

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

COUNTY OF KITTITAS

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KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY )  
COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING )  
RE KITTITAS VALLEY WIND POWER )  
PROJECT )

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VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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January 12, 2006  
6:30 p.m.  
Kittitas County Fairgrounds  
Ellensburg, Washington

JOINT HEARING BEFORE  
THE KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
AND  
THE KITTITAS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

REPORTED BY:  
LOUISE R. BELL, CCR NO. 2676

1 APPEARANCES:

2 KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

3 COMMISSIONER DAVID BOWEN, Chairman

4 COMMISSIONER ALAN CRANKOVICH

5 COMMISSIONER PERRY HUSTON

6 KITTITAS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION:

7 COMMISSIONER DAVID BLACK, Chairman

8 COMMISSIONER DOUG HARRIS

9 COMMISSIONER MARK McCLAIN

10 COMMISSIONER GRANT CLARK

11 COMMISSIONER DON WILLIAMSON

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1           CHAIRMAN BOWEN: It is Thursday,  
2           January 12th, 2006, 6:30 p.m., at the Kittitas  
3           County Events Center, Home Arts building. We are  
4           continuing the open-record hearing for the  
5           Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners and  
6           the Kittitas County Planning Commission to  
7           consider the Kittitas Valley Wind Farm Project  
8           submitted by Sagebrush Power Partners, LLC, for  
9           siting of a maximum of 80 wind turbines and  
10          associated facilities at a site located  
11          approximately 12 miles northwest of the city of  
12          Ellensburg.

13           I'm going to go ahead and start out with  
14          declarations for the County Commissioners and the  
15          Planning Commission.

16           So for myself, I have had no new contacts  
17          since our events last night and have nothing else  
18          to declare.

19           With that said, anyone wishing to object to  
20          my continued sitting on this project?

21           Hearing no objections, Commissioner  
22          Crankovich?

23           COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH: I have nothing to  
24          declare since last night.

25           CHAIRMAN BOWEN: Hearing that, does anyone

1 object to Commissioner Crankovich continuing to  
2 sit in hearing on this project?

3 Hearing none, Commissioner Huston?

4 COMMISSIONER HUSTON: No contact, no  
5 disclosures.

6 CHAIRMAN BOWEN: With that said, does anyone  
7 object to Commissioner Huston continuing to sit  
8 in hearing on this project?

9 Hearing none, the commissioners will all  
10 remain seated. Chairman Black?

11 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you, Chairman Bowen.

12 I'd like to introduce the Planning  
13 Commission. Second from my right is Grant Clark.  
14 Next to me on my right is Mark McClain. Next to  
15 me on my left is Doug Harris, and next to Doug  
16 Harris is Don Williamson.

17 With that, I have -- we'll go into the  
18 legal. I have had no contact or anything to  
19 disclose.

20 Is there any objection to my sitting on this  
21 board?

22 Seeing no one, I'll ask Grant Clark for  
23 his...

24 COMMISSIONER CLARK: I have no declarations.

25 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Is there anyone in the

1 audience that wishes to object to Grant Clark  
2 sitting on this board?

3 Seeing no one, I'll ask Mark McClain.

4 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: I have no  
5 declarations. Nothing to report, no new contact.

6 (Pause)

7 CHAIRMAN BLACK: With that, is there any  
8 objection from the audience for Mark McClain  
9 sitting on the commission?

10 Doug Harris?

11 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Nothing to declare.

12 CHAIRMAN BLACK: With that, is there  
13 anyone -- is there anyone in the audience that  
14 wishes to object to Doug Mc -- excuse me, Doug  
15 Harris sitting on the board?

16 Seeing no one, Don Williamson.

17 COMMISSIONER WILLIAMSON: Nothing to...

18 CHAIRMAN BLACK: I'm sorry?

19 COMMISSIONER WILLIAMSON: Nothing. Yes, no  
20 contacts.

21 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Is there anyone in the  
22 audience that wishes to object to Don Williamson  
23 sitting on the commission?

24 Seeing no one, we will turn it back to David  
25 Bowen. I believe he has a couple of housekeeping

1 chores.

2 CHAIRMAN BOWEN: Thank you, Chairman Black.  
3 I'm booming now.

4 There was -- in testimony last night I heard  
5 some questions about one of the exhibits given to  
6 us by Kittitas Valley -- or by Horizon Wind, I  
7 should say, regarding proposed Findings of Fact  
8 and Conclusions. I spoke with Director Piercy to  
9 see how we handled that particular part of our  
10 record, and he handled it just like we did with  
11 any other comments given to us by any other  
12 member of the public opposed or in support of the  
13 project.

14 We did ask last night if there was anybody  
15 wanting copies, to try to get an idea how many  
16 would want them, and then if we could get an  
17 electronic copy. So my biggest question to him  
18 was did he handle these two books like we do with  
19 everybody else's additional comment on this  
20 particular project, and he said we did.

21 So I'll let him add anything he wants to  
22 that.

23 MR. PIERCY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For  
24 the record, Darryl Piercy, Director of Community  
25 Development Services.

1           Just to clarify and expand upon your  
2           comments, Commissioner, Department of Community  
3           Development did receive those volumes, Book 1 and  
4           Book 2, for the proposed Findings of Fact from  
5           the Horizon applicant on January 3rd of 2006.

6           This was considerably after the date in  
7           which we received the original application. It  
8           was not a requirement of the original  
9           application, and we treated this as a submittal  
10          document as part of the testimony, just as we  
11          treated all of the other public comments that  
12          were received prior -- or excuse me, following  
13          the announcement of the application and seeking  
14          public comment.

15          These volumes were included both in the  
16          Planning Commission books of materials that you  
17          see before them this evening, as well as in the  
18          Board of County Commissioners' materials.

19          We have requested from the applicant  
20          additional copies of the document and will be  
21          receiving no later than Monday electronic  
22          versions in disk form of the volumes as well.

23          I think it should also be noted as you look  
24          through those volumes, much of the information is  
25          a duplicate of the actual information that was

1 contained within the application, so the disk  
2 that was provided -- many members of the  
3 community -- I believe there were several hundred  
4 of those disks provided -- contain similar  
5 information in regards to the drawings and to the  
6 basic proposal that was outlined in the  
7 application.

8 Nevertheless, we do and will have copies  
9 available to the public of all information that  
10 was received as part of the public record for  
11 this project, and all of that information is  
12 available for either review or for copies to  
13 those that request it.

14 As we indicated last night, a request to our  
15 department would be forthcoming in terms of the  
16 information. And at this point we have received  
17 no additional requests for any portions of the  
18 public record; but again, we would be very happy  
19 to provide that once we receive those requests.

20 CHAIRMAN BOWEN: Thank you.

21 With that said, I don't know if anybody  
22 wanted to add anything more?

23 COMMISSIONER HUSTON: Mr. Chairman, Perry  
24 Huston, Commissioner District 3.

25 And I understand we are arguably in front of

1 the Planning Commission at that point; we're in  
2 joint hearing for a variety of regulatory  
3 reasons, and we will have our subsequent hearings  
4 at some later day.

5 However, I feel compelled in the interests  
6 of fairness to the applicant to understand that  
7 I, as one commissioner, if I come into our  
8 continued hearing and find a huge volume of  
9 substantial information that has not been  
10 available and should have been, I will make the  
11 motion to continue the hearing so the public does  
12 have the opportunity to review that.

13 It doesn't need to be that way. I suspect  
14 that we need to get that information up front so  
15 that we can have good quality testimony and can  
16 respond to the points in those documents.

17 Now, I understand there'll be rebuttal  
18 documents and I understand things will move, and  
19 there's a bit of a line in there that's perhaps  
20 difficult to distinguish. However, that said, I  
21 think everyone will have sufficient time and to  
22 get that information out up front, or frankly, I,  
23 as one commissioner -- and I realize I'm just  
24 one -- will not proceed.

25 CHAIRMAN BOWEN: Thank you, well said. And

1 I agree with Commissioner Huston's comments.

2 With that, again with the final things, cell  
3 phones; please put them on silent or vibrate, if  
4 you would. And on public testimony, address it  
5 to the Board. And we will check periodically to  
6 see where we are as far as who's left to testify,  
7 and we'd really like to try and wrap this up  
8 tonight, but we want to get all testimony told --  
9 you know, verbalized before us.

10 So with that, Chairman Black, it's back to  
11 you.

12 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you very much,  
13 Chairman Bowen.

14 I have one item which I received today,  
15 which is Cascade Irrigation District letter dated  
16 January 10th, and it's relative to this Kittitas  
17 Valley wind farm project. It is a copy of a  
18 letter that was sent to Kittitas County Community  
19 Development Services, so it is in all of the  
20 packets.

21 MR. PIERCY: Mr. Chairman, if I may just  
22 clarify on that issue -- again, Darryl Piercy,  
23 for the record.

24 We have provided two packets of information  
25 to all Planning Commission members and Board of

1 County Commissioners this evening.

2 The first packet is a duplicate copy of all of  
3 the items that were submitted in public testimony  
4 at last night's hearing. They are identified as  
5 19 items, and they're contained in a packet that  
6 clearly identifies them as items submitted at  
7 last night's public hearing.

8 The second packet is a memorandum to both  
9 the Board of County Commissioners and the  
10 Planning Commission from Staff Planner Joanna  
11 Valencia, dated January 12th. That contained all  
12 the additional public comments that our  
13 department has received to date in regards to  
14 this topic.

15 One of those letters is the one that you  
16 referred to.

17 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you very much.

18 Before we go into public testimony, could we  
19 just get a quick show of hands. We would like to  
20 wrap this up this evening. The chairs are  
21 getting hard and some other things. So is there  
22 a show of hands of how many people basically  
23 would like to testify this evening?

24 Okay. I think with that, I would caution  
25 you that we hate to put a time limit on it;

1           however, we would like to -- if you come up  
2           and -- we want you to testify, but if it's -- if  
3           it's relative to something that's already been  
4           said, it might be, "Okay, I agree with that."

5           If you have information that you want to  
6           submit, I would ask you that you submit it this  
7           evening. We will -- if we can wrap it up this  
8           evening, we will go into a continuation for  
9           deliberation possibly the week after next, which  
10          would be the week of the 23rd of January.

11          If you can hold it down to five minutes or  
12          so, we'd really appreciate it. We want everybody  
13          that is here to have an opportunity to testify.

14          So with that -- and I don't want to cut  
15          anybody off, okay?

16          So with that, we'll go into the first  
17          testimony.

18          MS. BARRET: Michael Genson?

19          MR. MICHAEL GENSON: Good evening. You guys  
20          have held up better than I have. I'm getting a  
21          little under the weather.

22          I'm a supporter of wind power, and I urge  
23          you to approve this project.

24          If we look at the growth in our county  
25          alone, we can see that we cannot afford to deny

1 the growing need for more power. The issue  
2 becomes do we want to meet this growing demand  
3 with gas or coal power plants? Using up those  
4 finite sources? And putting tons of pollutants  
5 in our atmosphere? Or do we want to meet this  
6 need with energy generated from clean, renewable,  
7 and free -- from a clean, renewable, and free  
8 source?

9 We have that clean, renewable, and free  
10 source right here in Kittitas County. The whole  
11 world knows that the wind blows long and hard in  
12 Ellensburg. And it blows longer and harder on  
13 the ridges northwest of here within the  
14 boundaries of the Kittitas Valley Wind Power  
15 Project.

16 We need to join the counties to the south of  
17 us and other areas of the world that are making  
18 power from this resource. People from all over  
19 this state, nation, and the world will applaud us  
20 when they hear and see that we are turning wind  
21 into electricity.

22 This is a moral issue. Should we refuse to  
23 utilize our resource when it could provide energy  
24 enough for 35,000 or more homes simply because a  
25 small vocal group doesn't want turbines in their

1 viewshed?

2 I've lived and worked in this valley for  
3 44 years. I own property within the proposed  
4 project. The income that my family will receive  
5 from this project will provide for my children's  
6 futures long after I'm gone.

7 This project will allow me to keep my  
8 property intact. It will allow the preservation  
9 of some open space. It will allow the  
10 preservation of deer, elk, and other wildlife and  
11 bird habitat.

12 It will contribute to our demand for power  
13 in a clean way. You will not see pollutants from  
14 the turbines rising into the air above our  
15 valley. The power is from a renewable source,  
16 and the wind will always be here.

17 My land and most of the land within the  
18 Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project is zoned  
19 Forest & Range 20. When I purchased my property  
20 I read the zoning code that applied to it. It  
21 reads as follows -- you've heard this before, but  
22 I feel like I need to say it.

23 "The purpose and intent of the forest and  
24 range zone is to provide for areas of Kittitas  
25 County wherein natural resource management is the

1 highest priority." The highest priority. "And  
2 where subdivision and development of lands for  
3 uses and activities incompatible with this  
4 resource management are discouraged."

5 I think that wind, by anyone's definition,  
6 is natural. I think that when there's an  
7 abundant, usable supply by anyone's definition it  
8 becomes a resource.

9 I have a natural resource on my property  
10 that can be utilized to benefit my family and the  
11 world. And to put turbines on my property to  
12 manage this resource obviously meets the intent  
13 of the county's Forest & Range 20 zone.

14 As county planners and commissioners, it's  
15 your responsibility to see that I'm allowed to  
16 exercise my right as a property owner to manage  
17 this natural resource, including the right to  
18 determine locations of turbines on my property.

19 It is your responsibility to look to the  
20 needs of the future. Please do not deny this  
21 project because the opponents don't want a  
22 turbine in their viewshed. The viewshed they  
23 claim is my property. I've always believed that  
24 my property rights end at my property boundaries.  
25 And I've never tried to dictate what neighbors

1 several miles away could or could not do with  
2 their property.

3 That which is considered part of a viewshed  
4 is an aesthetic and subjective thing. It is not  
5 a valid basis for judging any project, whether it  
6 be residential development, or whether it be a  
7 natural resource development.

8 Just a couple of quick comments. I'm a  
9 little bit discouraged. I've been here two  
10 evenings and -- and the emphasis that people are  
11 placing on energy seems to be way second place to  
12 this idea of viewshed. We're not looking to the  
13 future.

14 When I was approached to -- to possibly sign  
15 a wind lease on my property, it wasn't what I had  
16 planned for my property. And it took a lot of --  
17 it took a lot of investigating, a lot of  
18 research, a trip to the State Line wind farm,  
19 telephone calls to people who lived within a wind  
20 farm. One party who had turbines on her property  
21 and one who didn't. And it took a lot of soul  
22 searching.

23 And -- but always in the back of my mind,  
24 even though that's not what I wanted to do with  
25 my property, I knew that if I could have turbines

1 on my property that would supply power to people,  
2 it would be the right thing to do.

3 When I signed with -- at that time Zilkha,  
4 it was not an economically profitable situation.  
5 Wind studies since that time have made it much  
6 more profitable for my family. The wind  
7 velocities in the actual areas where the wind  
8 blew was determined and it was slid down the  
9 slopes a bit so my property would have more  
10 turbines.

11 My wife and I care about our property as  
12 much as anyone. We care about every single  
13 bitterbush on our property. We put as much  
14 blood, sweat, and tears into our property as  
15 anyone. I, I just don't like the insinuations  
16 that somebody with a wind turbine on their  
17 property wouldn't want to live there or, you  
18 know, didn't have any respect for the property  
19 anyway, because that is not the case.

20 I've heard a lot of view corridor.  
21 Highway 97, I live off of Highway 97. The speed  
22 limit is 65 miles an hour. Hardly, hardly  
23 indicative of a view corridor. You have to top  
24 the ridge at the gravel pit up on top of Bettas  
25 Pass before you can see Mr. Stuart from that

1 highway.

2 I strongly recommend -- you've probably all  
3 been out that way a lot of times, but go out  
4 there and take a look. 65 miles an hour.  
5 Because there are very few residences, there are  
6 very few approaches and accesses. I think  
7 it's -- it's the only place I know of that a  
8 two-lane highway in this state is allowed to be  
9 65 miles an hour.

10 There's talk about protecting birds and  
11 wildlife. I would recommend that we -- we  
12 contact the DOT and get the speed limit dropped  
13 out there to 50 or 55 miles an hour. There are  
14 more deer killed and more birds killed on that  
15 stretch of highway by automobiles than any place  
16 where I've ever lived.

17 Size of turbines. Size of turbines are very  
18 tall. If you walked under a turbine, which my  
19 wife and I did, the State Line project, they're  
20 huge, they're immense. But we were able to talk  
21 in this tone of voice to each other. The noise  
22 is not a mechanical noise, it's not a thump,  
23 thump, thump. It's a whooshing noise; it's like  
24 a wind noise.

25 When the wind is blowing 40 miles an hour

1 over the ridges at my place, you literally have  
2 to shout from me to you to be able to converse.

3 40-story building. If you walk up next to a  
4 40-story building and you look at it, it's huge.  
5 Just like a turbine. But from 12 miles back,  
6 from 12 miles back it's about like that  
7 (indicating). You can't identify it without a  
8 pair of binoculars.

9 So once again, this viewshed thing is -- is  
10 blown way out of proportion. Most of the  
11 residences in that area have a beautiful view of  
12 a whole series of power lines and towers. I've  
13 got a view of 34 from my gate, the gate that goes  
14 into my property. And I have a cell tower too,  
15 but luckily it doesn't have a light on it.

16 To close, I want to read a statement made by  
17 Commissioner of Public Lands Doug Sutherland.  
18 This is taken from the Northern Kittitas County  
19 Tribune, July 17th, 2003. He's referring to this  
20 project. And this is at the conclusion of the  
21 State of Washington signing a lease for -- to be  
22 a participant in this project.

23 He says, and I quote: "Balancing the needs  
24 of economic growth, the desires of local  
25 communities, and the potential environmental

1 benefits of this project isn't easy, but it's  
2 critical. It's critical if we are going to make  
3 responsible decisions that provide benefits today  
4 and for generations to come."

5 Thank you very much for this opportunity. I  
6 appreciate it, your efforts.

7 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you. Questions?  
8 Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 MS. BARRET: Douglas MacArthur?

11 MR. DOUGLAS MacARTHUR: Hello, my name is  
12 Doug MacArthur, and I'm scared as heck. I live  
13 at 4661 Umptanum Road, which is on the south side  
14 of the valley. And I'm speaking for myself.

15 But I very strongly urge that you do not  
16 allow this thing to happen. I am a photographer,  
17 and I know beauty when I see it. And believe me,  
18 that mountain is one of the most beautiful  
19 mountains I've ever seen.

20 And if I was to stand on the edge of my  
21 aunt's property on the south side of this valley,  
22 I can count every one of those towers, those  
23 power transfer towers, and I can count every one  
24 of those 43 -- or 40-foot -- or 40-story  
25 buildings that are going to be put there.

1 I can see everything that's there with the  
2 naked eye. I don't have to have a long lens or  
3 magnifying glass or whatever you want. I don't  
4 have to have it. I can see it. Just right there  
5 in front of your eyes at all times.

6 And as far as those towers going, yeah,  
7 we're probably going to get them anyway. But I  
8 hope that you guys will recommend no.

9 I want to know one thing -- well, several  
10 things. How much wind does it take to start one  
11 of these and how much wind can it handle?  
12 Because there are such things as too much wind.

13 Where are the towers built? Are they built  
14 here or assembled here? If they are built in  
15 Seattle, because they'll have to be shipped in,  
16 if they're built in Seattle, they've got to come  
17 across the pass somehow. They come across that  
18 pass, it's going to be 30, 35 miles an hour.  
19 It's going to hold up traffic for several hours.

20 And if the -- if the building -- if these  
21 things are so big -- and we've seen several  
22 towers come in going to the State Line down there  
23 in Wallula, I have seen four of them come in  
24 through on a -- on a truck. One of them rolled  
25 off of the truck down by Wallula and held up

1 traffic for several hours while they had to wait  
2 for a crane to come in and put it back on the  
3 truck.

4 If they come across the pass, how are they  
5 going to get them through the bridges, over  
6 the -- under the underpasses and so on? That's  
7 something I would really like to know.

