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ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL

RE: Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project
Applicant: Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C.

This is a petition for intervention in the matter of Application No. 2003-01. I represent myself and my husband. Our property is located at 3501 Bettas Road and on the property we are currently building a house. We will be impacted by the project in several capacities.

Siting

Is Kittitas Valley the right location for siting a wind power project? We do believe in renewable resources, however, the question here is whether this site is appropriate. I believe it is not a good location because this valley has become a bedroom community. The farmers in this area have and are subdividing their property, resulting in houses being built throughout the valley. Wind power projects have in the past and should in the future be placed in low residential areas. Kittitas valley, may be considered a low residential area if compared to Seattle, but it is a high residential area if compared to rural areas in eastern Washington.

Proposed alternative:

Site the project on the west slopes of the Columbia River gorge. There are many more square miles of excellent windy areas from which to choose, even if you exclude the U.S. Military Reservation Yakima Training Center and U.S. Department of Energy Hanford Site.

Issues with the current proposal

If the Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. will be sited as proposed, please address the following issues:

Cellular phone reception

The first issue is a matter of safety. The project affect on cellular phone reception could impact the ability to summons help in the case of an emergency. At 3501 Bettas Road, we are not connected to the grid, nor to land phone lines. Therefore our connection to the outside world is cellular communications. It becomes our only line in case of an emergency. Furthermore, as cellular systems improves, we plan to connect to the world wide web by cellular phone.

Proposed mitigation: If the turbines should cause any problems with cellar reception, Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. must be required to mitigate by providing a connection that will not be affected by the turbines, irrelevant of the cost.

Highway safety

Another safety concern is the access from Hwy. 97 onto Bettas Road. Bettas Road is a loop with two entrances onto Hwy 97. Traveling from Ellensburg northward on Hwy. 97, to access Bettas Road, you must turn left. Hwy 97 has a speed limit of 65 mph.

On Hwy 97 approaching the south end of Bettas Road there is a long straight stretch of road with good visibility. It is a section of highway that lends itself to drivers passing slower moving vehicles. In order to make a left hand turn onto Bettas Road, vehicles must slow down. When one begins to slow down, even with left hand lights signals flashing, faster drivers tend to pass. We have personally witnessed numerous dangerous encounters.

Additionally, Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. is proposing to add a O&M facility on Bettas Road. With the added traffic, the danger of that intersection will increase.

Proposed mitigation: To alleviate the danger, Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. must be required to pay, at a minimum, for a left hand turn lane on Hwy 97 at the intersection of south end of Bettas Road.

Noise

The concern of noise is a wild card. How much noise these turbines will emit is predictable, but how that noise will travel and will it be a real concern is not predictable.

Proposed mitigation: I propose that if the noise is an issue, than the Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. , or any future owner of these turbines, will plant sufficient trees along the property boundary to buffer the noise for affected property owners.

Wildlife

The wildlife component has not been adequately addressed. The avian study conducted consisted of diurnal (daytime) observations. The migration impacts were understated. The nocturnal (night time) impacts of the turbines upon birds were not addressed. It was recognized that numerous bats would be killed. No mitigation for the bat deaths were presented.

We are adjacent public lands where wildlife is abundant and diverse. Furthermore, we are along a migratory pathway. On just our land we have seen hawks, eagles, grouse, nighthawks, hummingbirds, woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, jays, swallows, chickadees, wrens, thrush, grosbeak, towhee, sparrows, and bluebirds. These birds we saw while doing other activities, thus there are likely many more birds in the area.

Proposed mitigation: Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. should be required to do at least a five-year study of the impacts of turbines on wildlife. The study should be coordinated with agency biologists and address all resident and migratory species during all four seasons and assess nocturnal as well as diurnal impacts. The studies should include mammals, birds, herps, and invertebrates.

All animals killed as a result of turbines should be mitigated at a cost equivalent to restoring the lost animals. This mitigation should be coordinated with local agency biologists. Further, since the number of killed nocturnal animals will be underestimated due to scavengers, each animal found should be multiplied by an appropriate number estimated by scientists and adjusted with additional studies. Mitigation should continue for the life of the project.

