[REDACTED] SW 158th Terr
Tigard, OR 97224-1265

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Larry Gohl [REDACTED]@adventurecruises.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:15 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Whistling Ridge Proposal

Dear EFSEC Members,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Wind Facility.

It is a smart business investment for SDS to use their land to produce wind energy that will be sold to California and return dollars to Washington for many years to come.

The cost in lost wildlife habitat, degradation of the adjacent National Scenic Area and the decreases in property value to local residents will not be offset. In fact, the resulting revenues will all go to SDS without mitigation.

Thank you,

Larry Gohl

Adventure Cruises
[REDACTED] Snowden Road
White Salmon, WA 98672
1-800-613-[REDACTED]

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Barbara Amen [REDACTED]@reed.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:22 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Barbara Amen
[REDACTED] SE 30th Ave
Portland, OR 97202

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: John Goeckermann [REDACTED]@wizzards.net
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:24 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

DO YOU FOLKS JUST NOT CARE ABOUT "UGLY"????

I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

John Goeckermann
Hugo Road
Grants Pass, OR 97526

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Peder Bisbjerg [REDACTED]@attglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:26 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Peder Bisbjerg
[REDACTED] Woodland Ter
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Yolanda and James Peters [REDACTED]@gorge.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:26 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

James and Yolanda Peters

PS we live in White Salmon but have seen how the wind turbines have disrupted the view east of here near the Goldendale road. It would be a shame if the same thing happened at the edge of the Gorge Scenic Area. I would like to suggest to SDS that they build the proposed Broughton project up on the ridge and convert the Broughton site to a historical logging museum. This assumes that the buildings would not be as high and could blend into the scenery like the lodge in Stevenson.

Yolanda and James Peters
PO Box [REDACTED] Palos Verdes
White Salmon, WA 98672

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Serge Vrabec [REDACTED]@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:30 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Serge Vrabec
[REDACTED] se milwauike ave
portland, OR 97202

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Rick Ray [REDACTED]@rickray.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:42 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Whistling Ridge: no thanks

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I live in the Columbia Gorge NSA and oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Rick Ray
[REDACTED] NE Hurt Rd
Springdale, OR 97060

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Nina Macheel [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 2:04 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am very opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project and hope you will recommend to Governor Gregoire that she veto the project. The project will have negative impact within precious scenic and sensitive ecologic areas. For what? It will produce very little megawattage compared to its adverse effect to both Washington and Oregon.

With so much to lose, and so little to gain (only 20 megawatts!!??) this is a project that should be denied and laid to permanent rest as a Bad Idea.

Sincerely,
Nina Macheel

Nina Macheel
[REDACTED] SW Aloma Way [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Portland, OR 97223

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Adrienne Ruderman [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 2:10 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Whisting Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am a resident of Underwood WA and I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

Though the project is technically out of the National Scenic Area it is against everything that the Scenic Area Stands for and would permanently damage the scenic Area and in my opinion, the tourism funds received through visitors to our beautiful home. The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

It seems that the decisions regarding this project are not based on actual reality of producing "green energy" or of creating any long term employment opportunities for Skamania County. From what I have read, the proposed area would produce energy a small percentage of the time - less than 20 megawatts of energy a year. Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The loss of one of the most scenic regions in the United States for such minimal benefit greatly saddens me. I strongly oppose this project and recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Ruderman
[REDACTED] Cook Underwood Road
Underwood WA 98651

Adrienne Ruderman
10672 Cook Underwood Road
Underwood, WA 98651

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: John Reynolds [redacted@reynoldsaudio.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 2:16 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

John Reynolds
[redacted] SW Mayo Street
Portland, OR 97223

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Marv Binegar [REDACTED]@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 2:33 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Marv Binegar
[REDACTED] Boynton Street
Oregon City, OR 97045

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Martin Velez [REDACTED]@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 2:39 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Martin Velez
[REDACTED] NE 32nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97211

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Evelyn Bishop [REDACTED]@ipns.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 2:39 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Bishop
[REDACTED] N.E. Beech St.
Portland, OR 97230

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Julie DeSmith [REDACTED]@embarqmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 2:43 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

I would like to state up front that I am in favor of wind energy projects when they are economically feasible and located at sites that work best for this type of alternative energy.

However this project will be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I also understand that this project will not produce a substantial amount of wind energy and power. Therefore why locate it in such a sensitive area?

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,
Julie DeSmith
Carson, WA.

Julie DeSmith
PO Box [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Jasper Lane
Carson, WA 98610

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Lynn Minneman ([REDACTED]@msn.com)
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 2:45 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Lynn Minneman
[REDACTED] SW 21st Ave Apt [REDACTED]
Portland, OR 97205-1514

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: john rancher [REDACTED]@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 3:14 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

john rancher
[REDACTED] ne fremont drive
portland, OR 97220

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Nicole Forbes [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 3:21 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire. While I support wind energy, this project is too close to the Gorge and would be too visible from Hood River and White Salmon.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Nicole Forbes
[REDACTED] SE 54th Ave
Portland, OR 97215

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Loretta DeKay [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 3:22 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

I live in White Salmon. I appreciate the need for alternative energy, but this project does not fit the environment for many reasons, the least of which is I did not move to a National Scenic area to watch blinking red lights.