8 And if they don't work, if they don't  
9 actually make enough power to actually bring it  
10 to a reasonable use, do we live with these towers  
11 for the rest of our lives? Because you're going  
12 to have 64 of them, or as the thing says, up to  
13 80.

14 How are we going to -- are we going to live  
15 with them if they don't work? When the federal  
16 money is gone, what do we do? Live with them.  
17 We've got flow out here on the edge of the  
18 freeway right now. And it's a small thing.  
19 Those towers down there at State Line are only  
20 250-foot tall. They're small. These things are  
21 twice as big. And they're huge.

22 If I can see those down there at Wallula  
23 from Pasco, 30 miles away, what are we going to  
24 do with 410-foot-tall towers sitting on the edge  
25 of a hill up here that's going to be like

1 Mt. Stuart through a picket fence? I can't  
2 understand that.

3 And if they are up there and they don't  
4 work, do they stay there or do they come out? It  
5 says in here that there is a clause, a  
6 decommissioning plan, but it doesn't say anything  
7 about taking them out. It says that it's just a  
8 decommissioning plan that, okay, they're going to  
9 stop them, they're going to break them down,  
10 they're going to stop there. We're going to live  
11 with them, right? No, I hope not.

12 And finally, how much does it take to  
13 build -- how much money does it take to build one  
14 tower and where is that money coming from? Is it  
15 coming from us? Is it coming from the federal  
16 government, the state government, or the county  
17 government? I would like to know.

18 And as far as that goes, Goldendale didn't  
19 work. They took a big -- they had a wind farm  
20 down there at Goldendale out in the Goodnoe  
21 Hills. It was an experimental wind farm, and I  
22 believe that Boeing put it up. It didn't work,  
23 okay. They took it out. Now you have that  
24 pristine country back where it was supposed to  
25 be. Not with a bunch of towers and looking at

1 the whole countryside through a picket fence.

2 And that's basically it. But please, do  
3 not -- I urge you guys, do not let this happen.  
4 Thank you.

5 Any questions?

6 CHAIRMAN BLACK: No. Thank you very much.

7 (Applause)

8 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: You know, I think it  
9 would be helpful --

10 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Excuse me just a second,  
11 Mark, if you don't mind.

12 I think both sides have had their applause.  
13 I think we can go on the rest of the time without  
14 it, if that's okay with everybody. Both sides  
15 have done it; let's go from there. No more  
16 applause, please.

17 Next?

18 MS. BARRET: Howard Mitchell?

19 MR. HOWARD MITCHELL: I don't think you'll  
20 have to worry about any applause from my  
21 presentation. I'm not a public speaker, so I'll  
22 read my say and --

23 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Excellent.

24 MR. HOWARD MITCHELL: -- I didn't sleep at  
25 the Holiday Inn last night.

1 I'm Howard Mitchell, 371 Howard Road. I  
2 speak for my wife, myself, and my son and his  
3 family that live on our farm. We farm at 97 and  
4 Howard Road. We raise Timothy hay and cattle.

5 During my 70 years at this location, I can  
6 attest to the wind farm -- wind power in this  
7 area. Wind power capabilities. I have it  
8 written and I'd better read what I --

9 In fact, my new neighbors asked if it's ever  
10 going to quit. When does this quit, they say.

11 Actually the wind can be blowing at home,  
12 and a mile down the road on Highway 97 toward  
13 Ellensburg it is calm. This is nice when it's  
14 foggy in Ellensburg or it's hot, a hot summer day  
15 in the summer it cools us off a little. So we've  
16 learned to live with it.

17 However, there are times when you can barely  
18 stand up in it. And I think you know what I mean  
19 there. I commend Horizon Wind Energy people for  
20 recognizing wind when they find it.

21 In my opinion, wind should -- in my opinion  
22 we should use this wind power to create  
23 electricity for our state and tax assessments for  
24 our county. I know this sounds like I am  
25 disregarding the complaints of the people in the

1 close vicinity to these towers. I say this  
2 sincerely: If I lived in that area, I would  
3 prefer turbines to building as many houses as the  
4 developers will eventually build there.

5 My reason for saying this is that urban  
6 encroachment is rapidly spreading in our valley,  
7 displacing farming and ranching, the very thing  
8 that keeps this valley beautiful to the residents  
9 and the tourists that visit.

10 Realtors say that realty sales have been one  
11 of the biggest businesses in Kittitas County.  
12 When they tell me this, I say to them when homes  
13 cover this valley from one skyline to the other  
14 that the majority of the Kittitas Valley's beauty  
15 will be gone. For instance, not being able to  
16 see the incredible starlit nights because of  
17 suburban glow.

18 My major concern is the subsurface (well  
19 water supply) shortage caused by these many wells  
20 in an area that receives less than nine inches of  
21 precipitation a year. Such a shortage happened  
22 with surface waters more than 30 years ago and  
23 has been in adjudication every since -- ever  
24 since and still has not been settled.

25 When the wells start to go dry, the courts

1 will have to step in and decide who gets water  
2 and who does not. That settlement will be  
3 decided on a first-in-time/first-in-line basis.  
4 That means the wells that were in first will get  
5 water; the ones that were in last may not get  
6 water.

7 If wind farms in the Kittitas County help  
8 prevent the land from being urbanized, they have  
9 made an outstanding contribution. They also make  
10 renewable energy and create a good income for  
11 some landowners in the county. We have to have  
12 more generations supplied. Where will it come  
13 from?

14 The answer, my friends, is written in the  
15 answer. The answer is written in the wind.  
16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Questions? Thank you.

18 MS. BARRET: Robert Young?

19 Darlene Young?

20 MS. DARLENE YOUNG: I'm Darlene Young, and  
21 I'm speaking for myself and my husband. I live  
22 at 771 Sun East Road, Ellensburg, Washington.  
23 And both my husband and I are opposed to the  
24 location of the wind turbines.

25 I think everyone has a right to do what they

1 want to with their property as long as it doesn't  
2 bring harm or create havoc to other people. And  
3 I'm not going to go on, because I agree with just  
4 about everything that everybody said.

5 I do have an article that I'd like to leave  
6 for the Board to read.

7 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Please do. I was remiss  
8 in -- please -- I was remiss in reminding  
9 everyone that if you haven't -- if you've written  
10 something and you're not prepared to read it this  
11 evening, we will take any written thing at the  
12 planning -- the Community Development Services  
13 office by -- 5:00 p.m. tomorrow?

14 MR. PIERCY: That would be fine.

15 CHAIRMAN BLACK: That way will allow to us  
16 get it into the record. So if you have it in  
17 written form and then you would like to leave it  
18 this evening, that's fine. If you want to leave  
19 it, take it to the County tomorrow, that's fine  
20 also. It will get into the record. Every one of  
21 us will read the information that's there, and  
22 please do that.

23 Next?

24 MS. BARRET: Donna Jane? Janus. Sorry.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's not here.

1 MS. BARRET: David Crane?

2 MR. DAVID CRANE: I am David Crane. I live  
3 at 1201 Vista Road, Ellensburg. I own the  
4 property there, myself and the finance company.  
5 And I have no vested interest in the wind farms.  
6 And my dad was a soft-spoken man, taught me to  
7 stand up and tell people how I feel about things  
8 without abusing them.

9 My purpose here tonight is to challenge some  
10 of the statements that have been made against the  
11 wind farms. I wrote something out and I'm going  
12 to read part of it. And ad-lib.

13 Electric power needs are increasing due to  
14 population increase and a trend toward more  
15 electric power devices. Hydroelectric is about  
16 maxed out. It also disrupts habitat, mars the  
17 scenery, causes problems with fish, water  
18 quality, mud flats, et cetera.

19 Petroleum-generated power has some noise  
20 problems, causes pollution, is considered  
21 non-renewable.

22 Nuclear power generation has a problem with  
23 radiation. What to do with the waste. Requires  
24 large quantities of water for cooling and needs  
25 to be near a significant water source or river

1 and is dangerous in the event of a possible  
2 accident.

3 Geothermal is still undeveloped.

4 Solar power has yet a way to go before  
5 offering a significant contribution to the  
6 equation.

7 Now, here are some of the complaints that I  
8 have heard and read about wind farms:

9 They make noise.

10 They kill birds.

11 They disrupt habitat.

12 They mar scenic beauty.

13 They must be government subsidized.

14 The towers are too tall. They could cause  
15 fires.

16 Power could or may be transmitted elsewhere.

17 They don't need -- we don't need more power  
18 yet.

19 Will lower property taxes. Excuse me,  
20 values; will lower property values.

21 Too much cement in the ground.

22 Wind farm people are greedy. Wind farm  
23 people don't care about the residents in our  
24 valley.

25 Wind farms shouldn't be near residences.

1 Wind farms create only a very few jobs.

2 Wind farms will not produce much power and  
3 what if the wind doesn't blow as much as we wish?

4 Now, I have made some observations about  
5 this. I, I don't care if my wind -- or if my  
6 electric power comes from Bonneville or if it  
7 comes from some nuclear plant or if it comes from  
8 geothermal or whatever. I'm just happy that they  
9 keep the thing running, because I like to use it.

10 As to the noise, we have learned how to  
11 mitigate noise, so this is a frivolous complaint.  
12 Last night a gentleman made the comment that it's  
13 impossible to mitigate the noise that comes from  
14 a tower that's 300 to 400 feet high. I think  
15 that the gentleman misunderstood what the word  
16 "mitigate" means. It doesn't mean to eliminate  
17 the noise; it means to diminish or modify or  
18 reduce the noise.

19 And in refrigeration and in air conditioning  
20 we use the term "sones," which means how much  
21 noise the fan makes, and you can buy fans of  
22 different sones, which it's mitigated. So it  
23 isn't quite as noisy. Sometimes it doesn't  
24 matter if it's noisy and sometimes it does. So  
25 you put one that has fewer sones.

1           As to the birds, picture windows kill more  
2 birds than wind generators, as do cars, cats, and  
3 over-population of birds. Yet the birds survive  
4 and thrive.

5           As far as the habitat is concerned,  
6 everything we do mars the habitat. Septic tanks,  
7 bridges, roads, blacktop, power lines.

8           As far as beauty is concerned, "beauty" and  
9 "ugly" are subjective; just as a lady said last  
10 night, are in the eye of the beholder. The wind  
11 towers are quite artistic.

12           And I don't know if any of you have driven  
13 down -- I'm sure you've driven down and paid  
14 attention to it, but down Canyon Road, what do  
15 you have down along the river down there?  
16 Railroad track.

17           Some of you have driven down through Grand  
18 Canyon. If you go down along the Vermillion  
19 Cliffs, it's one of the most scenic spots in the  
20 world. What do you have down across the  
21 Vermillion Cliffs? Power lines. Down up across  
22 the top of the thing, power lines. Why do they  
23 do that? Because people need electricity.  
24 Probably because they don't want to dig up the  
25 ground and put them underground. They haven't

1           figured any way to transmit the thing by radar.

2           As far as government subsidies is concerned,  
3           government subsidies are a fact of life, the same  
4           as tax breaks. That's what we do. Including  
5           airlines and Chrysler corporation. The reason  
6           government subsidies are there is to help private  
7           enterprise do what we want to have done for the  
8           welfare and the goodwill of the people. Just  
9           like New Orleans and some of these other things.  
10          Sometimes government steps in, and that's a good  
11          thing.

12          As far as how tall they are, trees, radio  
13          transmission towers, and many buildings are also  
14          tall, and tall trees cause fires when they're hit  
15          by lightening. Had one right in my back yard  
16          when I was a kid. Just split the thing in half  
17          and it set a fire.

18          Being tall is no big deal. People build  
19          houses right next to trees that are huge, bigger  
20          than wind towers, and they do this because they  
21          like to do it and they're not afraid of them, and  
22          they fall on houses and they kill people.

23          Who cares as far as where the power goes?  
24          Who cares where the power is transmitted, as long  
25          as our communities have adequate power which we

1 pay for at a reasonable rate? What difference  
2 does it make if the power we generate here goes  
3 to Seattle or Tacoma or stays here? It's all  
4 just electricity.

5 As far as whether we need it now or not, are  
6 we going to wait until we're out of gas before we  
7 fill our proverbial tank? I think we as  
8 responsible people need to make provision for the  
9 needs of the future.

10 As far as property taxes -- and I have to  
11 apologize to anybody; I know some real estate  
12 people in this town, but does any informed person  
13 really believe that wind farms will have a  
14 lasting negative impact on property values?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You bet.

16 MR. DAVID CRANE: I don't think that there's  
17 very many. And I'll tell you this, this town is  
18 a lot bigger than this meeting, and 400 people  
19 who are contrary to the wind farms do not  
20 represent this town. If you want to find out  
21 what this town believes, you're going to have to  
22 have a vote.

23 And I don't think that just because people  
24 complain in the paper or stand up in a meeting  
25 complaining -- I've noticed that a lot of the

1 complaints here are from people who have property  
2 and they don't want their view destroyed. I  
3 think that there's a conflict of interest here.

4 As far as cement in the ground, cement in  
5 the ground will never be as much of a problem as  
6 rocks, and we have already learned how to deal  
7 with that. We've learned how to work around  
8 rocks, and some rocks you just can't move and  
9 they're going to be there, so people -- people  
10 work with it.

11 You know, as far as change is concerned,  
12 it's a fact of life that -- human nature that we  
13 resist change. Complaints will always dominate  
14 the public forum because people are just too busy  
15 to get involved with things that they think will  
16 be okay or they don't care. So the complainers  
17 will always carry the day in a public forum. And  
18 read the paper and you can find this out. I know  
19 a lot of people say, It doesn't matter to me, and  
20 they look at the complaints and they just shrug  
21 their shoulders.

22 As far as whether they're going to produce  
23 very much jobs, just because you don't produce  
24 very many jobs is a good thing, because it  
25 indicates that this is going to be lower

1 operational costs to operate a facility which  
2 produces something of value for our community.

3 I hear a lot of people giving lip service to  
4 clean energy, but when it comes right down to it,  
5 they don't want to put their money where their  
6 mouth is.

7 The wind energy is good way to go and it is  
8 a better way to go than nuclear or some of these  
9 other things. Think about Celilo Falls. I had a  
10 neighbor, went to school with a guy in my  
11 hometown, which is in Sweet Home, Oregon. Up  
12 above they put in a dam, and these people had  
13 lived there for generations, and they had to move  
14 off of their place because of the thing. And  
15 they were bitter people. And I couldn't blame  
16 them; they were nice people, but there are  
17 sometimes we have to move over.

18 Mineral rights on my property are reserved.  
19 So I don't even own what's under my place. And I  
20 knew that when I moved there. I don't care; I'm  
21 not going to live here for always, I'm going to  
22 pass on.

23 We have good people chosen by the community  
24 to make these decisions. I believe they will  
25 weigh the facts, they will consider the effects,

1 and they will make the best possible decision for  
2 all of us. I support them in this even if they  
3 choose differently than I would. But I  
4 enthusiastically favor the wind farms, and I have  
5 nothing personal to gain from it.

6 And I also favor this location as a very  
7 wise choice for this beautiful valley and for our  
8 country. We need to diversify our power sources  
9 so that even in the event of a terrorist attack  
10 or some horrible natural disaster, we would still  
11 have some other sources on which to rely.

12 The proposed sites are ideal because of much  
13 wind, because of a rural setting, and because of  
14 access to transmission lines. And I hear people  
15 say, Well, we're going to take this wind farm way  
16 off someplace else and build it someplace where  
17 there's no people. And what do they do? Build  
18 huge transmission lines right across everything  
19 to get there.

20 Same thing you do with roads. You can't get  
21 from Point A to Point B without disrupting  
22 somebody's property. And you don't build a  
23 serpentine thing around everybody's land because  
24 they have a right to. You give them a huge  
25 price, sometimes an exorbitant price, and you

1           move them out of the way, and they all have to  
2           move over and they feel bad, but that's the way  
3           it is.

4           I spent 30 months in Clark County trying to  
5           get approval for a simple septic tank. And after  
6           30 months I finally got it after the newspaper  
7           wrote up an editorial on it. And there was  
8           nothing wrong with it in the first place. I  
9           think as government we need to streamline the  
10          process so that people don't have to wait eight  
11          weeks to get a permit, a building permit or some  
12          other things.

13          I think it's a travesty if things -- if  
14          people in private enterprise trying to do  
15          something to help us all have to go through so  
16          many loops that they finally just get discouraged  
17          and give up and quit. And I think it's too bad,  
18          the reason that I got up here and said what I  
19          did. I know it's not a popular thing.

20          A different siting will only translate into  
21          more ugly transmission lines, more expense with  
22          no benefit. To deny this application on the  
23          basis of these often-expressed complaints would  
24          be contrary to reason, because in principle it  
25          would condemn every single power-generating

1 facility in existence.

2 When you think about it, Bonneville dam, all  
3 the dams up and down the river, Hanford, out by  
4 St. Helens, the Trojan nuclear outfit. Every one  
5 of those would be out. And probably some of us  
6 would be glad if Trojan was out of there.

7 But I have heard very few suggestions from  
8 anyone as to where they should be sited. The  
9 people that complain about it, they don't know  
10 where to put them. They just don't like it  
11 there. They don't know why they don't like it  
12 except it affects them in some negative way. Of  
13 course it does. Any power project does. That's  
14 the nature of it.

15 Those who oppose this siting have not shown  
16 the same measure of professionalism and precision  
17 as the wind farm companies, and the wind farm  
18 people have displayed a remarkable courtesy and  
19 patience through the whole difficult process. To  
20 deny their application would, in my view, be a  
21 great mistake.

22 I am sure that this valley was very  
23 beautiful and serene before we all moved here.  
24 But I personally don't favor turning it back over  
25 to the snakes, the coyotes, and the sagebrush,

1 and I will certainly have -- and it will  
2 certainly have more beauty as a wind farm than if  
3 it were cluttered up with houses and fences,  
4 which is the logical result, and I might say  
5 cattle feeding lots and other things like that,  
6 which is the logical result if we make it --  
7 unless we make it a scenic preserve.

8 Thank you very much. And I have a letter  
9 here to submit which I have previously submitted  
10 to the Daily Record.

11 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Please.

12 MR. DAVID CRANE: Thank you very much. And  
13 thank you all for doing this for all of us.

14 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

15 Next?

16 MS. BARRET: Jim Schwing?

17 Art DePalma?

18 MR. ART DePALMA: Good evening. My name is  
19 Art DePalma, and I live at 6991 Manastash Road in  
20 Ellensburg.

21 And I have a page or two. Although I  
22 thought some of the comments from the fellow  
23 before were interesting, I wish I had a pencil  
24 and had taken some notes, in that he kind of  
25 equated wind towers with big trees and whatever

1 else you might want to look at, silos or, I don't  
2 know.

3 But then he made comment that the people  
4 that live there, they don't want their views  
5 ruined. Well, if everything looks alike and it's  
6 just all in the eye of the beholder, what would  
7 ruin their view? Nothing would ruin their view,  
8 and you could have a big toxic dump and that  
9 would be okay; some people might like that too.

10 People that are moved from the dam, well,  
11 that's just the way it is. And sure, I mean, we  
12 need roads. Might have to go through somebody's  
13 property. But I don't think we need a wind farm  
14 in this site.

15 You know, I've heard a lot about the  
16 benefits of a wind farm here, and Horizon has  
17 reduced the number of turbines, oh, down to 60 or  
18 80. Specific actions have been taken to reduce  
19 shadow flicker. I guess I should -- and I do  
20 commend Horizon for some of these efforts.

21 Yet, you know, with all these speeches about  
22 safety and wildlife and mitigation and so on,  
23 nothing was really said the first night about,  
24 you know, what would be good for the residents  
25 here or what the residents in the area need.

1           And I'll go on record saying that these  
2           environmental impacts can't be mitigated. Sure,  
3           you might be able to decrease, you know, some  
4           noise. Somebody has a neighbor who has a boom  
5           box. You can mitigate it; you can move over a  
6           couple of feet. That mitigates it.

7           So, I mean, you know, even -- either  
8           something is mitigated so that your quality of  
9           life isn't ruined or then it's not mitigated.

