

Fiksdal, Allen (CTED)

From: Ed Garrett [garrett_ew@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2007 4:34 PM
To: Fiksdal, Allen (CTED)
Cc: michael1@atg.wa.gov; James Carmody; James Hurson; Jeff Slothower
Subject: Reconsideration document for KVVPP

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EFSEC
Energy Facility Siting Evaluation Council
ATTN: Manager Alan Fiksdal
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I would like to submit this document on behalf of myself and my wife, Rosemary Monaghan, for the record, on the Reconsideration Motion of Council Order 826.

EFSEC Council Members,

Of course, we DO NOT agree with this decision to recommend the KVVPP be approved by the Governor.

Page 17, Council Order No. 826 states, "That alternate locations which are within the same county and city have been reviewed and have been found unacceptable."

Let me remind you that Horizon Wind Energy delayed their original application to check out what we have told them for years, look to Whiskey Dick Mt. It is windy, it is isolated and a good location. They did just that. They then proposed the Wild Horse Wind Project, right where we told them. We say, by definition, IT IS AN ALTERNATIVE SITE! Horizon plays semantics over this and you bought it hook line and sinker. I would have thought you were smarter than that.

Page 24, Council Order 826, "Interests of the State", not one mention of the other 5-7 wind projects being built in eastern Washington or in the planning state. You should have done your "due diligence" and factored those in to the BIG picture. You did not and that is obvious negligence. This alone proves, preemption is not warranted for "the good of the State." There is no guarantee that the small amount of power will even benefit the citizens of Washington state. So much for the I-937 "mandate" which was NOT overwhelming..

Page 29, Council Order 826, "The analysis performed in the EIS showed that, overall impacts from the various scenarios did not vary significantly from one scenario to the next.

Page 30, Council Order 826, "The Applicant hired qualified "EXPERTS" to carry out an EXTENSIVE visual and aesthetic impact analysis.."

Further down, "a number of private residences would remain within 1/2 mile of the project turbines". The document neglects to say there is only 1 RESIDENT in the area that has a signed agreement with Horizon, while there are 16 others who are non-participating. Property line issues are glossed over for numerous (hundreds) properties who can build, an approved landuse, but are holding off until this is decided.

In deliberating the recommendation for this project, all but Patty Johnston must have had blinders on. She understands the full impact of this project as submitted. It is criminal for you to not consider similar recommendation made on a similar project in the same general area.

Desert Claim Wind Power Project is riding the coat tails of this project. I cannot believe you can accept the findings of the Golder Report for Desert Claim and have it legitimized by attaching it to the FEIS for that project. Yet all but Ms. Johnston can conceptualize the same errors in the KVVPP FEIS and draw a conclusion of what is at stake.

Raptor mortality is not 1-2 birds per year, the new analysis is now 20 or more. Allow more wind projects and there will be a Kittitas County version of Altimont Pass in Ca. Wind turbines there are dubbed, the "cuisine arts of the sky".

The Golder Report has other significant outcome studies, but I am sure you are restricted to apply its information to this project for "legal reasons". How outrageous!

As a lay person trying to do my best to represent my interests, and as an Intervenor with ROKT, your findings TOTALLY disregard our comments. Not one footnote references anything said by the public. This whole process is made political and for "the good of the state".

Add insult to injury, and then Jim Luce, Chairman of EFSEC, was working deals with Western Democrats' to write out participation of the public because, as he said in the Adjudication Hearing, the public is drawing this out and slowing up "his process". Hence he pushed for HB 1060 and HB 1061 through Rep. D. Zack Hudgins on the Committee for Technology, Energy, Communication and Transportation. Luckily, both bills died in committee. But to have a standing Chairman of a recommending council, while a crucial decision is being made, trying to undermine the concerns of private citizens to force an unwanted and unwarranted project on a whole county is egregious. Being appointed by the Governor (Locke), he should be forced to resign for conflict of interest and exparte contact violating the Doctrine of Fairness.

Finally, we want to state our continued concern about the representation of the Council by the Department of Natural Resources and the Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. These agencies are, or will be receiving funds from these Applicant wind developers and we still cannot conceive that this is not a conflict of interest.

Even for the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Chris Towne, to come right out and say "there are no protected fish in the area" just defies all logic. This is high DESERT area! She touts the Department of Wildlife Wind Power Guidelines as if it were gospel. This milk toast document was written with heavy input of the wind industry! Apparently she feels saving fish trumps our national symbol of the United States, a protected species, the Bald Eagle. Part of this area is zoned Open Range, that means cattle, that means calving, that means placentas, this equals increased Bald Eagle activity as well as other raptors. Oh, I forgot, you will just give them a "Take Permit" to avoid prosecution of a federal law. Now that is being "GREEN". Much of the project area is shrub steppe and we chose to protect it not develop a huge mansion.

This project has poor sighting standards as well as poor decision making written all over it. You recommend to preempt local land use over a damaging wind farm then wash your hands of it. You chose to leave the citizens of Kittitas County to live with it and move on. Let the Governor decide...it is out of our hands. VERY ETHICAL. You should refund your salaries to the people of eastern Washington. Talk about the Cascade Curtain! This Council is an embarrassment to all logic!!!

You can stop this train wreck, RECONSIDER your decision.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Garrett
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