The amount of power these turbines will produce is a drop in the bucket with respect to area power needs. As it is, the current grid is in dire need of upgrading to handle the wind power already present in the area. Why would you want to add more towers in the heart of the scenic area?

This project will add relatively little to our local power situation, will not reduce our energy costs, and will provide a minimum number of maintenance jobs. It WILL add money to SDS lumber pockets. It WILL impact the visual beauty of the scenic area. It WILL disrupt traffic on small roads and local highways. This project is NOT for the greater good.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Loretta DeKay
[REDACTED] Brislawn Loop Rd
White Salmon, WA 98672-8687

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Charles Bronson [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 3:28 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

Charles Bronson
[REDACTED] 86th Avenue NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Brian Anderson [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 3:31 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Brian Anderson
[REDACTED] SE 35th Ave
Portland, OR 97214

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: John and Polly Wood [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 3:37 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

John and Polly Wood
POB [REDACTED]
Hood River, OR 97031

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Sandra Williams [REDACTED]@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 3:47 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

The Columbia Gorge seems continually under assault. Please protect this rich historical and geological treasure for future generations.

I recently visited Indio, California, and en route was horrified -- as before -- at the ugliness of the hundreds of wind turbines spread out for miles. There is visual pollution to consider, as well as the pollution that will occur when the turbines become old and non-functioning, as the abandoned and rusting turbines are on the southern part of the big island of Hawai'i. Those landscapes are marred by the wind turbines.

To jump on the band-wagon in support of wind power is to ignore the long-range consequences of a fast switch to a power source that has not yet been fully evaluated in terms of long-term consequences.

Who will remove the outdated wind turbines when they are no longer in use? Are the power companies accepting the responsibility of removing the giant structures when they become outdated or nonfunctioning? What is the "life span" of the turbines? I have many questions that need to be answered before I can support the placement of wind turbines anywhere. The ones already constructed in the Gorge are a visual blight. Please don't permit more.

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Sandra Williams
[REDACTED] SE 27th
Portland, OR 97202

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: mary Neuendorf [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 4:03 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to you as a long-time Oregon resident, but I believe the same concerns about Whistling Ridge Energy Project are shared by people of both states. We are, after all, jointly blessed by the beauty and natural resources of the Columbia Gorge.

So, first off, I'll say directly that I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

mary Neuendorf
[REDACTED] Rockland Drive NWs
Salem, OR 97304

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Rachel Witmer [redacted@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 4:21 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost for so little benefit.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,
Rachel Witmer

Rachel Witmer
[redacted] 7th street
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Leslie Burpo [REDACTED]@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 4:41 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

Leslie Burpo
P.O. Box [REDACTED]
Eugene, OR 97405

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Mary E. Soden [REDACTED]@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:00 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

People who live in the gorge have had to be careful not to offend the view of their neighbors. I am one. Care has to be given regarding views in the gorge, from one end to the other.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely, I am Mary Soden

I live in the gorge and great consideration had to be given not to offend who ever could, and can, see my property. The same goes for who ever is trying to build turbines anywhere near the gorge.

Please get this right. There is other land, harder to get to but more appropriate. Who is Whistling Ridge Energy Project?

Mary E. Soden
[REDACTED] Gem Lane
PO Box [REDACTED]
Mosier, OR 97040

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:00 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I support Whistling Ridge

Hello Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Climate change is the number one issue facing our environment today. With the help of wind farms like Whistling Ridge, we can fight back. Wind is pollution-free, local and sustainable - doesn't get much better than that.

With Condit Dam coming down and the Boardman coal plant scheduled for closing, it's crucial to support new renewable development. Wind energy is a clean way to help fill our ever-increasing need for power, contribute to state renewable energy mandates, and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. We need more alternative energy sources, and Whistling Ridge is a great place to start.

Sincerely,
richard hertz
[REDACTED] strasbourg ct.
reno, nv 89511

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Steven Christian [REDACTED]@juno.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:01 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Steven Christian
[REDACTED] East Main Street [REDACTED]
HILLSBORO, OR 97123

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:12 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I support Whistling Ridge

Hello Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Whistling Ridge will give Skamania County the economic boost it so drastically needs. With only 3% of the county suited for development, it is absolutely crucial to support new growth where it can occur. Tourism alone cannot make up for the loss of jobs and income caused by the loss of the timber industry. Wind development is a great way to diversify and strengthen the local economy. This wind project will bring in new jobs, millions of dollars in tax revenues, and increased local spending during construction and ongoing operations. Local landowners, businesses and citizens will all benefit from the Whistling Ridge project. Please approve this project.