10          Homes and wind turbines I think are  
11          incompatible. I mean, where else in the country  
12          has somebody been trying to site a wind farm  
13          where there's hundreds of homes, and particularly  
14          homes, you know, in this caliber and this price  
15          range in this scenic area? Nowhere. Nowhere  
16          else in the country has a wind farm been put up  
17          in an area like this where there's hundreds homes  
18          and where hundreds of people live.

19          The fellow Tom Priestly, the aesthetics  
20          expert, he was honest enough to still classify as  
21          moderate and even high impact where you could  
22          still see some of these wind turbines. And  
23          particularly up on the Table Mountain area.

24          You know, every year the astronomers, they  
25          go up there to look at stars, whatever that is,

1 star weekend. I guess you wouldn't have that  
2 anymore with the 60 or 70 blinking red lights in  
3 unison going off all night long.

4 You know, 400-foot -- what other things  
5 can't you mitigate? Not only the 400-foot  
6 towers, but there's, you know, there is noise.  
7 There's the swish-swish noise that really hasn't  
8 been talked about. It's 50-decibel noise near  
9 the property line, even around near the house.

10 And as far as low frequency noise, which  
11 we've talked about before, this has just sort of  
12 been dismissed as something that doesn't happen.  
13 But last year I had mentioned that there's a  
14 university in Manchester, England, that was  
15 starting to do research on low frequency noise  
16 and how to measure it.

17 And at the present time you can look at  
18 their website to see what they have to say, and  
19 basically they say that their acoustics research  
20 center has just completed doing research and  
21 developing guidelines. So they've just completed  
22 developing these guidelines for assessing  
23 disturbance by a low frequency noise.

24 They drew upon a unique set of equipment and  
25 calibration facilities for low frequency sound

1 measurement which wasn't available before. It  
2 says, "Many local authorities have complaints  
3 about low frequency noise which, for various  
4 reasons, are notoriously difficult for them to  
5 deal with." "Low frequency noise  
6 is...particularly difficult to measure reliably.  
7 All these difficulties mean that low frequency  
8 noise problems may go unresolved for years, which  
9 is unsatisfactory for both local authorities and  
10 complainants." For this reason they've "decided  
11 to try to develop guidelines for use by local  
12 authorities."

13 So this is brand new. This is just off the  
14 internet. Off of the website, this university  
15 and their noise acoustics research center.

16 Reducing the number of towers to half, to 60  
17 or so, that's nice but it's like getting a half  
18 of a teaspoon, instead of a whole teaspoon, of  
19 strychnine in your coffee.

20 The project director also made a point of a  
21 figure over a million dollars in tax benefits to  
22 the county. Then, if you heard what I heard, he  
23 mentioned the Wild Horse wind farm and really  
24 didn't say much about the tax benefits there. It  
25 was kind of murky. Well, it was taken over by a

1 utility and they kind of do their own thing.

2 Well, would there be any big surprise if  
3 this one was taken over by a utility too?

4 You know, I know that sometimes we have to  
5 give way to change whether we like it or not, but  
6 I'm here to say that this isn't the right thing  
7 to do, to put a wind farm with all these turbines  
8 among hundreds of homes. That's the wrong thing  
9 to do.

10 We already have one wind farm in this  
11 county. And it's a unique laboratory for us to  
12 learn the impact of wind turbines and give us  
13 answers that we don't have. What's the rush to  
14 build another one prematurely? Especially in a  
15 place where it doesn't belong.

16 I'd like each of you commissioners to  
17 imagine that you lived in this area. You're one  
18 of our elected officials that's empowered to  
19 protect the citizens of this county from harm.  
20 And I ask you that you vote "no" on the Horizon  
21 Wind Energy project.

22 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you very much.  
23 Questions?

24 MS. BARRET: Sue Bangs?

25 Eric Prater?

1 MR. ERIC PRATER: My name is Eric Prater.  
2 I'm a fourth-generation resident of the valley.  
3 My sons -- I'm speaking for myself and my sons.  
4 Hopefully they'll be fifth residents, and I'd  
5 like to see them actually somehow involved in  
6 agriculture.

7 I'm for this wind farm. I have struggled in  
8 the last several years with the growth issues  
9 that have come with our very nice people moving  
10 in from other parts of the country. And one of  
11 the nice things I like about the wind farm is is  
12 that this is going to be a way that in ten or  
13 twenty years there'll actually be a black spot on  
14 that hillside. It'll have a nice white and red  
15 ribbon running right through the middle of it of  
16 headlights and taillights in the nighttime, just  
17 like the South Hill does now.

18 In my lifetime I've seen a lot of growth,  
19 and it's escalated in the last five years. It  
20 used to be that hill was black six night a week,  
21 and Friday night, as everyone went down to watch  
22 the movies in Yakima, you'd see headlights and  
23 taillights.

24 And this is the same way. I'm having to  
25 forecast out a ways, but I live on the west side

1 of the valley, as some of you do, and we're on  
2 the -- more of the aggressive development edge  
3 than in that part of the valley.

4 Last summer I walked out and stood on Cove  
5 Road, and I started from the right and I counted  
6 lights across, and I hadn't gotten three quarters  
7 of the way across the hillside and I was well  
8 over 120 blinking lights as the atmosphere was  
9 there near and far. And I thought, my God, what  
10 has happened to us; what happened to our nice  
11 black hillside?

12 And I'm looking at 6000 acres in this farm  
13 of state and private property and 90 of it is  
14 going to end up developed. There's going to be  
15 one well on that for a house that they can  
16 operate this system with. That doesn't seem like  
17 very much development.

18 I know you guys might be stunned by that,  
19 because you guys see a lot of lot splits coming  
20 through what you're -- in your job. You guys, if  
21 you saw a hundred acres, you saw twenty houses on  
22 it in the same area, this is the reverse. I  
23 don't know if you guys can handle this. There's  
24 not going to be very many houses on this 6000  
25 acres. I'm not sure if you're prepared to handle

1 this. It's a reverse of what you're used to.  
2 People aren't taking 20 acres and sticking a  
3 cluster subdivision on it on 1.4-acre lots. This  
4 is a totally different bird.

5 Another issue that was on this was the  
6 noise. Highway 97 goes right up the middle of  
7 that. Right now it's fairly quiet, but you guys  
8 have seen we have a north-south highway. There's  
9 going to be a lot more traffic up there.

10 If you lived just down the hill, like some  
11 of these houses are, it's going to be like living  
12 on I-90 with 28,000 cars a day. You're not going  
13 to hear anything but trucks going on drunk bumps  
14 that rattle. You're going to hear jake brakes as  
15 they go down both steep sides, revving up,  
16 shifting down. There's a lot of issues there. I  
17 don't know if they've been discussed.

18 Those windmills are the least -- it's almost  
19 innocuous. The south hill's getting developed;  
20 you can see lights up there. But those are small  
21 lots, three-acre lots. This is one turbine, on  
22 the average, per 75 acres. That's pretty small.  
23 75 acres and one turbine.

24 And all around it is going to be lights. In  
25 the daytime you're going to see roads slashed

1 across the hillsides in the normal manner, like I  
2 have on my old wheat fields west of me. And  
3 south of me and, well, to the north of me, and  
4 now I got them on east side of the valley too, so  
5 they're on all sides of me.

6 The impact -- that is why I'm for it, is  
7 it's going to be less of anything on this.

8 I'm not used to speaking at all, and this is  
9 kind of terrifying.

10 It's been brought up about the groundwater  
11 issues. If this 6000 acres was developed at the  
12 rate that it is going and maybe in the future,  
13 we're looking at if it's five-acre lots, that  
14 could be 300 houses up there and 300 wells.  
15 Maybe it'll be a different water system.

16 But you're also going to have above-ground  
17 power lines; you're going to have huge houses.  
18 The people that buy the views, you're not going  
19 to see a double-wide like you see down by Selah  
20 and that; you're going to see what you see on the  
21 south end of Cove Road, 29,000 feet and then an  
22 ugly power line going up to it.

23 And again, the noise issue is -- I have a  
24 very nice neighbor that moved in next to me and  
25 stuck in a little house and he stuck in a heat

1 pump. I live six miles out in the country, and I  
2 walk out my front door and I can hear my  
3 neighbor's heat pump. And I personally would  
4 prefer to hear something bigger. In fact, I've  
5 actually -- I would like to see a windmill on my  
6 place so that my neighbors would stay away if it  
7 offended them. So it's the reverse, it's totally  
8 the reverse.

9 And also I think that power generation needs  
10 to be in our eyes and in our faces so that we can  
11 see it. When we drive across the Columbia we see  
12 nice lakes, but we don't see that that is --  
13 behind Wanapum Dam is 38 miles of water backed  
14 up. And a lot of river bottom was destroyed for  
15 that.

16 I'm very thankful for it; it allows me to  
17 see you right here. I'm very thankful for the  
18 electricity I got, and I also want more down the  
19 road.

20 And I think that the power needs to be  
21 generated where it's used. At the moment this  
22 power will be sold to other places, but it's  
23 going to be used here too.

24 So what I'm asking is, is that can you  
25 please keep this little place black at night,

1 because all around it you guys see what's coming  
2 down the road. There's going to be a lot more  
3 houses and a lot more lights and a lot more roads  
4 and a lot more wells and the problems coming with  
5 that.

6 So -- and a lot of -- I've seen the Planning  
7 Commissions, you know, what people have used in  
8 the past is to justify a housing development they  
9 look for existing houses to justify this. And  
10 right now I see a lot of proposals for houses,  
11 but I don't see a lot of houses built there. And  
12 I think that if that's the case, then this has to  
13 be considered right now and not down the road.  
14 So you have to use what you have right now on the  
15 ground for what you use to make a decision on  
16 this.

17 I guess that's it. Thank you for your time.

18 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

19 MR. ERIC PRATER: Do you have any questions  
20 for me?

21 CHAIRMAN BLACK: No. Thank you.

22 We'll take a five-minute break and come back  
23 at approximately ten minutes to 8:00.

24 (A break was taken.)

25 MS. BARRET: Chris Cole?

1 MS. CHRISTINE COLE: I'm Christine Cole, and  
2 I'm representing myself and my partner, Roger  
3 Bernette. We live at 7430 Robbins Road in  
4 Ellensburg.

5 The U.S. seems to be going crazy with the  
6 promises of wind power benefits. One statement  
7 of public testimony on Tuesday night said the  
8 wind towers would be free to us. If they are  
9 free, if they are free, where do the federal  
10 subsidies come from but our hard-earned wages and  
11 tax dollars?

12 The struggle over suitable sites is now  
13 fought in Europe as well as in the U.S., as the  
14 problems with these industrial sites mounts. We  
15 have the distinct feeling that this valley is an  
16 experiment as to how close these structures can  
17 be placed to people so that the expanse of these  
18 industrial sites can explode even more.

19 My statement was going to be rather short  
20 until I heard the presentation from the experts,  
21 who for the most part don't live here but appear  
22 to reside in densely populated areas where I  
23 imagine there's little danger of having a tower  
24 nearby.

25 And that is the issue: We do live here.

1           And it's a good probability that many new  
2           landowners are not aware of what they may be  
3           facing. In fact, my mortgage banker, who  
4           recently bought property near Smithson and Reecer  
5           Creek, thought the towers from EnXco would have  
6           been or still may be placed a little north of her  
7           family until I told her otherwise. So much for  
8           general knowledge of what may be a new nightmare.

9           Saying that we'll save on our property taxes  
10          when we've already paid our federal taxes for  
11          their subsidies is infuriating.

12          We do not wish to be part of this industrial  
13          experiment and have stated so many times. Those  
14          with monetary power, monetary interests, and  
15          political persuasion push their agenda and the  
16          rest of us be damned.

17          In my mail when I returned home Tuesday  
18          night was a proposal for an initiative drive for  
19          Washingtonians for Introduce Security where the  
20          turbine is their logo. The landscape picture at  
21          the bottom was somewhere in eastern Washington.  
22          They definitely sent this to the wrong person,  
23          and to say I was angry was an understatement. An  
24          additional picture of turbine placements in  
25          western Washington might have cooled my mood

1           somewhat.

2           And judging by the numerous weeks of  
3 windless, foggy winter weather we've had for the  
4 past few years, we will have a mild, I think, and  
5 useless stillness as testament to the real lack  
6 of wind that does happen. When the inconsistent  
7 force of the powerful wind does hit, we will  
8 probably see the stillness of the blades due to  
9 the braking systems.

10           I was told by a prior county planner that  
11 even though we may not have the fastest winds in  
12 the U.S., we have some of the most powerful.  
13 Just how will these braking systems -- just how  
14 well will those braking systems work when faced  
15 with that powerful force?

16           The loophole in the county's zoning plan was  
17 probably made before wind power was most likely  
18 even a thought or a least thought out as to what  
19 could happen. Heaven forbid there might be a  
20 solar panel on each new house built to augment  
21 our hydroelectric power bills. Is there or was  
22 there not federal subsidies for homeowners or  
23 contractors to install power-producing solar  
24 panels? That would be cost-effective wrapped  
25 into a mortgage rather than what we will face

1 now.

2 What about a biomass processing plant  
3 providing sustained jobs and certainly having a  
4 sustained resource in this valley? Why was the  
5 only other alternative power to be mentioned by  
6 the presentation to be a dirty, coal-producing  
7 plant? It seems to me to be convenient  
8 misdirection and plays on people's fears.

9 I budget for my twice-yearly property tax  
10 payments and would certainly rather do that than  
11 have to look at these towers for the rest of my  
12 life, which I will should they go into place.

13 I presently have a full view from rye grass  
14 to the Cascades. When I invited EnXco onto my  
15 property to photograph the line of sight I would  
16 have if the turbines were in place, over  
17 90 percent of them would have been in full view.

18 However, through the magic of photography,  
19 only a shamelessly small and disparate portion  
20 ever made into it the EIS, and I said so in  
21 previous testimony.

22 And now I'm faced with a full frontal  
23 assault on a day-and-night basis with what  
24 Horizon intends. My already-angry neighbors and  
25 I will see those towers on the ridge tops right

1 in line with the pristine and certainly scenic  
2 view to the west due to our elevation. It will  
3 be straight on to our views of the Cascades and  
4 certainly a local focal point. To me there will  
5 be nothing less graceful than what I will see  
6 foremost during the day than those horrid towers,  
7 and certainly nothing more annoying at night than  
8 the ugly red flashing lights to which there will  
9 be no relief.

10 There is also a unique sound effect in this  
11 valley, and we can hear traffic from I-90 over  
12 ten miles away and at times my neighbors' voices  
13 halfway up the hill a half a mile away. The  
14 decibel noise from the towers will be an  
15 additional burden to bear, as we will be downwind  
16 and only at five miles away.

17 That is not why I purchased the land, my  
18 home, and retired here. And I am not new to this  
19 valley; I've lived here for over 40 years and  
20 made my living here.

21 Beyond our sight and sound sensitivities, we  
22 do know that wildlife and our domestic animals  
23 are far more attuned to their surroundings for  
24 their survival than we are. Given that, their  
25 welfare is in our hands and must be (inaudible),

1 for they have no other recourse but instinct.

2 As the governing body, it is your job to  
3 listen and recommend. We certainly hope that you  
4 are listening, recommend with your conscience,  
5 and place a true value on this valley and not on  
6 pocketbooks.

7 Those who are adamantly opposed to the  
8 sights proposed by Horizon and EnXco are not  
9 making up the problems associated with these  
10 towers. Plenty of documented research has been  
11 done. Placing these towers in the tremendous  
12 infrastructures here is a cruel and costly joke.  
13 Don't let it happen. Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

15 MS. BARRET: Chris Fox?

16 MR. CHRIS FOX: Good evening. My name is  
17 Chris Fox. I live at 1000 East Harvest Loop,  
18 Unit 304. I'm here representing myself and the  
19 generation that seems to be poorly represented in  
20 this audience, but it's a generation that's going  
21 to be affected by the decisions that you make and  
22 the opinions of the people speaking here tonight.

23 That's the generation that is younger. You  
24 know, these people -- many of these people's  
25 children and grandchildren are the ones that are

1 going to have to deal with what comes up in  
2 the -- sorry.

3 I'm a current employee of the Wild Horse  
4 wind farm. I'm no way tied to what goes on with  
5 this wind farm, the Kittitas Valley wind farm.  
6 I'm no way -- anything that I say is tonight is  
7 not influencing any future employment, so I want  
8 to make sure you guys know that.

9 Just to deal with a few of the things that  
10 have come up so far in the -- you know, some of  
11 the opinions and some of the concerns that have  
12 come up. I've been employed -- well, my  
13 background, I should state, is I've been -- I  
14 have a degree in environmental engineering; I've  
15 been working in the wind energy field now for  
16 four years. And I think that I can address a few  
17 of these issues that people have brought up.

18 The first two issues that seem to be quite  
19 troubling are -- well, the first one's shadow  
20 flicker. I can attest to the fact that I've been  
21 present on wind farms in every state of  
22 construction and operation, and never once has it  
23 affected my ability to work, to think, or  
24 anything of that nature. I don't think that it's  
25 fair to say that shadow flicker is going to be a

1           problem until people have actually encountered  
2           it.

3           In terms of noise levels, I've personally  
4           been involved in tests where we've -- taken down  
5           in L.A. and Palm Springs where we've taken auto  
6           records of noise levels created from a busy  
7           highway versus noise levels created by a  
8           103-windmill job, and the noise levels created by  
9           the highway were significantly greater than those  
10          created by the wind farm. I think that needs to  
11          be known by people here.

12          I've worked on these wind farms, I've stood  
13          underneath these windmills and been able to have  
14          a very quiet conversation with people and not  
15          have to yell. As anyone who knows that they --  
16          when they've stood beside a highway will know  
17          that they can't; if there's going to be trucks  
18          rolling by, there's going to be cars rolling by  
19          at high speed, there's no way that they can have  
20          a quiet conversation with anybody.

21          All right, that's important to know. These  
22          things aren't as loud as people think, all right?  
23          It's easy to work; there's no -- this low  
24          frequency noise business has never once affected  
25          me, and I think that it's -- it think it's

1 preposterous for people to go and claim that  
2 that's going to be a long-term affect when  
3 they've never actually encountered it before.

4 Looking at some other things that people  
5 have said. Potential fire ignition sources, all  
6 right, here we have a 6000-acre-plus lot that's  
7 going to be used for this. Which do you consider  
8 to be more a fire ignition source, the number of  
9 homes that could possibly be put on that  
10 property, you know, with all the different homes,  
11 all the ignition sources, all the fuel, propane,  
12 everything that's located in those homes, versus  
13 these windmills, where the only ignition source  
14 is actually located way up in the air where it's  
15 isolated and never going to go anywhere? Any oil  
16 that were ever to spill from any of these wind  
17 turbines would be collected and would never reach  
18 the ground, all right.

19 Looking at a few other things, reliance on  
20 tax credits. I really -- I really beg people to  
21 think about the other ways that we receive energy  
22 in this world, okay? Do you think the nuclear  
23 power, do you think that fossil fuel power would  
24 be possible if it weren't for the incredible tax  
25 benefits given to those companies in the

1 development and exploration phases of developing  
2 those fuels?

3 Do you think it's possible that, you know,  
4 when people fuel prices were so low back in the  
5 '80s and when they've at their lowest, do you  
6 think that those companies could have afforded to  
7 produce and make money without those tax credits?  
8 I mean, nobody's mentioned that yet, but it's  
9 really important to know that all those companies  
10 are receiving significantly greater tax benefits  
11 than any of these wind farms are receiving.

12 All right, looking at the impact on the  
13 local area, I think that people -- the only thing  
14 that's been mentioned about employment on these  
15 jobs is the permanent positions that are actually  
16 located on those jobs, all right. There may be  
17 three, there may be ten. Most jobs that I work  
18 on of this size it'll be anywhere between five  
19 and fifteen permanent jobs located after the job  
20 construction has been completed.

