

Michelle, Kayce (COM)

From: Ken Maddox [REDACTED]@pacifier.com]
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 5:53 AM
To: COM EFSEC
Subject: Whistling Ridge Wind Project

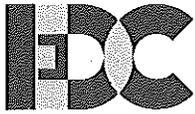
I am writing to comment on the DEIS for the Whistling Ridge Energy Project, proposed in the Underwood area, along the Skamania and Klickitat county lines.

The plan is in direct opposition to the Scenic Area, as it would impose unalterable impacts on major viewpoints, and any proposal or alternative that does not ban it outright is missing the main point. I, as ought to be anyone with sense, am opposed to the project and to any attempt to analyze it into creation, including the current DEIS.

Ken Maddox
[REDACTED] 9th St.
Hood River, OR 97031

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JUL 19 2010



Skamania County
Economic Development Council

WR - DEIS
Public Comment #319

ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL

167 NW 2nd ~ PO Box 436 ~ Stevenson, WA 98648 (509) 427-5110 Phone (509) 427-5122 Fax www.skamania-edc.org

July 12, 2010

EFSEC
905 Plum Street SE
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

RE: Comments on Draft EIS for Whistling Ridge Energy Project

Dear EFSEC Council Members,

The thirteen members of the Board of Directors of the Skamania County Economic Development Council unanimously support approval of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.

We have reviewed the Draft EIS and believe that it is objective, comprehensive, accurate and authoritative. The Draft EIS found;

- No significant impact on wildlife or bird populations.
- No significant impact on scenic views.
- No evidence of negative impact on tourism.

In addition to the clear benefits of clean renewable energy the Draft EIS substantiates the economic benefits that drive our organization's strong support. The Draft EIS found that:

- There will be considerable economic benefits to the tri-county area of Skamania, Klickitat and Hood River counties.
- The construction workforce hired to build the wind farm would average 143 workers, with a peak of approximately 265 workers.
- There will be an estimated \$1.3 million in local, non-labor purchases during construction.
- Annual property tax revenue to the County would increase by \$731,500.
- The White Salmon School District will see an estimated \$150,000 annually.
- 8-9 new permanent jobs will be created.

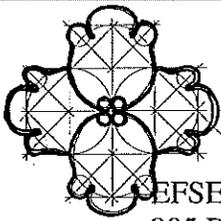
Of the 1,070,080 acres in Skamania County, less than 3% can be developed to grow a tax base to create economic sustainability that provides financial resources to support necessary services to residents and visitors. Due to excessive federal and other public ownership of its land base, Skamania County must take advantage of each opportunity it has to grow its tax base.

The Whistling Ridge Energy project is not only a sound economic development opportunity, but also a clean, safe, green, renewable energy resource that will provide a better future for generations to come.

Sincerely,


Brad Andersen, Board Chair


Peggy Bryan, Executive Director



DEFSEC

905 Plum Street SE
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

Quatrefoil Inc.

Design • Landscape Architecture • Space Planning
BPA

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ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL

RE: Whistling Ridge Energy Project DEIS

Dear Sirs,

I would like to express concerns about the proposed Whistling Ridge Energy Project's potential impacts on the National Scenic Area and in particular the Historic Columbia River Highway (HCRH), a district listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

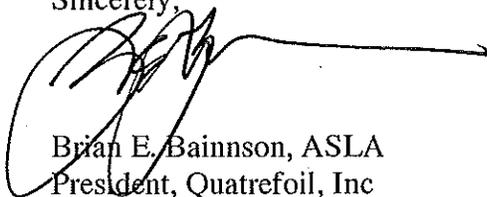
I have been working with OPRD and ODOT on the restoration of Mitchell Point for several years and in particular the design of several overlooks to be located along the HCRH State Trail. I am concerned that the existing analysis does not adequately address this section of the HCRH Key viewing area. This area is due south of the proposed project and within the Special Management Area of the CRGNSA.

The HCRH is a linear scenic and historic resource in Oregon, extending from Troutdale to The Dalles. All of the HCRH is a Key Viewing Area within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (CRGNSA). Portions of the HCRH that are a trail are designated as a National Recreational Trail. Portions of the HCRH are closer to the proposed project than the sites chosen for visual resource analysis.

The Mitchell Point overlook is more visually sensitive than Interstate 84, both because it is higher in elevation and because it is a place where people stop and get out of their cars to take photos. It is closer to the proposed project than Viento State Park, Koberg Beach State Park and the Hood River to Mosier section of the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail that were analyzed. This site should be analyzed for visual impact from the proposed project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this DEIS.

Sincerely,



Brian E. Bainnson, ASLA
President, Quatrefoil, Inc

Michelle, Kayce (COM)

From: Patricia Meeks [redacted@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 2:40 PM
To: COM EFSEC
Subject: Stop Whistling Ridge Wind Turbines Project -- Columbia Gorge -- We Need More Time

Stop The Whistling Ridge Wind Turbines Project -- Columbia Gorge

There has not been enough time for the average citizen to go through the EIS!

Most people I've spoken with haven't still have not seen the EIS. Residents do not even realize that if this project is built, most will never again be able to see anything but a full moon in the sky.

In the last month there have been a plethora of lawsuits across the county initiated by residents dealing with the harmful effects from wind turbines located in their local areas. A recent bird study in Klickitat County is not even mentioned in the EIS.

Please, do not rubber stamp this project!

Patricia Meeks
PO Box [redacted]
White Salmon, WA 98672
509-493-[redacted]