Sincerely,
Theresa Lusty
[REDACTED] Vada Street
Carson, WA 98610

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Nate Jackson [REDACTED]@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:12 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project, as currently planned. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Nate Jackson
[REDACTED] SW 108th Ave.
Tigard, OR 97224

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:15 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I support Whistling Ridge

Hello Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Climate change is the number one issue facing our environment today. With the help of wind farms like Whistling Ridge, we can fight back. Wind is pollution-free, local and sustainable. We have a responsibility to do all we can for future generations.

With Condit Dam coming down and the Boardman coal plant scheduled for closing, it's crucial to support new renewable development. Wind energy is a clean way to help fill our ever-increasing need for power, contribute to state renewable energy mandates, and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. We need more alternative energy sources, and Whistling Ridge is a great place to start.

Sincerely,
Deryl Lusty
[REDACTED] Vada Street
Carson, WA 98610

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Bill O'Brien [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:16 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

We need to move towards a green sustainable energy policy but projects like the Whistling River project are going to hurt more than they will help. The beauty of the Columbia Gorge must be maintained because it is a precious environmental asset for everyone enjoy. So I say no to the Whistling River Project and lets put our heads together and come up with a better idea everyone can live with.

Sincerely,

Bill O'Brien
[REDACTED] SW Gem Lane #202
Beaverton, OR 97005

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Mary Bailey ([REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:40 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Mary Bailey

[REDACTED] NW LOST SPRINGS TER UNIT [REDACTED]

Portland, OR 97229

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Marge Gale [REDACTED]@embarqmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 5:48 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

I support wind power, heck my last name is GALE! But I am very much opposed to the location of this potential project. This isn't a case of "Not in my backyard" The views that would be disturbed by the presence of these turbines involves designated scenic areas that belong to ALL OF US!

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,
Marge Gale

Marge Gale
[REDACTED] Ppost Canyon Drive
Hood River, OR 97031

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Melba Dlugonski [REDACTED]@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 6:04 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

The Columbia Gorge is a world class scenic wonder of incredible beauty, a commons not to be auctioned off.

Sincerely,
Melba Dlugonski

Melba Dlugonski
[REDACTED] SE 78th
Portland, OR 97206

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Owen Smith [REDACTED]@urbanedibles.org]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 6:08 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Owen Smith

Owen Smith
[REDACTED] NE 15th Ave.
Portland, OR 97211

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Ann Frodel [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 6:09 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire. While I agree with the reasons below I would also like to express my dismay as an owner of a tourism dependant accomadation business in Hood River. Tourist are drawn here from all over the world for the wonderful views we are famous for. The most recent recognition by National Geographic as one of the nations most beautiful and sustainable tourism areas just another reminder of what we have and should cherish and protect. There are lots of other locations for wind energy and a project of this nature should be compatible with the community and this is not.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,
Ann Frodel,
Hood River, OR.

Ann Frodel
[REDACTED] Columbia st.
Hood River, OR 97031

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Robert Twilley [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 6:34 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

Robert Twilley
[REDACTED] Lovers Lane
Hood River, OR 97031

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Barbara Manildi [REDACTED]@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 6:48 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Barbara Manildi
[REDACTED] Red Cedar Way
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Cort Brumfield [REDACTED@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 7:19 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge. Your support is absolutely necessary & appreciated.

Sincerely,

Cort Brumfield
[REDACTED] N. E. Webster Street
Portland, OR 97220

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Michael Newsom [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 7:20 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

I am for protecting the scenic values of the Gorge from development that is inconsistent with those values. This project is inconsistent.

I encourage the Council to reject this Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Michael Newsom

Michael Newsom
[REDACTED] SW 35th Avenue
Portland, OR 97221

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Lewis Sternberg [redacted@star-mountain.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 7:35 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

Lewis Sternberg
[redacted] NW Hawkins Blvd
Portland, OR 97229

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: John Christensen [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 7:38 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

Reject the Dollar in favor of future generations scenic heritage. I am in favor of Wind Energy and the placement of wind farms in the upper Gorge away from Scenic area and population center is fine. I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

When the U S Forest Service and the National Park Service have reservation about the project, I would say it is not in the best interest of future generations.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Smiles for your day!,
Clair Klock

John Christensen
[REDACTED] Gordon Creek Rd.
Corbett, OR 97019

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Marianne Nelson [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 7:40 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am not opposed to wind power--we need to pursue many different forms of alternative energy. But with poorly planned projects, such as Whistling Ridge, the cost is just too high. I am asking you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

These are some of the reasons I recommend you to deny the project.

- It is a "Special Emphasis Area" for protection of the Northern Spotted Owl.
- It is in close proximity to both the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and the Lewis & Clark Trail.
- Both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Thank you for your work to provide us with the energy that we need without harming our natural and scenic resources.