21 That's not including the two to three  
22 hundred people at any one time that are on that  
23 job site working during the construction phase  
24 that can last up to six months to a year to a  
25 year and a half. You know, at the high end it's

1 going to be 200 people; that's 200 people in this  
2 community spending money, you know, supporting  
3 the local businesses.

4 In the first two to three months of the Wild  
5 Horse job alone, Wild Horse construction phase,  
6 we've spent in excess in between six and eight  
7 hundred thousand dollars in the local community,  
8 in Ellensburg and Kittitas and Vantage alone.

9 And I betcha if you considered it, that  
10 money has been recycled through almost every  
11 pocket in this building. Every person in here is  
12 influenced by that money that's been spent.

13 So there's no -- I mean, tax credits, you  
14 know, the taxes going to the county, that's not  
15 even a consideration when you you're thinking of  
16 the true economic impact this is going to have on  
17 this community. This is going to provide jobs  
18 and it's going to be a lot of businesses that are  
19 supporting these wind farms: machine shops, fuel  
20 stations, all the above that are going to be, you  
21 know, making money off this, and that money is  
22 going to stay in this community.

23 All right, looking at bird life impact, all  
24 right, this is something that has never, ever  
25 gone away from back in the days when modest

1 towers were built on these wind turbines, all  
2 right? There was a very small issue with them  
3 back in the day in several well-populated -- or  
4 in several well -- highly populated bird areas,  
5 such as Altamont.

6 I've been working on the wind farms for four  
7 years, through all the phases; I've never once  
8 seen a dead bird associated with a windmill. And  
9 that is an honest -- that is the honest truth.  
10 Never once seen a bird die associated with a  
11 windmill. Okay?

12 And I think it's important -- there's a lot  
13 of opinions out there, but it's only opinions.  
14 People can say -- the Audubon Society can say  
15 they think that birds are going to die, that they  
16 believe the birds are going to die, that they've  
17 read on the Internet the birds are going to die.  
18 But who's saying what those people have written  
19 is right?

20 I've been there, I've seen these, I've  
21 worked on them; I've worked in Palm Springs, I've  
22 worked in San Francisco, and I've never once seen  
23 a bird that has died associated with one of these  
24 projects. And I'm not just a general laborer;  
25 I'm a construction manager and we've had programs

1 in place that would report any of those bird  
2 kills where they've happened. And we've been  
3 regulated by various different societies and  
4 we've had to report those if they ever occurred.  
5 Never once have I seen one happen.

6 I think that the other jobs that people are  
7 tending to forget happen to come as a result of  
8 all the support businesses. I mentioned it just  
9 briefly earlier, but you have to think about the  
10 road maintenance staff that are going to be  
11 required. The cleaning staff that are going to  
12 be required. All the work that's going to have  
13 to occur to keep this project going throughout  
14 its life that's going to come into this  
15 community, all right?

16 There's a lot of employment to come out of  
17 this project. It's not just during the  
18 construction phase and it's not just the three  
19 people that I've heard; you know, the people that  
20 say that there's going to be three people  
21 employed by this over the long-term.  
22 Significantly more people are going to come into  
23 this community.

24 And I really ask people to consider the  
25 alternative. I mean, the big thing that keeps

1 coming up is people that do not want this to  
2 occur in their back yards. They'd rather push  
3 their energy problems onto other communities and  
4 not have to realize themselves, all right.

5 We're in a consumer society, we're in a  
6 society where we consume electricity. Every time  
7 you turn on your light switch, that electricity  
8 has to come from somewhere, all right? The world  
9 isn't building any more big dams; big dams aren't  
10 happening, all right? The environmental impacts  
11 of those dams are -- have been deemed  
12 significant, and the World Bank, the largest  
13 lender to any big dam in the world, is no longer  
14 funding big dam projects throughout the world,  
15 all right?

16 So big dams, they're gone, you know. The  
17 local dams here on the Columbia aren't going to  
18 be happening anymore. You cannot dam that river  
19 any more than it already is. That has to come  
20 from somewhere, all right?

21 People in this community have never -- a lot  
22 of people that are here have probably never seen  
23 a nuclear power plant, they've never seen a  
24 coal-fired power plant, and they never really  
25 realized the impacts of that, but as the

1 population of this world grows, we have to  
2 realize that we're going to feel that crunch more  
3 and more. There's going to be more impacts  
4 related to that all time, all right?

5 This, this valley has an incredible  
6 resource, all right, this valley has a resource  
7 that no -- there's not many other places that can  
8 say it. Sure, there's lots of places that are  
9 windy, but this valley has an incredible  
10 resource, and these people owe it to the world  
11 that they need to supply this resource and  
12 exploit this resource like they can in order to  
13 help the future, all right?

14 I wish there was more people my age here to  
15 speak, but we are the ones that are going to be  
16 affected by this, all right.

17 I appreciate it. Is there any questions?

18 COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH: Yes, I have one.  
19 Alan Crankovich, Commissioner District 2.

20 MR. CHRIS FOX: Certainly.

21 COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH: Are you  
22 construction manager on the Wild Horse project?

23 MR. CHRIS FOX: I am.

24 COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH: So as far as the  
25 jobs that are going on right now, can you tell me

1 the -- approximately how many local people were  
2 hired versus bringing in people that are  
3 experienced in building these projects?

4 MR. CHRIS FOX: Okay, well, I have three  
5 contractors working for me right now. Of those  
6 contractors, they bring in a core group, which is  
7 usually -- well, let me take for example one of  
8 my core groups. There's six people that came up  
9 from California in that core group. At their  
10 peak they're going to be employing between 40 and  
11 60 people; all of the rest are going to come from  
12 this area.

13 COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH: Thank you.

14 MR. CHRIS FOX: Any other questions?  
15 Please, I -- anything you've got. I'd love to be  
16 able to answer anything you've got with respect  
17 to construction.

18 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

19 MR. CHRIS FOX: You're welcome.

20 MS. BARRET: D.J. Frame?

21 D.J. Evans?

22 MR. D.J. EVANS: I'm D.J. Evans. I am fire  
23 chief with Kittitas County Fire District 1. I'm  
24 here tonight to speak as the fire chief for the  
25 district and relay the message from the fire

1 commissioners for our district.

2 The commissioners have instructed me to  
3 inform everybody that the fire district does not  
4 endorse this project or is against it. That is  
5 not our job. Our job is to figure out a proper  
6 fire plan for any kind of endeavor, whether it's  
7 residential or commercial.

8 With that being said, I've heard a lot of  
9 comments -- it's scary being up here talking to  
10 people. I can tell you a more scarier thing is  
11 being an incident commander facing down a  
12 wildland fire that's coming at you at 30 miles an  
13 hour and you have five minutes to decide what to  
14 do with your fire crews before you're overrun.

15 As a fire district for the past three years,  
16 we've had our tail feathers singed quite often.  
17 We've had numerous wildfires in our area. Some  
18 were very, very bad.

19 When we heard about the wind power project  
20 was finally going to come to our area, we were  
21 very hesitant about it and we knew we were going  
22 to have some problems that we were going to have  
23 to encounter and address.

24 So we rolled up our sleeves and we started  
25 doing a lot of research. We listened to Zilkha

1 at that time. They presented all their safety  
2 plans, all their fire plans, and what they wanted  
3 to get accomplished and where they were locating  
4 anything and all their roads.

5 And then we took all of that information and  
6 went to other wind farms within the state and out  
7 of the state. And we talked to all those  
8 individuals, how it all progressed, how it all  
9 came together, what problems they had, what fires  
10 were encountered, if any, and any other  
11 accidents.

12 I know of one of the other commissioners and  
13 myself both have been to Altamont Pass in  
14 California where that big wind project from a  
15 long time ago is, where there's hundreds and  
16 hundreds of these windmills. That in a way is  
17 kind of a pretty site but it is also kind of a  
18 sad when they weren't properly maintained and  
19 taken care of also.

20 These wind turbines that we have researched  
21 that are being put up today, especially the last  
22 ten years is a completely different technology.  
23 A lot of new safety standards have been built  
24 into them. And I've been inside of them myself.  
25 I've been under them and talking to people in

1 normal conversations.

2 I've looked at all their fire plans for in  
3 case a turbine does malfunction. They're all  
4 monitored by computers. Any sign of trouble,  
5 they shut down automatically. There's a team  
6 that goes in and checks it out.

7 If by rare chance there's a fire, there's  
8 fire suppression systems in there to take care of  
9 them. Any of the hydraulic oil leaks or  
10 whatever, they're all self-contained up there.

11 When Zilkha came to us and presented their  
12 plan and then we came back at them to inform them  
13 of our concerns, especially in our area, because  
14 of certain communities that we have within the  
15 wild and urban areas and the wind problem, if  
16 their fire does start how everything will be in  
17 danger, and then we have a tough time trying to  
18 respond on initial attacks.

19 And it was a big learning curve for them to  
20 understand why we have our problems, because of  
21 the poor access into the areas before these  
22 communities. And this wind farm is going to be  
23 going into those areas, so --

24 But they finally understood what we were --  
25 where we were coming from and why we had to have

1 extra measures taken and mitigation done above  
2 and beyond normal wind farms. And they stepped  
3 up to the plate and -- and took care of those  
4 problems well and above and beyond and didn't  
5 even gripe about it.

6 And the Wild Horse project over there, it  
7 has its fire plan and it's going to be the same  
8 fire plan that we have. The reason I know that,  
9 because I was involved in crafting that fire plan  
10 for that project also. So if anything goes wrong  
11 up there in their process, you can bet it's going  
12 to be addressed and corrected and they will come  
13 back over here to this wind project if it follows  
14 through.

15 One other thing that I'm looking forward to  
16 if this does come to realization for everybody,  
17 this project does go in, is the infrastructure,  
18 the road infrastructure that will be in place to  
19 these turbine lines. These are going to be  
20 well-maintained gravel roads that's going to  
21 provide excellent access for all the fire crews,  
22 the water tenders, and the brush trucks to go  
23 after fires, where we never had this before in  
24 this area.

25 And the problems for the fire is not going

1 to come from the turbines themselves; it's going  
2 to be coming from the people on the ground.  
3 There will be some little bit of liability with  
4 the construction crews, but we've addressed that.  
5 Multiple training sessions and patrols will be  
6 out to take care of that. Extra water will be on  
7 site as these wings are being built.

8 But the problem that we are anticipating, we  
9 know we're going to have sooner or later up  
10 there, is after these turbines are up, if they do  
11 go up, is the people on the ground. And that's  
12 the recreationalists who have access to the DNR  
13 grounds that some of these turbines are going to  
14 be on. That's your bird hunters, deer hunters,  
15 rock hounds, and people just plain hiking.

16 Accidents happen; sometimes it's malicious.  
17 But that's the nature of the beast for some of  
18 the things that we have in this county. We've  
19 seen it already with the arson fires that we had  
20 in the past, as one example.

21 I am very confident of the fire plan that  
22 we're going to have in place, and I'm looking  
23 forward to any asset that they provide to me,  
24 especially for these roads so we can get our  
25 equipment in and go after these fires before they

1 get too big and I have to call for another state  
2 mowed fire from the governor. I really don't  
3 cherish doing that again.

4 Thank you for addressing this. If you have  
5 any questions I'll answer them.

6 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

7 MS. BARRET: Ken Fyall?

8 MR. KEN FYALL: I'M Ken Fyall. I live at --  
9 or my address is 303 West 3rd Avenue, Ellensburg.  
10 Thank you for the opportunity to participate in  
11 the process here.

12 After sitting through three nights of  
13 testimony now -- I have property on Hayward Road  
14 and Highway 10. So I am directly impacted by the  
15 Horizon project.

16 After sitting through the testimony for the  
17 last couple of nights, I am not sure which side I  
18 come down on, if I'm for massive subdevelopment  
19 surrounding me or wind towers. I think both are  
20 going to happen.

21 I think that if the wind farm goes in,  
22 Mr. Evans just addressed the access; I think it's  
23 going to give access to more property and people  
24 are going to subdevelop and we're going to have  
25 both going on.

1           Anyway Debbie Boddy last night mentioned  
2 Highway 10 being a scenic corridor and byway.  
3 And my concern, then, is String A. There have  
4 been a couple of towers eliminated. But I guess  
5 the developer holds out that those could go back  
6 in.

7           Anyway, that is directly in that scenic  
8 corridor. Those towers are highly visible from  
9 Highway 10 and the Yakima River. So if anything,  
10 I would like to see the possibility of possibly  
11 mitigating that a little bit more, if not  
12 eliminating that line.

13           Anyway, I have a second issue. And it also  
14 has to do with that string line. And it has to  
15 do with a neighbor. For 30 years I've been  
16 partner in this property out there. In that  
17 amount of time we've put up one new structure.  
18 It's a hay barn. So we've been pretty good  
19 stewards of the property.

20           Now I have got subdevelopment up to the  
21 property line. I've got a wind farm proposed.  
22 And a large-scale rifle firing range, gun range  
23 that is being developed under the County's nose  
24 without either the County's knowledge or without  
25 the County's desire to do anything about it.

1           And Cascade Field & Stream Gun Club owns  
2 property that I believe A-1 and A-2 are sited on.  
3 And in Horizon's information I don't see anything  
4 that addresses the firing range development.

5           Cascade Field & Stream Gun Club bought that  
6 property I believe in 2001 and began developing  
7 it for a gun range. We met with them and some of  
8 the neighbors met with them and they refused to  
9 stop developing.

10           So December 19, 2002, Kittitas County  
11 Department of Building and Safety -- Building and  
12 Fire Safety issued them a letter from code  
13 enforcement to stop development. To this day  
14 they have not.

15           They applied to Kittitas County Planning  
16 Department three times for a conditional use  
17 permit. First of all, they went to either the  
18 Planning Commission or County Commissioners --  
19 I'm not sure of the process -- to get the okay to  
20 allow firing ranges in Ag 20.

21           That was their first step. They did that  
22 after they bought the property. They found out  
23 they couldn't do what they wanted to do; they  
24 went to the Planning Commission and they got  
25 approval to have gun firing ranges added as a

1 conditional use. Which I was told at the time  
2 would be -- would give property owners around  
3 there an active say during the process of whether  
4 this should be developed or not.

5 So that was the beginning. Then they  
6 applied for conditional use permits -- well, then  
7 they started to develop and then this letter went  
8 out. So then they made three attempts at a  
9 conditional use permit. All three times it was  
10 sent back to them for more information, because  
11 it was incomplete.

12 This is all on file with the Planning  
13 Department, this whole file. It's probably this  
14 thick (indicating).

15 There was a response from Department of  
16 Ecology, Public Works, Yakama Indian Nation,  
17 Wildlife, and they all wanted some conditions  
18 met. There's a seasonal stream that runs across  
19 that property that in none of their permits they  
20 ever admitted to. Currently they are firing into  
21 the seasonal stream.

22 After not being able to get their  
23 conditional use permits okayed, during that time  
24 they applied to the Interagency Committee for  
25 Outdoor Recreation, State of Washington. Here's

1           their application. Here is their funding letter.  
2           They received a \$40,000 matching grant from the  
3           IAC to begin development of their gun range.  
4           Without permits.

5                     Now, the reason I'm bringing this up is  
6           because I believe it has to do with the Horizon  
7           project, because I believe that we have two  
8           large-scale developments, conditional use  
9           developments, happening simultaneously on the  
10          same property. That's why I'm bringing this up.  
11          I think it needs to be addressed.

12                    Last night Mr. Black, I believe, or somebody  
13          said that we needed to ask questions to the  
14          Planning Commission that need to be asked to  
15          Horizon. I want information on this.

16                    They show on their milestone status tracking  
17          sheet dated March 28, 2003, that they began their  
18          project on 1-17-2003-- no, excuse me April 1st,  
19          2003. Under any known circumstances that could  
20          affect the sponsor's ability to maintain the time  
21          line above, they state at this time, Our  
22          conditional use permit is still in the process  
23          and some unsupported requirements are being  
24          imposed upon us by the County, obviously an  
25          attempt to thwart our plans from a political

1 position.

2 Whatever that means.

3 They've buried a fifteen- to twenty-  
4 thousand-gallon tank underground up there without  
5 permits. They're improving roads. They've  
6 cleared brush in the shrub-steppe without  
7 permits. And to this day they continue to shoot.

8 In their application -- in their application  
9 they state that among stated uses for the firing  
10 range is a gun range, rifle range up to a  
11 thousand yards, pistol ranges, archery range,  
12 clubhouse, and caretaker residences, for about  
13 5000 feet of structures. RV parking, campground,  
14 hiking trails, fire pits, parking for  
15 100 vehicles, and a training site for law  
16 enforcement, including the Bellevue SWAT team.

17 So I propose that if we're going to be  
18 siting turbines on that property that this needs  
19 to be looked into. So that's what I would ask  
20 Horizon and the Planning Commission -- and the  
21 Planning Department to do. They do have a  
22 memorandum of wind option agreement. So --

23 CHAIRMAN BLACK: You're not suggesting in  
24 any way that Horizon is involved in this?

25 MR. KEN FYALL: Not in any way whatsoever.

1           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Okay. Is this on the  
2 property that is within that -- that  
3 configuration?

4           MR. KEN FYALL: It has -- it has turbines  
5 marked on it.

6           CHAIRMAN BLACK: It does? Okay.

7           MR. KEN FYALL: A-1 and A-2. And they had  
8 more turbines at one time. There's a couple of  
9 them that have been eliminated. And I don't know  
10 if those'll come back or not.

11           But you know, I would also ask the question  
12 why this stopped development from code  
13 enforcement, is -- I would ask the Planning  
14 Department themselves why that has not been  
15 enforced. This is a paid club; you pay to belong  
16 to the club. And they have structures going up  
17 out there, so.

18           Anyway, I would like to -- with the size of  
19 this development and the size of Horizon's  
20 development, I would like to see that addressed.  
21 Thank you.

22           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you. Would you  
23 submit that -- it's already available? Thank  
24 you, thank you.

25           MS. BARRET: Robert Peterson?

1 MR. ROBERT PETERSON: I'm Bob Peterson. I  
2 live at 70 Chukar Ridge Road in Ellensburg.

3 I had some stuff on wildfires involving  
4 those turbines, because we were involved in a  
5 wildfire up in Sun East where DNR came up and did  
6 a darn good job of putting it out and saved our  
7 homes up there. And it jumped Robbins Road and  
8 headed for the power plant.

9 But I was just talking to your chief here at  
10 Kittitas County Fire Department, and he said  
11 these turbines are different; they have fire  
12 suppressants on them, they're new turbines and  
13 stuff like that. He says there's no problem with  
14 fires. I'm not sure about that, but that's what  
15 he said.

16 Let's see, what else. The only thing else  
17 that I was concerned, did anybody ever look into  
18 solar panels at all? I talked to -- I think it  
19 was Dave, a long time ago and went into his  
20 office and got a tape of the last meeting with  
21 the wind turbine outfit. And we started talking  
22 about solar panels, and he said he's going to  
23 look into it, and I says okay.

24 So I think was -- I can't remember the time,  
25 two weeks or a month later, I was reading an

1 article in the True Light, and it said in there  
2 Arnold Schwarzenegger, governor of California,  
3 is going to request that every home in California  
4 have a solar panel on it.

5 As soon as I saw that, I went down and  
6 copied that sucker off, went up to the office and  
7 threw it on his table and I says, Here, read  
8 this. He said, I already read it. He said, I  
9 thought of you.

10 So has anybody ever looked at solar -- solar  
11 power at all and looked into it? I've got one on  
12 my camper and it works pretty good. And it  
13 doesn't take away, it is not dangerous, you don't  
14 have to worry about things with it. And it  
15 doesn't ruin the landscape or anything else.

16 But anyway, that's about all I've got to  
17 say. Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you very much.

19 MS. BARRET: E.L. Fry?

20 MS. E.L. FRY: My name is Edna Fry. I live  
21 at 70 Chukar Ridge Road in Ellensburg.

22 Anyhow, three years ago I was in a car  
23 accident and spent quite a bit of time laying in  
24 a hospital bed in front of a window. And as I  
25 looked out and watched the weather go by all

1 winter long -- my accident was in October --  
2 there was very little wind. When I looked out  
3 across the valley, Ellensburg set under a huge  
4 blanket of dirty fog.

