

**Responses to Comments Presented at the Draft Supplemental EIS Public Hearing on
February 2, 2006**

Note: The responses listed below are numbered to correspond to the numbers shown in the right-hand margin of the comment letter.

1. Darryl Piercy, Director Community Development Services, Kittitas County

1(1) Thank you for your comment.

2. Janet Nelson

2(1) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 1.

2(2) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 2.

2(3) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 3.

2(4) The Applicant's baseline avian analysis included fixed point surveys that were conducted during three different seasons of the year, spring, summer, and fall (Sagebrush Power Partners LLC 2003a, Section 3.4 and Exhibit 11). To a certain degree, the use estimates, therefore, take into account varying use based on weather and wind conditions. Mortality estimates were in turn evaluated based on use.

2(5) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 4.

2(6) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 5.

2(7) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 6.

2(8) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 7.

2(9) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 8.

2(10) Please refer to State Agency Letter 2, Response 16 regarding the habitat conservation plan being developed for potential impacts on bald eagles from the project.

2(11) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 9.

2(12) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 10.

2(13) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 11.

2(14) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 12.

2(15) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 13.

- 2(16) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 19, Response 14.
- 2(17) Please refer to Individual letter 38, Response 3, regarding the type of bats that are present in the KVVPP Project Area.
- 2(18) Please refer to Organization Letter 8, Response 19 regarding use of radar technology for studying bats. Section 3.2.3 of the Final EIS has been updated to include discussion of the most recent studies coordinated through the Bats and Wind Energy Cooperative. Please refer to Organization Letter 8, Response 16 regarding bat deaths at the referenced West Virginia wind plant.

3. Keith Johnson

- 3(1) Thank you for your comment.
- 3(2) Government Accounting Office (GAO) GAO-05-906 Report on Wind Power Impacts on Wildlife and Government Responsibilities for Regulating Development and Protecting Wildlife has been referenced in the Final EIS.
- 3(3) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 18, Response 2.
- 3(4) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 18, Response 3.
- 3(5) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 18, Response 4.
- 3(6) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 18, Response 5.
- 3(7) Please refer to Draft Supplemental EIS Letter 18, Response 6.

4. Desmond Knudson

- 4(1) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has noted strikes with transmission lines as a cause of bird mortality throughout the U.S. as a whole (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2002). There is no information regarding the frequency of bird kills due to the transmission lines specifically located in the KVVPP Project Area.
- 4(2) According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service loss and/or degradation of habitat due to human development and disturbance is the greatest threat to birds and all wildlife (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2002).
- 4(3) The growing market for renewable energy resources was addressed in Section 1.2 of the Draft EIS.
- 4(4) Please refer to Response 4(1) above.

- 4(5) Section 3.9.6 of the Draft EIS acknowledges the subjective nature of people's perception of the KVVPP's impacts on visual resources.