Sincerely,

Marianne Nelson
[REDACTED] SE Rural St.
Portland, OR 97202-5824

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Nancy Nickel [REDACTED]@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 7:57 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

What is SCENIC about wind turbines in a NATIONAL SCENIC AREA? There are plenty of other places to position wind turbines that in CLEAR VIEW in a National Scenic Area.

PLEASE find an alternative to this location and honor the generations to come that respect and protect the incredible beauty of our national treasure.

Nancy Nickel

Nancy Nickel
[REDACTED] NW 26th Ave.
Portland, OR 97210

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Dan Lamberger [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 8:57 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Although I am sending these comments with the assistance of Friends of the Columbia Gorge, the comments below echo my own thoughts on this matter.

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Dan Lamberger
Portland, Oregon

Dan Lamberger
1441 SW Clay St. #107
Portland, OR 97201

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: joan Bailey [REDACTED]@trilliumhollow.org]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 9:01 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

This would reduce a great amount of tourist income in a great part of the Columbia Gorge. It is absolutely an unethical project.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

joan Bailey
[REDACTED] NW Leahy Rd
Apt [REDACTED]
portland, OR 97229

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Polly Wood [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 9:05 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. As a citizen of the Gorge region I strongly object to this project on a number of grounds. These turbines would be inappropriately placed adjacent to the National Scenic Area. Twenty five of the proposed turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas in the Gorge. This iconic National Scenic Area is for everyone to enjoy, and not for private corporations to cash in on for their personal gain, scarring a unique area of our globe for generations to come. The borders of the Scenic Area were established with the expectation that they would protect the scenic resource. Building turbine towers hundreds of feet high on top of horizon ridges adjacent to the protected area when good alternative sites exist elsewhere is clearly only promoted by the cynical and the greedy. This situation demands legislation to increase the size of the scenic area or at the very least to limit the size of adjacent structures, and it demands that we follow existing laws written to protect dwindling wildlife and its habitat.

While I support wind energy development I see that this project is not worth the cost. Whistling Ridge would produce fewer than 20 megawatts of energy a year, with the power headed to California markets, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage.

In addition, this industrial development would have adverse impacts on cultural and recreational resources and federally listed endangered wildlife. This project is proposed adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and within a designated Special Emphasis Area for protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

There are many other more appropriate sites to harvest the wind for future power use - but the heart of a Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area should not be among them. Please recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Polly P. Wood

Polly Wood
P.O. Box [REDACTED]
Hood River, OR 97031

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Ted Light [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 9:34 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Ted Light
[REDACTED] SE Lexington St
Portland, OR 97202

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Sherri Irish [REDACTED]@att.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 10:24 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Wind energy is clean, abundant, and a wonderful welcome change for the future of energy. But while we plan for the future of energy, we need to slow down long enough to evaluate how these plans are will fit into the future of the Columbia River Gorge.

When the National Scenic Act was being established, huge wind turbines were not even an idea to be considered. When rules were being written for the building of new homes, great care was given to make clear that new homes must be visually subordinate. Roof lines must not break the horizon; trees and topography are to be used to help the structure blend with the surrounding landscape. The whole intent of the National Scenic Act is to protect the natural scenic beauty of this gorge, including the skyline. There is nothing natural or scenic about a huge wind turbine.

When the boundary lines were made for the Scenic Area, I am positive that they would have made them further away from the river had they known that these monstrous towers would threaten the beauty of the Gorge. So I am begging you... ..please do not place wind turbines within the National Scenic Area. Please don't disrupt the natural skylines offered by gorge cliffs. There is plenty of land available to build turbines. There is only one Columbia Rive Gorge. Just because something can be built, doesn't mean it should be built.

Please show respect for the Columbia River Gorge and the thousands of people and the many years they have invested in trying to protect this beautiful place. We are protecting this gorge for your children's children to enjoy, just as we enjoy this beauty today.

Thank you for allowing us to comment on this important issue.

Sherri Irish
[REDACTED] SE ZITZELSBERGER ROAD
washougal, WA 98671

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Henry Bennett [REDACTED]@comcast.net
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 10:30 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington. The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I would like to add that I am a regular volunteer at the Multnomah Falls Visitor Center in the heart of the Columbia River Gorge, so I am intimately familiar with the area impacted by this ill-advised wind farm, and I can tell you most emphatically that it MUST not go forward!

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Henry Bennett
[REDACTED] SE Grant Court
Portland, OR 97214

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Erin Matthiessen [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 10:36 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I ask that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for many reasons .