5 Are we going to add more pollution to this  
6 dirty fog that sits over Ellensburg? We're up  
7 where we get fresh air, and I mean, we get get it  
8 a lot.

9 Views, I mean, everybody's talked about  
10 views. Well, it's without saying we've got a  
11 wonderful view. But I don't understand why we  
12 have to have wind power as our source. We have  
13 biochemicals like cow manure. Why can't we  
14 process it and get the methane out of it? That  
15 makes energy.

16 We have solar, which people have spoke  
17 about. That's clean; that isn't going to cause  
18 whirling problems for people or lights flashing  
19 at them or any of that kind of difficulty. Or  
20 fires; hopefully not.

21 And they talk about all these new buildings  
22 going in that my gosh, we're going to have power  
23 lines everywhere. What happened to putting them  
24 underground?

25 I read an article which was one that I cut

1 out while I was bedridden, and I did a lot of  
2 looking into a computer for information, and I've  
3 got articles everywhere.

4 One of the articles talks about 93 miles of  
5 cable to a solar -- to a substation down at  
6 Dayton, Washington, that is owned by PSE. This  
7 power's heading for Seattle. Why should we be  
8 doing these to heat up a Starbucks in Seattle or  
9 swimming pools or whatever? We've got a nice  
10 place here; why ruin it?

11 I've lived here, grew up here in Roslyn. I  
12 remember Roslyn with the coal mines; and yeah,  
13 coal is dirty. We don't have a coal plant here  
14 putting out energy. I don't know why people keep  
15 talking about it. They stopped doing coal a long  
16 time ago; they did it before I left the area.

17 I guess what it comes down to is there are  
18 so many things being wrote about what's  
19 happening; why can't we go slower? Why do we  
20 have to have one power farm or one wind turbine  
21 farm on top of another? We haven't even found  
22 out what the first one's going to be like.

23 Dr. Holly Pinkart asked me to read this one  
24 little piece for her because she wasn't able to  
25 stay. She says the case that Horizon makes for

1 its "clean" energy and lack of greenhouse gas  
2 emissions is false. Construction of the wind  
3 industry proposed would generate 21,600 tons of  
4 CO2 in concrete production alone.

5 She shudders to think of the amount of  
6 fuel -- fossil fuel needed to produce the towers,  
7 transport them here from their point of origin,  
8 then erect them on site. The dust produced from  
9 months of blasting to produce sixty-four  
10 6000-cubic-foot holes in the ground will be  
11 unbearable for those in close proximity to the  
12 turbines.

13 Each turbine takes approximately 200 gallons  
14 of lubricant and will need changing twice a year,  
15 generating 25,600 gallons of waste hydrocarbon  
16 that will not be recycled. These wastes are  
17 usually incinerated, which will generate at least  
18 250 more tons of CO2.

19 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

21 MS. BARRET: Robert Keller?

22 MR. ROBERT KELLER: I'm Robert Keller. I  
23 live at 14205 Wilt County Road 396, Milliken,  
24 Colorado.

25 I'm affiliated with Horizon, and I'm working

1 on the Wild Horse project. Just a couple of  
2 things I wanted to say; I really wasn't planning  
3 on talking.

4 One of them is the tax credits. We're  
5 talking about production tax credits, not tax  
6 credits to build the wind farm. The money for  
7 the wind farm all has to be put up in advance,  
8 and we get zero money for tax credits until we  
9 produce energy. If we do not produce any energy,  
10 we collect no tax credits.

11 It gives us an incentive to make sure the  
12 farms are put in right, gives us an incentive to  
13 make the turbines work right, and it gives us  
14 incentive to keep them running. If we produce no  
15 energy, we get no tax credits. It's a very high  
16 investment up front, and if we don't make energy,  
17 we get no money from the government.

18 Second thing is you've been talking about  
19 400-foot towers. I've been in the wind business  
20 27 years and I've never seen a 400-foot tower.  
21 Towers are usually 220-foot tall. You might have  
22 a blade that sticks up above that 120 foot. So  
23 we're talking somewhere in the range of about 320  
24 foot from the ground to the tip of the blade as  
25 it sticks straight up in the air.

1           The other thing is money into the community.  
2           Like Chris Fox said that -- since we've been here  
3           we've put in over \$600,000 into the community so  
4           far. That's been within two months. We've  
5           donated \$168,000 to the fire department, the  
6           local fire department, for a new fire truck so  
7           they could provide fire service to us out at the  
8           Wild Horse project. So we are bringing a lot of  
9           money into the community.

10           We want to see this -- all wind turbine  
11           projects work. You can argue the aesthetics one  
12           way or the other. It's all in the eye of the  
13           beholder on the aesthetics.

14           Most of my background is working with the  
15           National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden,  
16           Colorado, on research and development of wind  
17           turbines. If you're interested, you can find  
18           documentation on noise, bird kills, anything you  
19           need to know about wind turbines and the study of  
20           wind turbines from the National Renewable Energy  
21           Laboratory. You're welcome to contact them; if  
22           you need their address, I'd be glad to give it to  
23           you.

24           But we're here not to come in and destroy  
25           the environment; we're here to help the

1 environment. And I think we do that by putting  
2 in nice, clean, renewable energy sites that works  
3 and be working for many years. If we do -- if  
4 they do not work, there's a bond in place to  
5 remove them, remove all the concrete to four foot  
6 below the surface of the ground. So at any time  
7 that the project does go defunct, if it goes  
8 defunct, there's a bond in place to take it out  
9 and get rid of the debris.

10 That's pretty much all I have to say. Is  
11 there any questions?

12 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

13 MS. BARRET: Milt Johnston?

14 MR. MILT JOHNSTON: Good evening. I'm Milt  
15 Johnson, Assistant Region Manager for Department  
16 of Natural Resources. My address is 1211  
17 Vuecrest. I live here in Ellensburg, Washington.  
18 I work out of the region office located at the  
19 airport. Again, I'm speaking for the Department  
20 of Natural Resources.

21 The DNR manages more than five million acres  
22 of state-owned land throughout the state. These  
23 lands are forest, aquatic, agricultural and range  
24 and urban lands that produce economic and  
25 ecological returns for the state. In addition to

1 generating income for the beneficiaries, trust  
2 land are self-supporting.

3 Wind power development on state lands  
4 provides a long-term source of income that allows  
5 to us retain existing habitat instead of  
6 developing the land for other uses. It's also  
7 compatible with the many current uses of state  
8 land such as agricultural, farming, and grazing.

9 With regard to this project, DNR has leased  
10 out 2075 acres of state land that's included in  
11 the Kittitas Valley Project. These land were  
12 previously leased for grazing, which generated  
13 less a dollar an acre each year. We anticipate  
14 more than 1.8 million in revenue from this  
15 project during the first 25 years of operations.  
16 75 percent of that revenue will go directly to  
17 support K-12 school construction.

18 In addition, leasehold tax is assessed at a  
19 rate of 12.84 percent of the state's share of  
20 wind power project income. The leasehold tax  
21 revenues over the next 25 years should be nearly  
22 \$250,000. 48 percent of that comes directly back  
23 to the county.

24 The project also provides a local tax base  
25 leading to property tax reductions, which we've

1 already talked about earlier.

2 Horizon Wind Energy has made significant  
3 alterations in their wind project proposal. For  
4 example, on state lands the number of turbines  
5 being proposed has been reduced from 33 -- 33  
6 turbines to 15 now. This is a major reduction in  
7 the number of turbines on state land.

8 From a personal point of view and speaking  
9 as a citizen of Ellensburg myself, we as a nation  
10 are in a deep energy hole. Alternative energy  
11 such as wind power is now making sense. Kittitas  
12 County is blessed with wind that has economic  
13 value. We have a responsibility to do our part  
14 to improve the wind energy -- or to improve our  
15 energy imbalance.

16 Again, thank you very much for your time. I  
17 just have one further comment in summary. The  
18 state funds that have come to Kittitas County  
19 from July 1992 through July of 2005 have been  
20 nearly \$18 million. 7.7 for support of  
21 Ellensburg schools, 4.8 million in support of  
22 Kittitas schools, and 5.3 million in support of  
23 Cle Elum schools. So these tax -- these state  
24 revenues do come back to the local community.

25 Thank you very much.

1 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you. Any questions?

2 COMMISSIONER CLARK: The revenue figures  
3 that you quoted here, are those based on the  
4 number of turbines?

5 MR. MILT JOHNSTON: Yes, they are.

6 MS. BARRET: Tom Maskal?

7 MR. TOM MASKAL: Good evening. My name is  
8 Tom Maskal. I live at 420 Kern Road, Badger  
9 Pocket, in Ellensburg. I'm here to represent  
10 myself, my wife, my children, and my children's  
11 children. The decisions we make at this hearing  
12 will have a lasting implication for all of us.

13 I am most vehemently opposed to this wind  
14 farm project as it is proposed and, most  
15 importantly, where it is proposed.

16 The Kittitas Valley is an incredibly  
17 beautiful place, bounded on all sides by the  
18 Wenatchee Mountains, the Boylston Mountains,  
19 Manastash Ridge, and the foothills of the  
20 Cascades. From almost anywhere in the valley one  
21 can see across the valley to the other side.  
22 These views are completely unspoiled by  
23 large-scale development. The views are of  
24 pastoral farms and ranches, shrub-steppe land,  
25 and forested ridges.

1           Even the town of Ellensburg is a delight  
2 with its historical downtown and the Central  
3 Washington University campus. This is no place  
4 for a large scale industrial development like the  
5 proposed wind farm.

6           I find the arrogance of the wind farm  
7 applicants to be truly amazing. During the  
8 applicant's presentation the other night,  
9 reference was made to the area of the proposed  
10 project being, quote/unquote, hardly pristine,  
11 unless you like, quote/unquote, blue and white  
12 tarps on haystacks and irrigation pipes scattered  
13 around in fields.

14           This is what we do in Kittitas Valley. We  
15 grow irrigated crops like hay and we store it  
16 until it's bought and shipped. Just because we  
17 only farm the land does not mean the applicant  
18 should be allowed to destroy the pastoral farm  
19 and, yes, the pristine views, whether they think  
20 they are or not.

21           The applicant in their presentation acted as  
22 if only the residents of the immediate area would  
23 be affected and only their concerns need to be  
24 addressed. We must all understand that this  
25 project will not only be seen by the

1 participating and compensated landowners and  
2 their unlucky neighbors, but it will also be seen  
3 by travelers, of course, on Highway 97 and 970,  
4 but also by travelers on I-90 as well.

5 For many it will be the defining view as  
6 they enter the Kittitas Valley from the west and  
7 look back towards the Stuart range. It will also  
8 be seen by the residents of the valley floor in  
9 Ellensburg itself.

10 I live at about 1850 feet elevation in  
11 Badger Pocket all the way across the valley. On  
12 clear nights even now I can see the headlights of  
13 cars eastbound on I-90 in the vicinity of the Elk  
14 Heights Road exit, Exit 93. I can even see the  
15 strobe lights of the nearby cell phone towers  
16 that are close by that exit.

17 I can see this with the naked eye; I don't  
18 have to use binoculars. That's over 27 miles  
19 from my house by either the freeway or as the  
20 crow flies.

21 Consequently I most likely will be able to  
22 see this wind farm that's proposed. Certainly  
23 its lights and probably the turbine towers  
24 themselves. I do have a clear view of the Stuart  
25 range.

1           It should be apparent to all, even the  
2           applicant, that the views of this project are not  
3           compatible with the beauty of the Kittitas  
4           Valley.

5           If I look northeast from my house right now  
6           I can also see Whiskey Dick Mountain.  
7           Consequently I should be able to see that wind  
8           farm when it's constructed. The principal  
9           difference is that that wind farm is not in the  
10          view corridor and certainly not in a populated  
11          area. One wind farm, properly sited, is enough  
12          for the Kittitas Valley.

13          I'm not against wind farms. I consider  
14          myself to be an environmentalist. I'm a member  
15          of the Sierra Club, the Nature Conservancy, and  
16          the World Wildlife Fund. In addition to growing  
17          hay here in the Kittitas Valley, I also grow  
18          blueberries in the Puyallup Valley organically.

19          I am not opposed to wind farms or solar  
20          power. I think we need more renewable resource  
21          generators of electricity. But this is a  
22          populated valley of unparalleled beauty and it is  
23          also growing rapidly in population. We deserve  
24          to not have it destroyed to generate what will  
25          amount to only a very small amount of

1 electricity.

2 This project could have been the right  
3 project in a different place; read that a  
4 different county. But it is the wrong project in  
5 the wrong place here in Kittitas County. Bend  
6 and Sisters, Oregon, would not put up with this.  
7 The applicant is not proposing a wind farm at  
8 Mt. Bachelor, Oregon. Why do we have to defend  
9 our way of life in order to prevent the  
10 destruction of our valley?

11 The applicant says that they came to the  
12 Kittitas Valley to construct a wind farm because  
13 we've got the wind and our county code seemed to  
14 allow it because we did not specifically not  
15 allow it, as some areas do. That's kind of like  
16 saying if we dress provocatively and the wind  
17 happens to blow up our skirt, when we are raped  
18 it must be our own fault. The wind farm industry  
19 is in the process of raping the Kittitas Valley.

20 If we allow this wind project, we'll not  
21 need to change -- we will need to change the logo  
22 for our county. I'm being facetious here, of  
23 course. Seattle is characterized by the Space  
24 Needle, and in fact it is on their logo.

25 Kittitas County will no longer be able to say,

1 "We stretch from the Cascades to the Columbia."  
2 It will instead have to say, "We stretch from one  
3 wind farm to the next."

4 Now, I'm going to digress from my prepared  
5 statement a little bit right now. Maybe we owe  
6 Horizon a debt of gratitude because they're going  
7 to prevent development, as this one gentleman  
8 said tonight. They're going to make housing and  
9 property more affordable because the property  
10 values in that particular area are going plunge.  
11 So maybe we really do owe them a debt of  
12 gratitude.

13 The other concern I've got that was just  
14 voiced was that shadow flicker and  
15 low-intensity -- low-spectrum noise is not going  
16 to harm any of us. Well, we thought the same  
17 thing with asbestos, and then we found out that  
18 asbestos causes tremendous lung damage.

19 I don't think we know all about the damages  
20 that can be done with wind farms, turbines, noise  
21 pollution, and everything else. If Horizon was a  
22 different kind of company and they were a major  
23 polluter and backed up huge tank trucks and  
24 dumped all kinds of pollution into the Yakima  
25 River -- the premiere, pristine fly fishing river

1 in the whole country -- I think we'd be outraged.  
2 Here what Horizon is going to do is visually  
3 pollute our valley.

4 I urge the Planning Commission and the Board  
5 of County Commissioners to reject this proposed  
6 development. Further, I urge that we place a  
7 moratorium on all further applications and  
8 development of wind farms until we can assess  
9 over time the views and performance of the  
10 Whiskey Dick project.

11 Barring the rejection of this proposal by  
12 the county, I urge all of Kittitas County to  
13 write to the governor, Christine Gregoire, to  
14 urge her not to approve it. Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Questions?

16 MS. BARRET: John Sparrow?

17 Tom Burke?

18 Ray Ridenour?

19 Joe Freeman?

20 Connie Freeman?

21 James Brown?

22 MR. JAMES BROWN: I'm James Brown. I have  
23 property up Reecer Creek Road going from Sun East  
24 to Reecer Creek.

25 And I'm not representing these folks at all,

1 but I've been an operating engineer, operated  
2 cranes for over 40 years. And I helped put up  
3 about 500 of these units, not only in California  
4 but in Colorado and several other places. My  
5 income is derived from operating cranes, not  
6 getting shot at for putting these things up.

7 And that's really kind of what it boils down  
8 to. People that are against putting these things  
9 up, and a crane operator is sitting in a seat  
10 being targeted for doing stuff because somebody  
11 from the Audubon or whatever claimed that these  
12 machines kill birds, make noises.

13 And I can attest that it makes me very angry  
14 as a crane operator to be shot at because  
15 somebody doesn't want a machine put in their back  
16 yard. And so trust me, I'm one of the guys  
17 that -- I don't like getting shot at because  
18 somebody doesn't want something put up in their  
19 back yard.

20 And I've been under these machines, around  
21 the machines, I've set the cages. That's a big  
22 massive amount of steel that goes in the ground  
23 to hold the concrete in place. And I have yet to  
24 be hurt or hear a lot of noise from these  
25 machines. I've yet to see one bird killed on any

1 of these project sites.

2 And I got to thinking as I set in the seat,  
3 many times I set there for eight, ten hours a day  
4 working on these projects. I've never been on  
5 these folks' projects, the Wild Horse or any of  
6 the others.

7 You know, when we go to do our resources for  
8 one of these machines to produce this electricity  
9 for one month, I'd like every one of these  
10 Audubon people and the people that are against  
11 these things to come up here and put their keys  
12 on the desk here, because for one month of one of  
13 these machines running it's going to be about two  
14 years of their gas money. And if they don't like  
15 their SUVs running, they should bring up their  
16 keys and donate their car, you know, because  
17 we're running out of gas.

18 Our coal that somebody said that we're not  
19 using, over in Olympia they got a big coal  
20 turbine running over there. What are they going  
21 to do when they run out of coal? They're coming  
22 over here to the -- to this area and get the coal  
23 and transport it over to Olympia. Boy, that's  
24 really going to be smart. Transporting coal.  
25 What's that going to do for the electric bill

1           then? Our electric bills are going up.

2                     Wind power and all these other entities that  
3           are putting in their resources, we ought to be  
4           thanking these people. And guys like me, I lived  
5           here -- I've lived here for a lot of my years.  
6           And the money I make working in California and  
7           Colorado and all over on all these projects, I  
8           bring that money back to Ellensburg. I don't  
9           bring it back to Seattle, I don't bring it to  
10          Spokane.

11                    I'm doing a project in Spokane right now.  
12          And where does my money come? It comes back to  
13          this county. It don't go to Spokane. When I go  
14          to Spokane, my gas bill is pretty high, running  
15          back and forth in a truck. Where's my -- most of  
16          my gas, I fuel up plus I take extra gas from here  
17          because the gas in Spokane is about 40 cents  
18          higher than it is here in Ellensburg.

19                    And so when we talk about where our energy  
20          and our resources are going, it's going out the  
21          window, folks. And what we need is start being  
22          responsible characters for what we're doing here  
23          tonight. We got to look for the future. You  
24          know, it's all right that I go, and I'll be gone,  
25          dead and gone, but what about our children, what

1 about our future children?

2 You know, when we run out of resources, what  
3 are we going to do? We going to say, oh, well,  
4 now let's put in a wind farm?

5 They may be ugly, but guess what, up here,  
6 like the lady said that they up there at Chukar  
7 Ridge, Gary, my neighbor across the way, had a  
8 generator; I never heard it. He's right across  
9 the way from me.

10 You know what makes more noise? The wind  
11 blowing across those power lines. In fact, I got  
12 those ugly power lines setting in my back yard,  
13 you might say. What's more uglier, the power  
14 lines or the wind generators?

15 To me I think those power lines is just  
16 about as ugly as them, but when I start looking  
17 at how long I've lived up there in that area,  
18 guess what? Before all of these people moved up  
19 here to Chukar Ridge and all these other places,  
20 I can name them; there were five people that  
21 lived up there, and when I drove into town from  
22 up there down here to town, I'd only see maybe  
23 one, sometimes no cars at all. Now I see the  
24 minimum of ten to twenty cars going up and down  
25 that road.

1           So what's more ugly, the houses that are  
2 being built -- and they're not even houses;  
3 they're throwed together from Japan, houses that  
4 are manufactured homes. The material don't even  
5 come from here.

6           So what are we to do? We going to be  
7 irresponsible in our future generation? What are  
8 we going to do when we run out of lights? We  
9 going to say, Well, it's time to put in solar  
10 panels now or put in wind generators? And people  
11 are going to still do the same crying and moaning  
12 and groaning.