Aesthetics

The area is considered aesthetically unique as indicated by Hwy 97 being placed on the list of scenic highways. The concern of aesthetics being impacted by the project is a major concern to a lot of people as indicated at the public meetings and as indicated by the number of people who approached me after my comments during EFSEC public meeting.

Our situation is a case in point. We bought a view property that will be significantly impacted by the turbines. We bought property that is about 1000 feet over Bettas Road, at an elevation within 15 feet of Snoqualmie Pass. We have a view of 360 degrees. To the north there is a view of Mount Stuart; to the west provides a view of Lookout Mountain and Manastash Ridge. To the south is Kittitas valley sweeping to Ellensburg. And to the east is TableTop where Lion's Rock can be viewed.

The proposed project will impact both daytime and nighttime views. First of all, our pleasure of the property will decline substantially, and second the value will be affected. The first, our

pleasure, is subjective, and personal, but very real! The second, the value is quantitative. It will affect our options!

Proposed mitigation: Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. should be required to mitigate property owners that are affected by the turbines. A fraction of yearly gross income should be paid to view property owners for the life of the project. If property owners wish for a screen between their property and the turbines, Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. should be required to plant a buffer strip on the property. This buffer strip should consist of local trees, Ponderosa pine, which grow in low densities. Therefore, the trees should be planted at a size at least 7 feet and in sufficient numbers to ensure an immediate screen and the trees must be required to survive for at least 10 years.

Earthquake

The application did point out a geological fault, but did not address potential turbine impacts from the fault. The EIS should address earthquakes and to what earthquake standards the structures are built.

Proposed mitigation: Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. must construct every aspect of the project to earthquake standards. Additionally, Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. must mitigate any the damage caused by the turbines during an earthquake.

Ground water

Another issue that has not been addressed, is the impact of the project on ground water. Will the turbine vibration affect wells? And over time, will the turbine vibrations affect drinking water from wells? Ground water is a complicated and mostly hidden resource.

Proposed mitigation: If construction or operation of turbines should impact wells, whether or not a direct impact can be determined, Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. must mitigate the problem. This is one of those issues that may manifest itself immediately, or may increasingly aggravate a problem over a period of time. Mitigation should consist of reconditioning the well, or drilling a replacement well, resulting in equal or greater capacity and water quality standards.

Cradle to grave control

Allen, you stated during the public meeting on March 12 in Ellensburg that EFSEC would be responsible for this project, cradle to grave. EFSEC must retain the ability to require additional mitigation should the need arise.

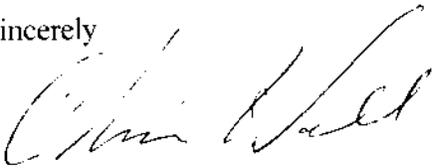
Additional mitigation could be needed if the original mitigation did not address the issue adequately, or if additional or unforeseen problems arise in the future. Furthermore, the private landowners around the project should have a mechanism to petition EFSEC to require Zilkha Renewable Energy and/or Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. to perform adequate and complete mitigation measures and that the mitigation be completed in a timely manner.

Finally, in the event that Zilkha Renewable Energy and/or Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C. is bought out, the new company must be held to all the same conditions.

Proposed mitigation: (1) EFSEC must retain the ability to require additional mitigation should any unforeseen problems arise in the future; (2) EFSEC must retain the ability to require additional mitigation work should problems be inadequately addressed with original mitigation work; (3) EFSEC must retain the ability to require all mitigation developed for this project upon any company that purchases Zilkha Renewable Energy and/or Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C.

Thank you for taking these issues into consideration.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hall", written in a cursive style.

Chris Hall

cc: Chris Taylor, Zilkha Renewable Energy, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C.
Darrel Peebles, Attorney at Law, Sagebrush Power Partners L.L.C.
Michael Lufkin, Assistant Attorney General, Counsel for the Environment.