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Erin Matthiessen
[REDACTED] SE 53rd Ave
Portland, OR 97215

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: David S. Nichols [REDACTED]@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 10:45 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

David S. Nichols
[REDACTED] NE Couch Street
Portland, OR 97213

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: James Welch [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 10:48 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,
James Welch
Portland, Oregon

James Welch
[REDACTED] SW Birch St
Portland, OR 97223

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: John and Polly Wood ([REDACTED]@yahoo.com)
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 12:18 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

John and Polly Wood
POB [REDACTED]
Hood River, OR 97031

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Loriann McNeill [REDACTED]@wettern.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 5:10 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

This letter is to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,
Loriann McNeill

Loriann McNeill
[REDACTED] NE 36th Ave
Portland, OR 97211

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Heiner Fruehauf [REDACTED]@teleport.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 6:03 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Heiner Fruehauf
[REDACTED] SE Gordon Creek Road
Corbett, OR 97019

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: James and Linda Browning [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 6:06 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

James and Linda Browning
[REDACTED] SW Matheny Dr
Beaverton, OR 97008

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: susan percy [REDACTED@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 6:10 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

susan percy
[REDACTED] SW Pacific Hwy C1B #306
Tigard, OR 97224

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: James Thomas [REDACTED]@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 6:49 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

There is no reason that a project like this needs to be built in a scenic area. The wind blows throughout Eastern Washington and Oregon and to put a project that will generate so little power in such a scenic area is just silly.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

James Thomas
[REDACTED] woods end road
New canaan, CT 06840

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Barry Armentrout [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 8:06 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

We are not opposed to all wind power projects and believe our country must move to more renewable energy sources but this Whistling Ridge project is the wrong choice and not an appropriate place for it.

Sincerely,

Barry & Linda Armentrout

Barry Armentrout
[REDACTED] SW Preslynn Dr
Portland, OR 97225

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Glenda Lovejoy [REDACTED]@gorge.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 8:06 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns on this matter. I'm no expert on the matter, but it seems to me that the location is an issue as it relates to the mandate and intent of the Columbia Gorge Scenic Act. The Columbia Gorge itself is a destination for water recreationalists, fishers and hunters as well as hikers, bikers and birdwatchers. Small family farms and vinyards are also 'big' business in this rural area. Those of us that live here cherish the natural beauty that surrounds us.

From the information I've been able to find, I believe that this project would irreparably harm the way of life for people here in the Columbia Gorge for a pretty small amount of power produced by the proposed windmills--it's just not worth it.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Glenda Lovejoy
[REDACTED] Klickitat Street
po box [REDACTED]
Lyle, WA 98635-0002

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Sara Grigsby [REDACTED]@healthsystems.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 9:07 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,
Sara

Rather than conserve and thoughtfully transition to alternate energy sources, we collectively seem to run off and "make big". Take corn production of ethanol by agribusiness, for example, or huge wind farms -- What's happened to the concept of distributive energy -- can no one make money off of it?

Please be discriminating in your approval of wind projects -- not all are made equal. Thank you.

Sara Grigsby
PO Box [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] NE Benfield Road
Corbett, OR 97019

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: sally hertz [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 9:27 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: whistling ridge

Whistling Ridge is an environmentally green project that will help with less pollution and provide a cleaner energy source. It has a minimum impact on the gorges scenic area.

Oregon and Washington have always been on the cutting edge of being environmental friendly.

Thank you for your time.

Sally Hertz

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Nina Pollock [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 9:39 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Nina Pollock
[REDACTED] NW Alpenglow
Portland, OR 97229

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: ann watters [REDACTED]@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 10:34 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

ann watters
[REDACTED] breyman ne
salem, OR 97301

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Karen K. Edwards [REDACTED]@methownet.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 11:16 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Karen K. Edwards
P. O. Box [REDACTED]
Winthrop, WA 98862

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: ann watters [redacted@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 11:31 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing in opposition to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth the risks. The Whistling Ridge Energy Project would be adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest - an increasingly popular recreational resource for the community. The views of Mt. Hood would be blocked from public trails to the north and would cause significant adverse impacts to scenic views in both Washington and Oregon.

The project would be visible from Highway 14, which is a designated state scenic byway. Highway 14 is designated as a scenic byway because of the natural scenic beauty of the Columbia Gorge area. The project's immense turbines would protrude above the ridgeline converting this landscape into an industrial zone and harming scenic resources.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic impacts in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

ann watters
[redacted] breyman ne
salem, OR 97301

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Mel Taylor [REDACTED]@juno.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 11:31 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,
Melvin Taylor

Mel Taylor
[REDACTED] SW Alkington Rd.
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Marguery Lee Zucker [redacted@thelocomotive.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 11:36 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Marguery Lee Zucker
[redacted] Orchard St.
Eugene, OR 97403

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Julie Bruning [REDACTED]@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 11:38 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Julie Bruning
[REDACTED] NW 147th St
Vancouver, WA 98685

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Julie Bruning [REDACTED]@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 11:40 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Julie Bruning
[REDACTED] NW 147th St
Vancouver, WA 98685

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Darvel Lloyd [REDACTED]@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 11:52 AM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Cc: Peter Cornelison; Darryl Lloyd
Subject: Proposed Whistling Ridge Wind Turbine Project

To the Project Evaluation Team:

As a regular hiker of Columbia Gorge Trails, a frequent visitor to Hood River and other Gorge communities , a member of Friends of the Columbia Gorge, and a naturalist of sorts, I am greatly concerned about this gigantic and expensive project and vehemently oppose it! I am already sickened by a vast array of wind turbines in Klickitat County in the eastern Gorge, which has ruined the viewshed and natural habitat, probably forever.