13           Is this what we're after, a bunch of people  
14 that are not responsible? I think we need to  
15 start thinking where our energy is going to start  
16 coming from, because when the gas runs out and  
17 the oil runs out and we keep paying higher gas  
18 bills -- what is our gas now? \$2.50 a gallon?  
19 What was it before we had all this problem?

20           So I'm just leaving it with you that we need  
21 to start being responsible people and putting in  
22 things that are going to go for the future.  
23 Thank you.

24           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

25           We're going to take a five-minute break

1 right now.

2 (A break was taken.)

3 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Our hope was that we would  
4 get completed this evening, so can I get a hand  
5 or showing of hands of how many more speakers  
6 we'll have?

7 Will you keep your hands up; and anybody  
8 that's going to speak less than two minutes or  
9 five minutes or something?

10 Okay. So we're getting through. Let's,  
11 let's try it at least, okay? We want you to have  
12 an opportunity to say what's on your mind, but we  
13 also want to ask you to be brief if you can. If  
14 you -- if we've heard a lot of it, please just  
15 ditto and go on, okay?

16 The other thing is is that we're going to go  
17 through the list that was signed up -- correct  
18 me, Susan -- the night before?

19 MS. BARRET: Yesterday, yes.

20 CHAIRMAN BLACK: And I think we have one  
21 name left on that. Then we're going to go into  
22 the list of names that were signed up last night.  
23 But I would ask you if you've already testified  
24 and put your name on this new list that you not  
25 do that, not testify. Please.

1           So with that, let's start. We'll try to --  
2           if we are looking like around 10:30 or so that we  
3           can get it wrapped up, we will do it. If not,  
4           then we would have to continue it into next week;  
5           and next week is just a tremendously busy  
6           schedule for the Board of County Commissioners,  
7           so we'll go with that, okay?

8           MS. BARRET: David Fowts?

9           Okay.

10          CHAIRMAN BLACK: That was the first night?

11          MS. BARRET: That was the 10th, yes.

12          CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

13          MS. BARRET: Ken Hartman?

14          MR. KEN HARTMAN: Ken Hartman. I live at  
15          500 North Alder in Ellensburg, and I also have my  
16          farm business address and a ranch at 1000 Hartman  
17          Road in Cle Elum.

18                 And I'm representing the property -- we  
19                 still have the ranch at Swauk Prairie, Pleasant  
20                 View farm. It was -- my brother and I farm it;  
21                 we're about fourth generation there. My  
22                 great-grandmother named the place Pleasant View  
23                 Farm when they come here from the old country.

24                 And we haven't done much farming the last  
25                 ten years, so I had a chance to look up and see

1           why they named it that. And it's quite obvious  
2           that it is a pleasant view.

3           And my objection to this is that from our  
4           ranch I can look about three or four miles and  
5           see that ridge where these gizmos will be  
6           something up there. And then my mother's side of  
7           the family, they -- she came from Horse Canyon;  
8           they owned a lot of that range and stuff in  
9           there, and some of that stuff is going to be on  
10          the property they owned. That was back in --  
11          well, they didn't own it after the '30s.

12          But anyway, I just -- that's my roots up  
13          there. And when I walk -- I walk every -- twice  
14          a day up on below the fairground on Reed Park,  
15          below the fairground -- anyway, I look up toward  
16          where the ranch is, like I say 12 miles up there  
17          or some damn thing.

18          Anyway, I know darned well if they ever put  
19          those things up there, I can see them from this  
20          side, and I go up to the ranch -- I like to go up  
21          every day, but I got to go up and take care of it  
22          anyway as long as I can. When I'm up there, I  
23          look back this way about three or four miles at  
24          most and see it.

25          And I consider putting those things on that

1 ridge, from my objection, and I hate to see  
2 everybody have to see it. I call it trashing the  
3 ridge. You know, just a bunch of --

4 Well, years ago in 1950 or '60 we went -- we  
5 traveled down on the Columbia and come up through  
6 Goldendale. And the wife's got family, relatives  
7 down that way. Anyway, they have that -- the  
8 windmills on Goodnoe Hills or something like that  
9 about Goldendale.

10 And as I understood it, there was a disaster  
11 then so they weren't even operating -- there were  
12 plenty more problems. Never been down there to  
13 see if they're there or not.

14 And I don't think there's a whole lot of  
15 future -- those windjammers here, maybe 50 years  
16 or something; and then it's just, like I say,  
17 it'll be trashing the whole ridge.

18 And anyway, within the next ten years  
19 there's no more -- I got a couple daughters and a  
20 granddaughter but nobody to take that -- we still  
21 own the home place (inaudible) to it and sold  
22 that. But we still have the home place. And  
23 it'll have to be sold, and I don't want to have  
24 to tell -- explain to somebody it's Pleasant View  
25 Farm except for that stuff on that ridge over

1           there.  It's no selling point.

2                     And you know, the whole -- this whole deal,  
3           these people that are talking about wanting to do  
4           it, they're doing it for the almighty dollar, and  
5           I don't want that to detract from the value of  
6           that property, because it's got to be sold and I  
7           feel it's my obligation to get every damn dollar  
8           I can out of it for ourselves and my family and  
9           whoever.  And I have to admire the people that --  
10          all my kinfolk that stayed with it that many  
11          generations.

12                    And finally, they used to come from Cle Elum  
13          and Seattle and relatives and friends:  Boy, this  
14          is a beautiful place.  And it is, but they  
15          look -- they have to see -- if they do put those  
16          things up.

17                    Whatever one of them says, the whole deal --  
18          that company wanting to do whatever is for the  
19          almighty dollar, and I'm for my almighty dollar,  
20          all I can get out of it.

21                    And so I, I think that you spend too much  
22          time talking about nothing here.  All you got to  
23          do is to -- those people wanting to do it, pack  
24          their bags and get the heck out of here and look  
25          at what's -- give it about five years to see

1           what's going to develop out there.

2           And then you'll have answers to 90 percent  
3 of all this opinionated what is going to be and  
4 what isn't going to be, how many birds die and  
5 all that stuff. And give you a chance to see how  
6 it fits the county, how it works out, and  
7 that's -- there's no big rush for it.

8           You know, you had enough power to run how  
9 many aluminum plants out on the river, around the  
10 state and all over, and they couldn't make it  
11 without cheap power. And now the things, what  
12 are they doing up there? Well, they're going to  
13 make some expensive power that you can't afford  
14 to use. Just all forget it for a while and see  
15 what happens.

16           And if you got any questions where you think  
17 my thinking is, why go ahead and ask me. But  
18 otherwise I'm like -- TV first started up there,  
19 we looked at Sergeant Friday, Joe Friday on -- he  
20 was, oh, with the law, you know, and he'd go  
21 investigating -- he and his partner would  
22 investigate some problem around. He'd always  
23 say, Just give me the facts. You know, he  
24 started babbling on what happened. So I'm just  
25 trying to just give you the facts the way I see

1           it.

2                   Thanks, and if you got any questions, let me  
3 know. Otherwise I'm going to --

4           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Will do. Thank you.

5           MR. KEN HARTMAN: It's quitting time to go  
6 home.

7           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

8           MS. BARRET: James Landreth?

9           MR. JAMES LANDRETH: My name is James  
10 Landreth. I live at 271 Voston Road in the  
11 Valley.

12                   I happen to be probably one of the only  
13 individuals here tonight that has past experience  
14 in many aspects of power generation and utility  
15 operations. I am an electrical engineer  
16 registered in the state of Washington for better  
17 than 35 years.

18                   I appreciate those individuals that brought  
19 up the Goodnoe Hills project, because I can sit  
20 in my chair and chuckle over that one. And if my  
21 experience on that project were to be reflected  
22 on this one, we would have a tar-and-feather  
23 party and send these people out of town.

24                   That particular project was sponsored by  
25 NASA, who should stay with rockets and going to

1 the moon and not delve themselves into wind  
2 farms. It was a dismal failure. There were  
3 three turbines built; don't recall now the size  
4 of them.

5 And of course we all know that in that area  
6 of the Goodnoe hills, the wind blows all the  
7 time. The project was completed and ready for  
8 for testing, and we waited three weeks for the  
9 wind to blow hard enough to turn the turbines;  
10 and when it did, it was blowing so hard we blew  
11 one of them up.

12 And as the end result of the whole project,  
13 it never put a kilowatt of power into the  
14 Bonneville grid and was finally dismantled and  
15 done away with.

16 That was built in 1982. Hopefully  
17 technology has improved somewhat since then.

18 Last evening I left with the clerks a copy  
19 of a letter that I wrote, so I won't go through  
20 it except a couple of areas that I would like to  
21 read into the record.

22 But first off I would like to support  
23 Mr. Carmody's request that the public be given  
24 time to digest the voluminous amounts of  
25 information that has been brought forth by the

1 applicant, in order to judge its validity.

2 Unfortunately, or fortunately, depending on  
3 how you look at it, since I wasn't able to speak  
4 last night, it gave me all day today to  
5 investigate some of the validity of the data  
6 that's been presented in the Draft Environmental  
7 Impact Statement addendum and also in the  
8 original Draft Environmental Impact Statement,  
9 and I have found a couple of areas that appear to  
10 be faulty, which are two areas which of course  
11 are in great question in this project, one of  
12 which is noise, and the other which is shadow  
13 flicker.

14 And I derived my information from the Danish  
15 Wind Power Association, which I feel is more  
16 credible than many of the sources we have in this  
17 country. They've been in this business a great  
18 deal longer than we have in the United States.

19 And one of the conclusions that I drew is  
20 that the wind farm developers, the wind farm --  
21 or wind equipment manufacturers and the industry  
22 associations in Europe are far more prone to  
23 think of the surrounding neighbors of one of  
24 these installations than we are in this country.

25 Tuesday night Mr. Andrew Young made the

1 statement that they had adjusted the setback from  
2 non-participating property owner -- property  
3 lines to 541 feet. And that number was derived  
4 from the numbers which were used for the Wild  
5 Horse project.

6 I'm sure that all of us can remember the  
7 meetings that we had early on -- by the way, I  
8 I'm neutral; I'm going to maintain my neutrality  
9 because I, like Mr. Black, are 50/50 on wind farm  
10 development voting.

11 But Commissioner Huston made it very, very  
12 clear -- very, very clear -- that any of the  
13 requirements which were used for one farm and one  
14 application were not to be reflected onto any  
15 other one.

16 The 541 feet is a far cry from what it needs  
17 to be.

18 Also in their own paperwork, in two  
19 different areas, one of which calls out 541 feet,  
20 the other calls 541 feet plus the blade length  
21 from non-participating property lines. The  
22 inconsistency is inexcusable.

23 But even if we were to use the figure of  
24 541 feet, again in their own data there are  
25 setbacks which do not meet that requirement. If

1 we use the 541 feet plus the blade length for a  
2 3 megawatt turbine, it comes up 688 1/2 feet.  
3 There are 11 turbine locations on their own  
4 charts which do not meet that requirement.

5 In studying the information from the Danish  
6 organization -- and if I can quote. This happens  
7 to be from the area entitled Sound From Wind  
8 Turbines.

9 "It does appear that noise is not a major  
10 problem for a given distance to the closest  
11 neighbors" -- misspelled, of course. "Usually a  
12 distance of about seven rotor diameters is  
13 needed." That's 2000 feet for a 3-megawatt  
14 turbine.

15 Most all of the information in the Draft  
16 Environmental Impact Statement and all the  
17 calculations are based on a 1.5 megawatt turbine.  
18 This is where the data is grossly faulted.

19 There is also, as has been spelled out by  
20 others who have testified earlier, there is no  
21 rush to judgment on this. The only reason for  
22 rushing to a decision on this project is such  
23 that the applicant can take advantage of the tax  
24 incentives to get them built and on line and  
25 generating.

1           There is no need for the power. We in the  
2 Northwest -- and this is true pretty much  
3 throughout the country -- currently have about a  
4 22 percent margin of generating capacity to  
5 demand. That is not what most utilities would  
6 like to see. It is higher than it's been in the  
7 last seven to eight years. The margin has  
8 increased every year since 1997.

9           A project of this magnitude and of this  
10 importance to the county, whether it's built or  
11 whether it's turned down, the importance to the  
12 county is all too great to a rush to judgment.  
13 We have faulty data we're making decisions on, or  
14 what appears to be faulty data. And in order to  
15 make legitimate decisions, either yea or nay, we  
16 need to take more time, investigate the data, and  
17 make sure we're making the decision correctly.

18           Thank you.

19           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Questions? Thank you --  
20 excuse me.

21           COMMISSIONER WILLIAMSON: What is your  
22 source for this 22 percent margin?

23           MR. JAMES LANDRETH: The 22 percent margin  
24 came from data which is published by the Energy  
25 Information Administration of the Department of

1 Energy.

2 COMMISSIONER WILLIAMSON: Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

4 MS. BARRET: Ed Garrett?

5 MR. ED GARRETT: Good evening.

6 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Good evening.

7 MR. ED GARRETT: My name is Ed Garrett, and  
8 I represent myself and my wife, Rosemary Monahan.  
9 Our current residence is 19025 67th Avenue  
10 Southeast in Snohomish. For the purposes of  
11 informing the new commissioners -- Williamson,  
12 McClain, and Clark -- I'll give a little brief  
13 summary of what my situation is.

14 My wife and I purchased 50 acres near Dry  
15 Creek off of Tricklewood Lane near the  
16 Highway 97. This was in April of 2001. We found  
17 out about the proposed wind farm project by then,  
18 around that time when Zilkha in June did a press  
19 release into the Daily Record.

20 Merle Steinman, who testified before you on  
21 Tuesday and the combined commission, and his  
22 50 percent partner, Gordon Gallagher, sold us the  
23 property under the pretense that this is a great,  
24 secluded, and private area for me to built a  
25 remotely-operated observatory. We talked about a

1 small cabin to go along with that.

2 He said he knew of no other developments  
3 that would affect us and our use or disturb our  
4 360-degree view for my telescopes. They never  
5 informed us about the Kittitas Valley Wind Power  
6 Project proposal.

7 Around fall we found out that both of them  
8 had signed up with Zilkha to get some wind  
9 turbines on their property. Before Zilkha had  
10 filed anything with the County, we already filed  
11 a building plan, we got our perc test done and  
12 approved, we received our official address, which  
13 is now 2880 Tricklewood Lane.

14 Since then all of our plans have stopped.  
15 And then when Zilkha filed with EFSEC and  
16 bypassing the county process, it was too  
17 undecided what we were going to do to invest any  
18 more into the property. So that's the background  
19 we're dealing with.

20 Now, for tonight, I'm a little confused over  
21 this newly proposed project. I can't even figure  
22 out how many turbines will be built, where  
23 they're going to be located, how big they're  
24 going to be. Chris Taylor's fire (inaudible) are  
25 all over the map, so to speak.

1           Originally we would be looking at J string,  
2           which is to be composed of 15 turbines,  
3           480-something feet tall. In the packet I  
4           received to review December 2nd, 2005, J string  
5           was then shown as six turbines 410-feet tall and  
6           some about 500 feet west of my east property  
7           line. Now looking at the latest map, which I was  
8           hoping we would have tonight, now they're showing  
9           that there's going to be eight turbines there.

10           I wanted to give you an idea where the  
11           property's located and the situation that we're  
12           in. The area that we are -- Zilkha or one  
13           another gentleman spoke about is going to have  
14           full view of this project. My property,  
15           50 acres, is located right here (indicating).  
16           I'm looking at what used to be J-1 or J-3; now I  
17           think it's J-2, which is about 500 feet right of  
18           my west property line.

19           I can see -- or my east property line  
20           looking west.

21           But I can see virtually every one of these  
22           turbines from up there. And I'll be looking  
23           through, like someone suggested earlier, a picket  
24           fence at every sunset.

25           The other people that bought property here

1 are six other people. And I'll speak a little  
2 bit for them because they were here on Tuesday  
3 but didn't get the opportunity to speak. And  
4 that would be Jill Kuhns, Skip Littlefield,  
5 myself, Cal Wilkins, and Diane Schwab; Bud and  
6 Diane Schwab. So all of us who purchased  
7 property from Gallagher and Steinman for  
8 development, three of them were planning a small  
9 residence. Now nobody's doing anything up there.

10 So the situation, because we're so close to  
11 the action with this J string, and yet it points  
12 out with the land uses there, when you look  
13 around the periphery of this project, all the  
14 little plots where people are putting in houses,  
15 people are even putting them here but not as  
16 much; the turbines are further away.

17 So that's the situation we are in this one  
18 particular sector. And this whole area that goes  
19 over to where Mike Genson was talking, it was all  
20 purchased by Gallagher and Steinman several years  
21 ago, probably 15 years ago, and every couple of  
22 years he sells off a 50-acre lot and tells people  
23 it's recreational use or you can put a house up  
24 there or do whatever.

25 Now, to one of the comments that was made

1 regarding that location, and this is in regards  
2 to Horse Canyon area, which is having the same  
3 problem, about the development, I believe it was  
4 Commissioner McClain wanted to know what was  
5 going on in that area as far as developers.

6 There's two developments now being proposed  
7 in Horse Canyon. Tom Roth is a developer doing  
8 that, and that area was divided up into 29 lots.  
9 It used to be the property of Archie Bow when  
10 he'd sold it, and I believe it was 2001 -- or  
11 2002, 2003. That area used to be commercial ag.  
12 Mr. Taylor would still like you to believe it's  
13 commercial ag.

14 If you go out there now, you're going to see  
15 about five new houses, a substructure put in,  
16 roads, paved, and a place called Horse Canyon  
17 Estates plus another new access road called Lowe  
18 Road. And I believe all the properties are sold  
19 but seven. And they're going for some pretty  
20 good high prices, and they range anywhere from --  
21 I believe the smallest was around four acres and  
22 the highest is around nineteen or so acres.

23 So I made some copies of the current  
24 listings that we have for that area from one of  
25 the real estate people in town, and I'll pass

1 this to the clerk to be placed into the record so  
2 that you can review those.

3 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Please.

4 MR. ED GARRETT: Another thing that was  
5 bothering me was that there's supposed to be  
6 guidelines on siting wind farms. I'm not  
7 necessarily against wind power; I'm just -- about  
8 where they should be sited. It should be an  
9 appropriate area.

10 The AWEA, which is the American Wind Energy  
11 Association, puts out guidelines on how to site a  
12 wind farm and what we need to do. And just some  
13 of the five issues come up on top on the list.

14 To successfully site a wind farm, it says,  
15 number one, you need a large land mass owned by a  
16 few willing landowners. Or one willing  
17 landowner, in the case of the Wild Horse project.

18 The area should already be disturbed by  
19 agriculture. Commercial agriculture, which  
20 means -- it should be like corn fields or wheat  
21 fields, things of that nature. Should not be any  
22 prime habitat area.

23 Should be located far away from residences.  
24 And lastly, support from the local public. Or  
25 local citizens, however you want to word that.

1           It seems to me that this particular project,  
2           they're failing to go by their own guidelines  
3           from the American Wind Association, because the  
4           project doesn't meet really any of this criteria.

5           So another issue that I have is -- and it  
6           was brought up before, was that when I got my  
7           notice from the County and my little CD with  
8           information in it, I not only go through the  
9           information and read it, and it was said that  
10          submitted application was going to be the  
11          development agreement, the development plan, and  
12          then we'll have a joint hearing here on the 10th  
13          so that interested parties could testify to the  
14          information that was going to be on that CD ROM.

15          So I went through that CD ROM. I made  
16          comments, I cited paragraph numbers, page  
17          numbers. Did some research on what was in there.  
18          And I noticed some discrepancies and a lot of  
19          lacking information. But that's what I was  
20          supposed to review.

21          I also am an intervenor with EFSEC, and I  
22          knew some information was available that was not  
23          in this application or on the CD. It was just  
24          their proposed project but no real detail to it,  
25          so you really couldn't really comment on it.

1           As an intervenor with EFSEC, I got the copy  
2           of the addendum to the Draft Environmental Impact  
3           Statement, which I'm supposed to be reviewing,  
4           which I have to send comments to them in two  
5           weeks from the information in here.

6           This is more than meat and potatoes of what  
7           should have been on that CD, which I found out on  
8           Tuesday was now recommended as being Book 1 of  
9           the facts -- Findings of Fact for this particular  
10          project.

11          So the information was available to us  
12          through EFSEC and it should have been available  
13          to us with this CD. It's just a matter of  
14          copying and pasting; that's all that was done  
15          between the book that you have, Book 1, I believe  
16          it's Section 14, and this information.

17          Another thing that was disturbing was I was  
18          unable to attend the meeting on Tuesday, but I  
19          sure got a lot of phone calls and e-mails wanting  
20          to know what was going on. And I said we sat  
21          through two and a half hours of listening to the  
22          applicant bring up expert witnesses and throw out  
23          a lot of numbers and information that was not  
24          part of the CD but basically new information.

25          And they were just dumbfounded that, Well,

1           this is interesting, I didn't know all this, how  
2           can I respond to it? Well, technically you  
3           can't. You could if you had resources like some  
4           people did to go home, read these things, and  
5           come back.

6           But it kind of struck me that if you're  
7           going to review something, you should have all  
8           the information and not have it thrown at you in  
9           a land use hearing when you really don't have any  
10          chance to rebut that information. And it was a  
11          lot of significant information, so that kind of  
12          bothered me on the process. But I understand  
13          that happens in land use consistency hearings.

14          The other part of that process I heard was  
15          after we finish our testimony, the applicant will  
16          have an opportunity to rebut everything we said,  
17          but then again we don't have an opportunity to  
18          rebut the new information they threw at us. So  
19          that's just a concern I had about that.

20          Lastly, something was placed into the record  
21          by one person, and it had to do with the wind  
22          farm neighbor easement agreement. And it's kind  
23          of interesting, because you hear all this  
24          information about the project has no effects,  
25          doesn't make any noise, it doesn't do this, it

1 doesn't do that; and then you get into here and  
2 you read through.

3 When you sign one of their contracts,  
4 basically you're signing away all of your rights  
5 to complain about anything. You sign away all of  
6 your rights to basically the use of your property  
7 or what they call payment for an easement,  
8 easement agreement, that things can be assigned,  
9 they have a right to encumber through financing  
10 on your deed. Basically they say easement -- or  
11 affects easement, what you sign away, owner  
12 grants to the grantee an easement right and an  
13 entitlement on, over, across, and under the  
14 owner's property for any audio/visual, view,  
15 light, shadow flicker, air turbulence, wake ice  
16 or weather-created hazards, or other effects of  
17 any kind whatsoever resulting directly or  
18 indirectly from any, A, operations or activities  
19 of any wind farm.

20 I don't think any sane person would want to  
21 sign that contract with a clause in it. This is  
22 one of the actual contracts that was submitted to  
23 a landowner up in there. That's been entered in  
24 as part of the record.

25 I think that's about it. Any questions?

1 CHAIRMAN BLACK: No. Thank you.

2 MR. ED GARRETT: Thank you very much.

3 MS. BARRET: Nelson Booth?

4 Don Wooldridge?

5 Andrew Johnson?

6 MR. ANDREW JOHNSON: Andrew Johnson, 260

7 Lenas Road. I've lived in Ellensburg now

8 22 years, and I've been interested in the affairs

9 of this county for most of that time.

10 Specifically, to deal with the issue  
11 tonight, I was speaking to one of the gentlemen  
12 that were present yesterday, or last night, and  
13 he said that he had worked on these projects down  
14 in California and elsewhere, and he'd never seen  
15 a dead bird.

16 And I was reminded of years ago when I was a  
17 crop duster -- and this, by the way, is  
18 pertinent. I was a crop duster and one  
19 particular year it got very cold in Canada very  
20 early, the ducks came down, got into the rice  
21 fields, and they were calling us up every day to  
22 go run the ducks out of the rice, which they were  
23 destroying, and push them over into the game  
24 refuge.

25 In the process of doing that, I killed two

1 ducks with the airplane that I was using to do  
2 the work with. And the third one just about did  
3 me in. I laughed so hard I had to go home. I  
4 was pushing a bunch ducks into the game refuge  
5 when a lone duck come out of nowhere, came  
6 through the propeller, came through the landing  
7 and flying wires of the biplane and went by the  
8 stabilizer and never touched a thing. I still  
9 don't know how in the world he got away with it.

10 But I did look back; he was in a ball,  
11 rolling over and over, and finally one wing came  
12 out, then the other, then he shook his head like  
13 "What in the world was that?" I was laughing so  
14 hard I had to quit; I couldn't fly the airplane  
15 properly.

16 Now, the pertinence here is why in the world  
17 with an airplane making noise did I hit two ducks  
18 with the leading edge of the wing and kill them  
19 and have the third one come through the propeller  
20 and the gyrations I just described?

21 The only answer I can give you for that is a  
22 duck doesn't know what he's running into. And I  
23 suspect the reports I've seen of bird kills by  
24 these machines that we're talking about, the duck  
25 or whatever other bird it is, including bats,

1 don't really know what those blades can do.

2 Now, I've been told they turn at about  
3 25 rpm, revolutions per minute, and with the  
4 blade length and doing -- adding a little  
5 mathematics, you'll find that the tips of those  
6 blades are traveling over a hundred miles an  
7 hour. And for a bird flying across the country,  
8 he probably won't see it. And that'll be the  
9 last thing he remembers on this earth.

10 Now, I was told by this gentleman that  
11 actually the problem is that there are  
12 environmentalists out there throwing dead birds  
13 out and then counting them, claiming that the  
14 machines have killed them. But some of the  
15 studies that I've seen have been legitimate  
16 studies, and the bird kills are more than likely  
17 quite legitimate.

18 So let's get on to something else. You  
19 gentlemen are here to determine if this project  
20 is good or not good for Kittitas County. And I  
21 have done a little study on this. I was a flight  
22 engineer for Transworld Airlines for a number of  
23 years. I was qualified on 707s and so forth, and  
24 there was a remarkable bit of machinery in every  
25 jet airplane that resembles this. It's called a

1 constant speed drive.

2 What it does, it takes a variable speed  
3 input and converts it to a constant speed,  
4 because for the electrical equipment that we used  
5 in the airplanes -- and you gentlemen use similar  
6 equipment every day; they're called computers --  
7 these lights, the electrical equipment we're  
8 using here has to be -- has to be 60 cycles per  
9 second, give or take one or two. If it varies  
10 from that very far, your computers don't work,  
11 your clocks don't work, and other equipment that  
12 requires and relies on a constant cycles per  
13 second won't work.

14 Now, what this machine does, the rotors turn  
15 at variable speeds. They start producing power  
16 at 11 miles per hour wind speed. And at 55 miles  
17 per hour for safety reasons they shut down.

18 That means that at slow speeds there is only  
19 a very small amount of horsepower put into the  
20 generator; and as the speed increases, the amount  
21 of horsepower that can go into the generator  
22 increases up to its maximum.

23 And what we're talking about here is there's  
24 a horsepower input that the propeller or turbine,  
25 if you want to call it that, puts out. And the

1 output from the generator itself is not  
2 horsepower; it's kilowatts.

3 Now, remember that it has to put that out at  
4 60 cycles per second. That means that it turns  
5 at a constant speed. And because of electrical  
6 adjustments done by a computing system, it will  
7 determine the amount of kilowatts that are put  
8 out.

9 I'm kind of going around the barrel here a  
10 little bit. I don't do this every day. But the  
11 point I'm getting at is the wind speed is the key  
12 to the whole thing. At 11 miles an hour, you  
13 only get a little bit of output. At 54 1/2 or  
14 some prior -- very, very close to 55 it puts out  
15 its maximum rated kilowatts.

16 There's only one problem. The wind around  
17 here very, very seldom blows at 54.9 miles per  
18 hour. It varies up and down; and the average,  
19 I'm told from the reports I've seen and other  
20 sources that I've run across, is only about  
21 30 percent. Which means that you pay for the  
22 maximum amount the machine will put out but you  
23 only get about 30 percent of that. And we're  
24 really talking about what we get for our money.  
25 We're not getting our money out of this.

1           Now, we have another factor. The highest  
2 demand period in the year is in the wintertime  
3 and in the summer for opposite reasons. In the  
4 wintertime, because it's cold, we use electric  
5 power for heating, don't we. In the summertime  
6 it's just the opposite: We screw down the air  
7 conditioning system so we can keep the house  
8 cool. Spring and fall, the wind blows but we  
9 don't need the power. So we're in opposition  
10 here. We're not getting our money's worth.

11           And my recommendation to you gentlemen --  
12 and I've been sitting back there flattening my  
13 sittus, and that's nothing compared to what you  
14 guys have been doing sitting here, and I  
15 sympathize.

16           I recommend to you that we turn this thing  
17 down. You've already turned down one, and the  
18 objections on that one very closely fit what --  
19 the objections I'm hearing on this one. I  
20 recommend to you you turn it down.

21           Thank you very much. Any questions?

22           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you. No.

23           MS. BARRET: Louise Garrison (sic)?

24           MS. LOUISE GENSON: Louise Genson, 101 Elk  
25 Springs Road.

1           And I had a packet for each of the  
2           commissioners and everyone on the Planning  
3           Commission. If someone could pass those out or  
4           do you want me to pass them out?

5           I would like to thank you for this  
6           opportunity to speak in favor of the Kittitas  
7           Valley Wind Power Project. When approved, this  
8           project will benefit the state, Kittitas County,  
9           private landowners who have signed leases with  
10          Horizon, and will use the natural resource, the  
11          wind, to its fullest potential. The benefits of  
12          this project are immense and far-reaching.

13          Much has been said about the effect the  
14          project would have on nearby property values. I  
15          have studied the sales of property in the Elk  
16          Springs area since the public notice of the  
17          Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project in April 2002.  
18          Sixteen properties have sold in the area shown on  
19          your map, which is on the third page, which is  
20          about a mile north of the project. Three of  
21          which are almost adjacent to the wind farm  
22          boundary. None of these properties sold at a  
23          loss.

24          And I have four examples of -- if you look  
25          on the -- at the map there, all those properties

1 in blue have sold since the announcement of the  
2 wind farm. The one in purple, 7/2, actually sold  
3 twice in that period of time.

4 Properties shown as map ID 8, it sold for  
5 \$55,000 on 5-12-2000. And in your packet 8B  
6 documents the prior sale, and it's found in your  
7 packet after map ID 8. That property sold for  
8 \$85,000 on 4-2-03. That's after the announcement  
9 of the wind farm. And that shows a 55 percent  
10 gain in value.

11 My second example is property ID 14, which  
12 sold -- I'm sorry, which sold for \$195,000 in  
13 4-04-01. That same property sold for \$260,000 on  
14 10-15-04. And that shows a forty -- or  
15 33.3 percent gain in value.

16 I selected these two examples because to the  
17 best of my knowledge, few if any improvements  
18 were made to the properties in between those two  
19 sales.

20 Some of the other properties, which had  
21 improvements made to them, had a much more  
22 spectacular gain in value. For example, map  
23 ID No. 8 -- I'm sorry, No. 9, sold as vacant land  
24 on 4-8-99 for \$17,000. Improvements included a  
25 small log cabin, a septic system, a

1 thousand-gallon storage tank, and a driveway to  
2 access the cabin. This property sold for 110,000  
3 on 6-17-03. That shows over -- that shows an  
4 increase in value of over 500 percent.

5 Map ID No. 11 also sold as vacant land on  
6 3-27-01 for \$76,950. And improvements to it were  
7 a small cabin and a horse corral. And then the  
8 property sold for 145,000 on 12-2-03. And this  
9 property gained 88 percent in value.

10 And if you look on the map on the third  
11 page, it shows the current placement of the  
12 turbine string just kind of south of property ID  
13 No. 10. At the time that this property sold,  
14 there hadn't been the reduction in the number of  
15 turbines and the string continued to go past  
16 property ID No. 10 and within probably 500 feet  
17 of Property 11.

18 This information which was obtained from the  
19 office of the county treasurer indicates that the  
20 real estate market has remained strong and  
21 property values have continued to improve in this  
22 area since the announcement to the public of the  
23 pending Kittitas Valley Wind Power application.

24 Public awareness of a strong possibility of  
25 a wind farm has not been detrimental to the use

1 of properties in the immediate vicinity of the  
2 proposed project, nor will the project be  
3 detrimental to neighboring properties. The final  
4 project, I'm sorry.

5 The benefits of this project are immense and  
6 far-reaching. Please help us use the natural  
7 resource we have been given -- the wind -- in an  
8 area of Kittitas County where resource management  
9 is the highest priority. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you. Questions?  
11 Questions?

12 Nope. Thank you very much.

13 MS. BARRET: Ray Ridenour?

14 MR. RAY RIDENOUR: Evening. I'm Ray  
15 Ridenour, 5319 Smithson Road, Ellensburg. I  
16 represent the Ross family and the Jones family.

17 I'd like to commend the county Planning  
18 Commission and the County Commissioners for  
19 handling the Desert Claim project. This Horizon  
20 project is a mirror image, nearly, of that  
21 project, and the way you handled that was quite  
22 good.

23 Although I understand the Desert Claim  
24 people are going to try to come through the back  
25 door and go through the State. And that I'm

1           sorry to hear about.

2           Otherwise you folks have got a project being  
3 built and in the process of development. I'd  
4 like to call for a moratorium on further  
5 development of wind power in this county until  
6 that project is completed and to see what we get;  
7 what it produces and what the effects are.

8           I understand Lathrop proposed an overlay  
9 project that would restrict wind development to  
10 certain parts of this county. The Planning  
11 Commission approved that plan and the County  
12 Commissioners decided that that was not something  
13 that was needed. I feel very strongly that it is  
14 something that should be looked at again because  
15 this system, I'm afraid, is not working.

16           Thank you.

17           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Questions? Thank you very  
18 much.

19           MS. BARRET: Gary McGiesick?

20           Tony Croateard?

21           AUDIENCE MEMBER: I think that's Terry  
22 (inaudible).

23           MS. BARRET: Sorry.

24           MS. TERESA PETREY: Good afternoon. Or  
25 evening. Maybe it's good morning. My name is

1 Teresa Petrey. I reside at 300 East Helena in  
2 Apartment No. 113.

3 I supported the Wild Horse project, I  
4 supported the EnXco project, and I support this  
5 project.

6 I would like to perhaps maybe step out of my  
7 place and say that I represent some of the  
8 younger generation and I'm an apartment dweller,  
9 and we're kind of an unheard minority. Well,  
10 we're actually an unheard majority in this town.  
11 I believe it's over 60 percent of the people that  
12 live here actually live in rentals.

13 And along with good housing that's  
14 affordable that we can live on in our  
15 single-family wage opportunities basically that  
16 we have here -- it's well-stated that one person  
17 may come with a good job but that second spouse  
18 has a hard time finding employment; that's  
19 definitely been our circumstance. We do need  
20 economic development here. There is a desperate  
21 need for good jobs here.

22 I'm not talking about construction jobs. We  
23 need those long-term jobs that a project such as  
24 these wind farms would provide for the community.  
25 And even if it's four or five projects at a time,

1 that's a significant dent in that kind of  
2 mid-management capacity that Ellensburg has so  
3 many people in the employment pool to take out of  
4 that and actually pull that back into the  
5 community.

6 We're looking at in the next -- and I'm sure  
7 you guys have a much better grasp on this, but  
8 it's my understanding we have hundreds of homes  
9 that will be built in this valley in the next few  
10 years. We really ought to be having hundreds of  
11 jobs come in with those homes, because where are  
12 those people going to be working?

13 I want to thank very much the Zilkha family  
14 for coming in very early, investing their private  
15 dollars in this project. I'd also like to thank  
16 Goldman Sachs. For those of you who don't know  
17 who Goldman Sachs are, they're a major force in  
18 the investment community and Wall Street. For a  
19 community of this size to have an investment  
20 player of that magnitude and -- I struggle for  
21 the right word -- profile is quite a coup.

22 And I also want to point out that a player  
23 such as Goldman Sachs does not come in and buy a  
24 company such as Zilkha that's invested in a  
25 community like this without doing substantial due

1 diligence, which includes looking at not only the  
2 books and the economic outlook, but whether the  
3 technology is actually going to fly. Because  
4 their investors, private and public, expect it of  
5 them.

6 I do have some experience selling a company  
7 in the past to a publicly traded company, and it  
8 is quite an experience to go through the due  
9 diligence process. It's not something that's  
10 done lightly. My company was small; it was an  
11 acquisition by a much larger, publicly traded  
12 company.

13 We are not talking about anything on that  
14 level. Multiply that by many, many, many times.  
15 And the homework has been done here, I can assure  
16 you. The mere fact that we have a player like  
17 Goldman Sachs and looking at investing in our  
18 valley is something that we should put a high  
19 price on and consider that a great benefit.

20 Beyond that, you had Mr. Fox and Mr. Keller  
21 talk about the money that's been spent in this  
22 valley. I want to urge everyone to remember that  
23 that money multiplies.

24 I've had some experience trying to help  
25 develop the economy here, and some of the things

1 I've been involved in have had an eight-times  
2 multiplier affect, according to the Chamber of  
3 Commerce. I don't know how they came up with  
4 that.

5 But if you multiply the expenditure of what  
6 Horizon -- or excuse me -- well, I guess it was  
7 Horizon; it's now PSE -- has put into the  
8 community, that's a significant turn on -- return  
9 on investment, basically, to this community.  
10 It's that money that goes down to Vinmans Bakery  
11 that then goes down to the University Auto  
12 Center, and it turns and it grows at each place  
13 it goes through. It seems to me that we're  
14 forgetting that.

15 We also live in a state we're very, very  
16 privileged to have the leadership of Christine  
17 Gregoir, her new initiative on biofuel. We're  
18 living in a very exciting town and a very  
19 exciting time, and we have a chance to make a  
20 difference for the future.

21 I've driven this area, I was out there  
22 probably four to six weeks ago with a location  
23 scout -- I do a lot of volunteer work for the  
24 Washington State Film Office -- on Mr. Fowler's  
25 beautiful property, trying to get us placed in

1 the Washington State Tourism ad campaign.

2 And I can tell you that most of the spots  
3 that we were on out there -- and I've driven over  
4 that -- I'm not really familiar with the strings,  
5 but I've driven through where this project will  
6 be. I think it's one of the best places that we  
7 could site wind energy in this Kittitas County,  
8 and I don't think that the impact's going to be  
9 that high on the view.

10 And frankly, I would love to be able to add  
11 a wind farm to my photos that go over to the  
12 Washington State Film Office to attract people.  
13 I believe it's going to be a big tourism magnet.

14 Also as a renter I will be approaching three  
15 years, but I am fortunate enough to actually be  
16 in the housing market right now, and I can tell  
17 you that the property values have not decreased  
18 significantly. They have softened a little bit  
19 in the area.

20 Many of the homes in this area that are for  
21 sale involve manufactured homes, which is almost  
22 impossible to get financing for the average  
23 person these days. So if there any softening,  
24 that could be it. But there just isn't a whole  
25 lot of inventory out there anyway. And then

1 we've also had rising interest rates.

2 So I do have some concerns that -- that the  
3 whole issue with property values has been  
4 slightly misstated. There might be other factors  
5 in play there.

6 I'd just like to close by saying that today  
7 I sat in a doctor's waiting room and flipped open  
8 a magazine of a scenic motorcycle trip that  
9 somebody took through the southwest. I think it  
10 was in California. Beautiful, recognizable  
11 scenery; and one picture in front of a whole  
12 stand of windmills, and obviously it was  
13 something that they found attractive enough to  
14 showcase in their magazine. And I think that it  
15 will have a positive impact on our scenery.  
16 Beauty is truly in the eye of the beholder.