I agree with all the points made in the Friends of the Gorge legal brief. You must abide by WAC 463-47-110(1)(b) and preserve the precious all aspects of our national heritage! SDS Lumber Company must not be allowed to proceed further with its aim of making a profit on this project by selling electricity to consumers in California, at the enormous expense to the public and impact to the whole ecosystem of the Gorge!

Thank you for allowing me to comment.

Sincerely,

Darvel Lloyd
[REDACTED] S.E. 74th Ave.
Portland, OR 97215-1443
503-251-[REDACTED]

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Peny Gibbons [REDACTED]@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 12:43 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,
Peny P Gibbons
Washougal WA

Peny Gibbons
B street
Washougal, WA 98671

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Curtis Porach [REDACTED]@mpdlaw.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 1:02 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: I oppose Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am in favor of wind energy, but the Whistling Ridge project includes a small number of turbines which intrude into the Gorge Scenic Area. We have enough space to place a large number of turbines without disturbing one of our most valuable natural spaces.

I am opposed the poorly planned Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Please recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the project.

The project itself is the most controversial and problematic wind project ever proposed in Washington State and be highly visible along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area near White Salmon, Washington.

The Whistling Ridge Project is also proposed within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

I am not alone in my opposition; multiple agencies -including the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service - have recommended substantial modifications to the project. Other groups who have raised concerns or oppose the projects include: Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Seattle Audubon Society, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society and Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Curtis Porach
[REDACTED] NE Mason Crt
Portland, OR 97218

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Eric Brentlinger [REDACTED]@embarqmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 1:14 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

My family lives within the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area. We understand that there are special responsibilities that come with living within the boundary. We cannot alter our home or property without taking into consideration the effect such a change would have on key viewing areas. Needless to say, multiple, blinking 400 ft towers would have a devastatingly negative impact on the scenic treasure that the scenic area was designated to protect.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,
Eric Brentlinger

Eric Brentlinger
4160 Post Canyon Drive
Hood River, OR 97031

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Karen Wood [REDACTED]@pacifier.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 4:30 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

In addition to the impacts on scenic values discussed below, I am very concerned about the impact on spotted owl habitat and other wildlife that might be affected by the turbines. I support wind power but think there are better sites for it than Whistling Ridge and do not think the adverse impacts will be offset by the small amount of energy that would be generated.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Karen Wood
[REDACTED] NE 46th St.
Vancouver, WA 98682

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Jim Carley [REDACTED]@jimcarley.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 2:01 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: NO to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,
Jim Carley

Jim Carley
[REDACTED] E. Klickitat St.
Lyle, WA 98635

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Roy & Barbara Hillmick [REDACTED]@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 2:13 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Please do all you can to preserve the scenic beauty & amazing wildlife, especially the birds, in the Columbia Gorge. Please don't let money ruin our beautiful area.

Sincerely,

Roy & Barbara Hillmick
Lost Lake Resort Inc.

Roy & Barbara Hillmick
P. O. Box [REDACTED]
Hood River, OR 97031

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Nicole Lawless ([REDACTED]@tbg-arch.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 3:17 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing today to recommend that you deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project to Governor Gregoire.

The Whistling Ridge Energy Project is within three miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Columbia River Highway, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

25 of the projects 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. The project would be highly visible from State Route 14, a designated scenic byway in Washington.

Please recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge project to Governor Gregoire and protect our historic trails and scenery in the Columbia Gorge.

Sincerely,

Nicole Lawless
[REDACTED] East 38th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97405

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Byron Rendar [REDACTED]@pcc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 4:18 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

It will affect scenic views in the Gorge. By itself this may not be serious, but continually proposals for development are submitted the affect the Gorge and if the overall impact is not taken into account, the Gorge will be irreparably harmed.

- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.

- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Byron Rendar
[REDACTED] NE Stanton
Portland, OR 97212

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Lorna Hewitt [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 4:24 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

Overwhelming public opinion has consistently supported the intrinsic value of conserving the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area for future generations. Imposing visible turbines in this national protected area not only defaces that heritage, but undermines one of the major reasons tourists consider the area a travel destination.

Volunteering in a central Information Center in the Gorge over a number of years with international as well as local visitors, comments are constantly heard about the extent of natural conservation that has occurred thus far.

These enthusiastic travelers, estimated at some 3-million annually, have made the Gorge a destination specifically because of its relative natural environment, extreme visual beauty, and authenticity.

Wind turbines visible in the Scenic Area are not consistent with basic values of stewardship or economic benefits from continued levels of tourism that are enjoyed by the local communities.

Sincerely,

Lorna Hewitt
Portland, OR 97230

Lorna Hewitt
[REDACTED] N. E. Sacramento [REDACTED]
Unit [REDACTED]
portland, OR 97230

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Betty Lavis [REDACTED]@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 4:41 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: No to Whistling Ridge

To the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to recommend that you deny the project in your recommendations to Governor Gregoire.

The project would contain 50 highly visible turbines along the 2,000-foot elevation ridgeline boundary of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Up to 25 of the 50 turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas of the scenic area and each turbine would be more than 420 feet tall and equipped with blinking lights that would be visible for miles in all directions. These key viewing areas include State Route 14, which is also designated as a state scenic byway.

Whistling Ridge would produce less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage. Whistling Ridge is simply not worth the cost.

The adverse impacts of the project on one of the most scenic regions in the United States far outweigh the projects minimal benefits. I urge you to recommend denial of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

Sincerely,

Betty Lavis
[REDACTED] NE 57th Circle
Vancouver, WA 98662

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Constance McConnell [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 5:04 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Opposed to Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy project and am writing to recommend that you deny the project going forward to Governor Gregoire.

This project is immediately adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and at least 25 turbines would be highly visible from designated key viewing areas. Up to 25 of the 415-foot-tall turbines would be visible from State Route, 14 a state scenic byway in addition to being a designated key viewing area. The turbines would be visible for two miles of the highway, with westbound travelers looking directly at strings of turbines atop prominent ridges.

Whistling Ridge, if completed, would harm important aspects of our national heritage, including natural, historic and cultural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Historic Columbia River Highway, the Oregon Pioneer National Historic Trail, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail and the SR14 scenic byway.

I am not alone in my opposition; both the National Park Service and the United States Forest Service have concluded that the project will harm important national resources.

Protect our heritage; recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

Constance McConnell
[REDACTED] SE Main
Portland, OR 97214

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: Barbara Miller [REDACTED]@well.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 5:46 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge

Dear Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I write to oppose the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I join with many other friends of the Columbia Gorge to urge the Council to recommend denial of the project to Governor Gregoire.

There are too many costs to the surrounding areas to make the project worth its attendant risks. The project would destroy scenic views from the National Scenic Area and Lewis and Clark Trail. For this reason, both the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service have already recommended substantial modifications to the project.

Moreover, the proposal is located on a ridgeline within a designated "Special Emphasis Area" for protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species. It is well documented that wind energy development kills birds if not properly sited to avoid impacts.

The construction of the project itself would cause traffic tie-ups in the Underwood Community. The operation of this massive industrial energy complex would harm the emerging agricultural tourism economy that is located at the base of the project site.

And the project would provide less than 20 megawatts of energy a year, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands.

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project should be denied.

Sincerely,

Barbara Miller
[REDACTED] NE 11th Ave.
Portland, OR 97212

Michelle, Kayce (UTC)

From: ANN TIBBOT [REDACTED]@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 5:49 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Deny Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

I am writing to urge the Council to recommend that Governor Gregoire deny the Whistling Ridge Energy Project for the following reasons:

- It's the most controversial and problematic wind energy development ever proposed in Washington State.
- It would permanently convert hundreds of acres of forested land to industrial development.
- The project is proposed within a state-designated "Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area" where suitable habitat for the recovery of this endangered species must be protected and enhanced. The project would adversely affect many species of birds, including Northern Spotted Owls, listed as endangered in Washington.

Wind energy projects should be an important part of our energy future in Washington, but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed to sacrifice our national heritage like the Columbia River Gorge and the Lewis and Clark Trail and state scenic byways like State Route 14.

Why should our northwest resources be used to help California, which is likely where the energy made, will be sent!

For these reasons, I urge you to recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Sincerely,

ANN TIBBOT
[REDACTED] Liberty Rd. S. [REDACTED]
Salem, OR 97306

RECEIVED

JAN 05 2011

ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL

TO: The Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
FROM: Gary Casady
RE: The Whistling Ridge Energy Project
DATE: January 5, 2011

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. I am writing to request that you recommend that permission to site the Whistling Ridge Energy Project be denied for the following reasons:

Environmental. The project will significantly reduce important habitat for the Northern Spotted owl, Lewis' woodpecker, Western Gray squirrel, and could impact protected migratory birds such as Bald and Golden Eagles. The project will also greatly impact the pristine beauty of the Columbia River Gorge Scenic area to the point of losing a natural, national heritage forever.

Economic. The Northwest Power and Conservation Council in their Sixth Power Plan recommend that our first priority to meet our future energy needs is conservation.

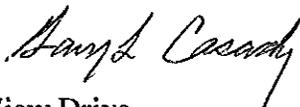
- "Portfolio model analysis shows that over 5,800 average megawatts of conservation are cost-effective in the draft plan," (page 3)
- "The rapid growth of wind generation, which has little capacity value and increases the need for flexibility reserves, means that meeting growing peak loads and flexibility reserves will require adding these capacities to the power system." (page 6)

It is clear by looking at the overall power grid of the Northwest at this juncture, that more transmission lines and more backup power plants must be installed in order to maintain system reliability. It is not clear in looking at the Whistling Ridge Energy Project how such required measures will be financed. There are several unanswered questions. Who will finance this? Is the amount of energy estimated to be produced by this relatively small project worth the impact costs? Who is really benefitting?

Efficiency. The Northwest Wind Energy Integration Action Plan states, "Wind is an energy resource that makes relatively little contribution to meeting system peak loads. Even with large amounts of wind, the Northwest still will need to build other generating resources to meet growing peak load requirements. Wind energy is a renewable, clean energy resource that will lower fuel consumption and environmental emissions of other resources. But wind energy cannot provide reliable electric service on its own." (p. 8) Even in the windy Columbia River Gorge, months go by with not enough wind to produce even meager amounts of electricity. Technical studies are available to substantiate this.

In this age of renewables we require creative, informed, wise leaders who will analyze impacts versus benefits in a manner that allows valuable resources to remain for future generations. Thank you for your careful and wise deliberations.

Respectively,
Gary Casady



Badger View Drive
The Dalles, OR 97058

RECEIVED

Whistling Ridge
Public Comment
#124

JAN 05 2011

ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, Jan. 5, 2011

Thank you for the opportunity to comment today regarding the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. As a citizen of the Gorge region I strongly object to this project on a number of grounds. These turbines would be inappropriately placed adjacent to the National Scenic Area. Twenty five of the proposed turbines would be highly visible from key viewing areas in the Gorge. This iconic National Scenic Area is for everyone to enjoy, and not for private corporations to cash in on for their personal gain, scarring a unique area of our globe for generations to come. The borders of the Scenic Area were established with the expectation that they would protect the scenic resource. Building turbine towers hundreds of feet high on top of horizon ridges adjacent to the protected area when good alternative sites exist elsewhere is clearly only promoted by the self serving. This situation demands legislation to increase the size of the scenic area or at the very least to limit the size of adjacent structures, and it demands that we follow existing laws written to protect dwindling wildlife and its habitat.

While I support wind energy development I see that this project is not worth the cost. Whistling Ridge would produce fewer than 20 megawatts of energy a year, with the power headed to California markets, while Washington and Oregon have over 40,000 megawatts of wind energy development potential that can easily meet growing demands without sacrificing our national heritage.

In addition, this industrial development would have adverse impacts on cultural and recreational resources and federally listed endangered wildlife. This project is proposed adjacent to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and within a designated Special Emphasis Area for protecting the Northern Spotted Owl, listed as an endangered species in Washington.

There are many other more appropriate sites to harvest the wind for future power use - but the heart of a Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area is definitely not among them. Please recommend to Governor Gregoire that the Whistling Ridge Project be denied.

Thank you again for your time,



Polly P. Wood
Highline Road
Hood River, OR 97031

RECEIVED

Whistling Ridge
Public Comment
#125

JAN 05 2011

ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL

Whistling Ridge Energy Project
Public Comment 01/05/2011

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Whistling Ridge project. Understand that I do wish that this project succeeds; however, I am very concerned about several aspects.

First, the applicant's EIS and your Draft EIS, not only were very similar but also did not take an "analysis" perspective, instead it was a sales document. This document should critically analyze this project, its impacts, and the address the public's comments. Simply selling the project would be pure negligence.

Second, the process being followed to assess this project is a well designed bureaucracy, asking for public comment, developing EIS versions, performing hearings, etc. One valuable addition would be to provide transparency by producing a tracing that shows the influence of public comments on the EIS, validating that the public is being heard. From the applicant's version to the Draft EIS version, there appeared to be no public comment influence. This traceability would show our influence on the EIS and the process. Doing anything else would be misrepresentation.

Finally, there are many design aspects of both EISs which rely on current local law, provided limited data, and/or lacked contradictory data. For example, the local noise ordinance is very different than other places in the country, for example Oregon's maximum is 32 dbs. Does this mean that our local ordinance is smarter or just wrong? Other examples include the lack of business case for different configurations, analysis of health impacts, understanding of wild life movement and health, actual country only arterial road traffic calculations, worst case scenarios for visual and noise impacts, comparable tourism impact analysis, and real estate valuation impacts consistent with this high value area. You need to perform this analysis, based on current, transparently calculated, and best scientific and business knowledge. Anything else would be fraud.

I live and work in Underwood, and have another property close to the project. For the past five years I have been investing hundreds of thousands of dollars, and many hours of labor to develop that property to allow me to build a home within the rules of the National Scenic Area. Negligence, misrepresentation, or fraud on your part jeopardizes my investment and dream. I am confident that you can define this project to address everyone's concerns.

Thank you

Mike Eastwick
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Underwood, WA 98651