17 Thank you very much for giving me the  
18 opportunity to speak tonight. I would not have  
19 been able to come back, and it was a great  
20 sacrifice on my part to make it out, and I really  
21 appreciate your holding open the discussion.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

24 MS. BARRET: H.J. Havens?

25 Mark Holloway?

1 MR. MARK HOLLOWAY: I'm Mark Holloway. 1581  
2 Thomas Road. 31-year resident of the valley.

3 I'd like to ask that this aesthetic  
4 qualities of wind generators be removed from  
5 consideration on the grounds that aesthetics are  
6 totally subjective by nature. Just be real quick  
7 about that. And I don't believe that any kind of  
8 aesthetic decision should be made by a committee,  
9 especially on other people's property.

10 Number two, there's been a comparison in  
11 previous meetings of the wind towers to the large  
12 power poles that were a major issue a couple  
13 years ago back along the John Wayne Trail and  
14 which are also along Main Street right now in  
15 Ellensburg.

16 This was -- this was -- let's see, we own  
17 property in view of these large poles. We've  
18 only seen our property values go up. And I don't  
19 think anybody even knows that they're around  
20 anymore. They become part of the local  
21 environment and you just have to get used to it.  
22 And I know change is hard, but you know,  
23 that's -- it's part of life.

24 I've seen no conclusive evidence that wind  
25 towers will have an adverse effect on our

1 property values. Certainly no more effect than  
2 the same land turned into hundreds of  
3 single-family ranchettes or vacation homes.

4 On the subject of noise, let's see, I am  
5 submitting a list of recognized noise levels for  
6 comparison to the 40 to 50 dBA at the edge of the  
7 property lines. Some of these, this list --  
8 actually shaving is in the 40-to-50 range.  
9 Raining, like it's doing outside right now, is  
10 50.

11 So you know, as long as these noises aren't  
12 bothering people that don't own the property, I  
13 mean, everybody has the right to do what they  
14 want to with their own property.

15 I live in a view area. I can see the power  
16 poles that are behind -- or the big transmission  
17 lines that are up on the hillsides on Naneum and  
18 that run up over into that area. I also see when  
19 I drive home at night the lights of the -- of the  
20 dish -- or the dishes that they did for the  
21 airport and the transfer -- or substation that  
22 they have up on Wilson Creek.

23 Initially they're -- it's something that  
24 you're like surprised about, but we live in an  
25 area where we use energy. We like to keep the

1 lights on at night, you know. And you got to pay  
2 for it. It's got to come from somewhere. If we  
3 can get from it a renewable source, then I think  
4 that that's what we should do.

5 The, you know, as far as shadow flicker  
6 goes, well, I don't know about that. Shadow  
7 flicker, I guess when I walk down by the river  
8 or, you know, see the trees that are on my  
9 property, there is shadow flicker. Are we  
10 talking about -- is that the same thing we're  
11 talking about?

12 If it's something different, you know, I  
13 mean, when there's shadows, yeah, that's part of  
14 life, you know. Are we suggesting to avoid  
15 shadow flicker that we should cut down all the  
16 trees so there's no shadows?

17 Bird kills, I think that that's something  
18 that needs to be addressed. That the impact on  
19 the environment, it's something that needs to be  
20 addressed. But I don't know if when you -- it's  
21 something that needs to be balanced.

22 Think about the amount of kills that are  
23 caused by the dams that dam up the rivers. Well,  
24 if we're getting wind energy and maybe there's  
25 going to be some death in the -- in the process.

1 But you have to balance it out. If we lose all  
2 our salmon runs because we've dammed everything  
3 up and we have no wild salmon anymore, you know,  
4 you kind of have to take those things into  
5 account.

6 Or glass windows. Do we want to have houses  
7 with no windows because birds are going to hit  
8 them? Or no cars because we're going to run over  
9 an animal? We -- you have to make sacrifices.  
10 We can mitigate these things. We need to address  
11 these things. Address the bird kill question.  
12 Address -- and then mitigate it; come up with an  
13 answer.

14 And that's great that this is going before a  
15 committee that has to weigh these things. But  
16 there's some portions of it that, you know, like  
17 aesthetics that I don't think should be part of  
18 it.

19 The sound, if it's only going to be 40 to 50  
20 decibels, then -- at the property lines, that's  
21 something that we all live with. We're -- I  
22 mean, yeah. It's 50 -- 50 decibels in rain.  
23 So -- and if that sound's produced when it's  
24 windy, well, come on, it's windy; it's kind of  
25 hard to hear when it's windy. And we're not

1           trying to legislate or to call Kitcom because the  
2           wind's blowing too hard and causing a noise  
3           violation. So yeah.

4           As far as the income goes -- or the effect  
5           on my property value, my property value on my  
6           properties in town as well as our home in the  
7           county have only gone up. And you know,  
8           there's -- we just have to realize that we need  
9           the energy, we need it for my kids, my grandkids,  
10          and all the future generations and all of us  
11          here; we're going to need it.

12          So I just want you to take those things into  
13          consideration and make a -- make the right  
14          choice, which I think is a well-considered move  
15          towards wind generation. Thanks.

16          CHAIRMAN BLACK: Did you submit the --

17          MR. MARK HOLLOWAY: Yeah, I --

18          CHAIRMAN BLACK: It's submitted?

19          MR. MARK HOLLOWAY: It's not submitted; I  
20          have it sitting over here --

21          CHAIRMAN BLACK: Would you, please?

22          MR. MARK HOLLOWAY: Yes.

23          CHAIRMAN BLACK: It's 10:15. And how many  
24          more do we have? Three? Four?

25          And then we'll give you ten minutes at the

1 end?

2 Can we do this by eleven o'clock?

3 CHAIRMAN BOWEN: I sure would like to,  
4 Mr. Chairman. I'd like to get it done tonight,  
5 but --

6 (A discussion was held off the record.)

7 (A break was taken.)

8 CHAIRMAN BLACK: We saw, I think, four hands  
9 that were going to speak. Susan?

10 MS. BARRET: Noel Andrew?

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Noel's up.

12 MS. BARRET: Who'd I miss?

13 MR. NOEL ANDREW: Noel Andrew, 2701 Elk  
14 Springs Road.

15 I own 150 acres in the middle of the project  
16 area. And where I live there is no electricity  
17 or water, garbage collection or a public road,  
18 fire protection, or any other services that most  
19 people think of when they think of a  
20 neighborhood, as these opponents of wind farms  
21 like to call the area.

22 The land I own is on forest/range. It is  
23 not good for farming and not much good for  
24 pasture either. It is not very productive  
25 resource land right now.

1           With wind turbines on my land it would be  
2           productive resource land, and both I and the  
3           County would benefit. I want to keep my property  
4           open range land, and I don't like the county  
5           getting crowded in more and more houses.

6           With so many urbanites moving over here,  
7           they are causing property taxes to skyrocket, and  
8           this is pushing farmers and ranchers to have to  
9           sell their land. It is not the future I think  
10          most people want to see for this valley.

11          I think most people who actually live in  
12          this county are for wind farms. But since they  
13          have to work so hard to pay for their property  
14          taxes, they don't have time to come to all these  
15          hearings. If they could come, I think you would  
16          see a majority approval of the wind farms. But  
17          it seems the retirees from the west side have  
18          lots of time to sit in on these long meetings.

19          I support the wind farm because it is going  
20          to allow me to keep my land like it is. I was  
21          first approached by Northwest Energy in 1991, but  
22          was not enough interest for them to go forth with  
23          it. And with this project I have been trying  
24          since 2001 to get these turbines built on my  
25          land. Five years is a long time to wait, and I'm

1           losing my patience for all these hearings and  
2           processes.

3           Wind turbines in the county may be offensive  
4           to some people's opinion of their view, but if  
5           you would look at the DEIS addendum, Figure  
6           3.9-1, Viewpoint 1, Highway 97 at Ellensburg  
7           Ranches Road, which is the view looking north on  
8           Highway 97 towards my property, there are already  
9           a huge bunch of power transmission lines running  
10          through the area with their towers. Anyone who  
11          thinks this is a pristine view must be blind.

12          If you look at the existing view and  
13          simulated view, you'll see there's not much of a  
14          difference. I don't think there would be much  
15          difference between the way things look now and  
16          how it would look with turbines. They will blend  
17          in.

18          Most of the people who are objecting to this  
19          project bought property with transmission lines  
20          and towers already there. And how could they  
21          think there would never be any more electrical  
22          development in the area?

23          When you make your decision, I ask you to  
24          consider what would truly benefit the county as a  
25          whole and not what would affect a few people's

1 opinion of their view. As a landowner, taxpayer,  
2 voter, and a citizen of Kittitas County, I urge  
3 your immediate approval of this project.

4 And also I understand there may be some  
5 concern with my house being too close to one of  
6 the turbines on my property. Is that true?

7 CHAIRMAN BLACK: That's a question we can  
8 ask.

9 MR. NOEL ANDREW: Okay. If that is so, then  
10 it is my feeling that it would be my business.  
11 Within that range the decibels would be 50, and  
12 since I am half deaf, it would be only 25 to me.

13 And as to shadow flicker, I don't believe it  
14 would bother anyone unless you was to stare  
15 directly at it for maybe an hour straight. But  
16 maybe not even then.

17 I am 64 years old and perfectly capable to  
18 look after my own well-being, and if it does  
19 bother me I will move further away from them.

20 Also I think each one of you making such an  
21 important decision should go to a wind farm when  
22 the wind is blowing and camp out for the weekend  
23 instead of trying to make a decision on people's  
24 opposing using every bogus excuse they can think  
25 of.

1 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

2 MR. NOEL ANDREW: You're welcome.

3 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Did you write in the  
4 margin?

5 MR. NOEL ANDREW: Pardon me?

6 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Did you write in the  
7 margin? I'm laughing with you, okay?

8 MR. NOEL ANDREW: I guess I better get my  
9 paper and get out of here.

10 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

11 MS. BARRET: Joe Sheeran?

12 Linda Rubio?

13 Brian Thomas?

14 John Ufkes?

15 MR. JOHN UFKES: I didn't say I was going to  
16 speak. I just said --

17 MS. BARRET: Okay. I'm just reading  
18 everybody on the list.

19 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

20 MS. BARRET: John Cunningham?

21 Pam Helleman?

22 Pat Deneen?

23 MR. PAT DENEEN: Pat Deneen, 1890 Nelson  
24 Siding Road. I'm going to try to talk about just  
25 things I know about, and one thing I know about

1 is property and property values. I'm a majority  
2 owner in John L. Scott in the county. I'm going  
3 to try to talk about property values with my  
4 realtor hat on.

5 My family also owns about a thousand acres  
6 next to -- next to the windmill sites. I've had  
7 a chance to work with Chris a bit, and he's  
8 been -- they've been pretty good to work with  
9 about relieving some of my issues. I still have  
10 some small issues with them that I think can be  
11 resolved.

12 What I'd like to suggest, first of all, I  
13 probably know as much about property values in  
14 this county as anybody in the county. I deal  
15 with it daily. I do major transactions all the  
16 time. And these will impact adjacent property  
17 values. There's just no way, and they're going  
18 to impact them negatively. I guarantee you that.

19 Another other thing is that as property's  
20 changing hands right now, I think of myself as a  
21 relatively sophisticated property buyer. Mary  
22 Burke sold me her ranch, and as she was walking  
23 out the door, she said, You know what, you ought  
24 to check on those windmills.

25 I'm, What? Windmills? There aren't --

1 right now there's no notice out there on  
2 windmills on power reports, which I read hard  
3 every day. The notice of people coming in, just  
4 because people buy some pieces of property  
5 doesn't necessarily mean they know what's going  
6 onto it. I can attest to that, having spent a  
7 bunch of money and looking a little bit foolish  
8 on the other end of it.

9 But Chris is working pretty well on that,  
10 and I would suggest that if this thing is denied,  
11 the fight would be at the governor's office. I  
12 would suggest I'd like to try to keep this  
13 locally and not fight this at EFSEC, which we  
14 will probably lose if it's denied and will go to  
15 the governor's office.

16 It seems to me like there might be a middle  
17 road. I think if it was approved with conditions  
18 on it -- and it looks to me like -- I think -- I  
19 think Chris and Horizon have kind of realized  
20 that the problem areas seem to be around the  
21 fringes of the ownership of what they have.

22 It seems to me that the biggest issue we  
23 have is 500 feet away from somebody else's  
24 property line and putting a 410-foot, 40-story  
25 building. That to me probably doesn't work real

1 well.

2 It seems to me if you're a couple thousand  
3 feet off, it starts to diminish; and you know, it  
4 looks to me like this could probably be approved  
5 with conditions.

6 Now, I'm probably going to get yelled at by  
7 those guys and by these guys, but nobody likes me  
8 anyway, so it doesn't bother me most of the time.  
9 It seems to me that by approving it with  
10 conditions, we can keep it in a local -- locally  
11 here. If not, a number of us will be at the  
12 governor's office trying to fight it there.

13 Which is a lot harder fight. Because we  
14 don't get to talk to her like this; we have to  
15 sneak around in the back rooms. It costs a lot  
16 more money to get it done. And it will be a big  
17 fight at that point in time.

18 So on property values, definitely negative  
19 impact. On people that are buying land, they're  
20 just a lot of them unaware these things are  
21 coming on. I'd like to keep the decision local.

22 I know you guys love conditions. I got to  
23 know that. I think you can put conditions on it  
24 to make it work and also provide the people who  
25 have legitimate -- especially in the core area

1 right there that want -- that want to keep their  
2 places in bigger lots, and this will help them by  
3 getting money back to maintain their ranches.

4 And ranching right now, unless you have a  
5 really well-irrigated Timothy farm, probably  
6 isn't that valuable -- or value in the county. I  
7 don't think much of those in the center there  
8 have water rights. I also am chairman of the  
9 water conservancy board and kind of look at a lot  
10 of water rights.

11 So that's what my suggestion would be, is  
12 you take all this testimony, you come up with an  
13 idea to split the baby in half, approve it with  
14 conditions on it, and then see where it goes. A  
15 straight denial means we'll be fighting at the  
16 governor's office.

17 Any questions for me?

18 CHAIRMAN BLACK: No, thank you.

19 MS. BARRET: Tony Helland?

20 MR. TONY HELLAND: My name's Tony Helland.  
21 I live at 414 Alpine Drive in Kittitas. I'm  
22 speaking for myself only.

23 I am also a council member for the City of  
24 Kittitas, and anything I say here tonight has  
25 nothing to do with the City of Kittitas.

1 I am currently employed by Hurling  
2 Construction, and they are a subcontractor for  
3 the Wild Horse project.

4 I didn't make it Tuesday night. I was at a  
5 council meeting, so I missed a lot. I missed the  
6 meat and potatoes of the presentation.

7 I'd just like to say, who knew that we'd all  
8 be sitting here tonight with such a hard decision  
9 coming about land that has traditionally just  
10 been rock, sagebrush, jack rabbits, brown snakes.  
11 And I just can't believe some of the prices of  
12 this land that people are paying.

13 And I keep hearing that it's all about the  
14 dollar, you know. This side says Horizon just  
15 want to make money. But then they want to sell  
16 their land. There's got to be a middle road we  
17 can come up to.

18 I, I've lived in this valley my whole life.  
19 My family's been here six generations. There  
20 were -- I don't know, I'm just -- what I'm trying  
21 to do, I guess, is trying to rebut some of the  
22 things that I've heard last night and tonight.

23 There are local jobs out there from Wild  
24 Horse. All of them went home; they have to get  
25 up early tomorrow morning. I should have went

1 home a long time ago. I have to be pretty much  
2 first one there in the morning. I'm the gate  
3 guard; I got to greet everybody coming in.

4 There's just a couple things I -- I'd like  
5 to bring up about that I heard tonight that just  
6 kind of struck me. One lady said something about  
7 dust from blasting. I got a pretty good view of  
8 a few shots that they did up there. There was no  
9 dust.

10 People are talking about their views and the  
11 views in the Highway 97 corridor. I don't know  
12 how many people have drove up Highway 97 and saw  
13 some of the visual blight that's alongside that  
14 road. I don't want to call any particular house,  
15 homestead, or dog farm to anyone's attention, but  
16 there's some stuff out there that just doesn't  
17 look very good. And to sit there and say, Oh, I  
18 got a good view out there, I got to beg to  
19 differ.

20 There was -- somebody last night said  
21 that -- they were talking to the County  
22 Commissioners about having to make a decision  
23 that would affect people down the road. Well,  
24 anybody that holds an elected office or any --  
25 any commission chair, any decision you make is

1 going to have a long-term effect. There's  
2 nothing short-term.

3 So what we need to do is, like I say, find  
4 some middle ground. Because people, they always  
5 say, Oh, yeah, wind power's good but I don't want  
6 it in my back yard. Well, it's got to go in  
7 somebody's back yard.

8 And these companies have been studying wind  
9 patterns for years. They just haven't come in  
10 here on a whim and decided that "We're going to  
11 go up over here and mess up Joe Smith's view  
12 because we just want to." They've studied this,  
13 they've spent a lot of money to do this, and they  
14 aren't going to come in here and ask you to grant  
15 them an application to put in a wind farm to lose  
16 money.

17 I mean, people will sit here and say, Oh,  
18 the wind doesn't blow that much here. I beg to  
19 differ with them. I've been here 53 years; the  
20 wind does blow. I also know -- I learn stuff  
21 every day on the job, and -- because I stop  
22 people and I talk to them, you know. And there  
23 might not be any wind at the surface. 150 foot  
24 up there's wind.

25 I think that's about it.

1 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

2 MS. BARRET: Holly Pinkart?

3 Andrew Schock?

4 That's all I got.

5 CHAIRMAN BLACK: That's it?

6 MS. BARRET: Did everybody speak?

7 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Did you sign up?

8 MR. DESMOND KNUDSON: The clerk said she  
9 would add my name to the list (inaudible).

10 CHAIRMAN BLACK: We certainly wouldn't want  
11 to not allow you to speak, would we. I mean,  
12 that would -- that would be the coup de grace.  
13 So let's -- I would assume you're all ready?

14 MR. DESMOND KNUDSON: I'm all ready.

15 CHAIRMAN BLACK: We recognize that the  
16 applicant wants to take about 10 to 15 minutes.  
17 I don't want to shut you down, because you have  
18 been here for all of the sessions, so.

19 MR. DESMOND KNUDSON: That's very courteous  
20 and I believe a fair situation. Since some did  
21 go on long, I will try to keep mine short.

22 Commissioners and Planning Commission,  
23 Desmond Knudson, 1661 Vantage Highway,  
24 Ellensburg, Washington, 98926.

25 My fellow assistant here, Matt Youngblood,

1 also an Ellensburg resident. And he's going to  
2 hold some props up for me. And I believe he put  
3 some other props down here which we'll come to  
4 shortly.

5 I want to rebut some issues that have come  
6 up later that unfortunately have something to do  
7 with this board that I've set on this stuff for  
8 quite a while. Mr. Black, as you remember, I  
9 called into question you sitting on the board. I  
10 have no problems with you sitting on the board.

11 Something that you did leave off on your  
12 disclosure was that in November 20th of 2002, you  
13 moved to ban all wind farms within Kittitas  
14 County. And the motion was seconded by Doug  
15 Harris and was defeated by a 2-3 poll from the  
16 Commission. That's all said about it, that's all  
17 I care about it. Thank you.

18 Mr. Garrett also brings up some interesting  
19 issues. I can do nothing but feel sorry that the  
20 way he feels about buying land and Forest & Range  
21 and Ag 20-plus and wondering why the residents  
22 aren't all around him yet. The way I read the  
23 rules, that's supposed to be Ag 20 and Forest  
24 Ag -- Forest & Range, excuse me.

25 That is where we would like to maintain that

1 land as is, and if you want to homestead on it,  
2 feel free. But if your neighbor wants to farm,  
3 ranch, put up wind towers if this whole  
4 commission decides, then let's accept it.

5 Okay, the handout that Mr. Piercy put out to  
6 you guys is some facts on the tax base. This was  
7 just recently done by Ms. Debbie Strand of the  
8 Kittitas County Economical Development Group. I  
9 also believe she submitted it in a different  
10 format, is what I found. I got this offline.

11 But the most important thing, even if you  
12 read all the way down the smaller print, the who  
13 gets the money, the main thing is 1.6 million  
14 come in a year, and that's at the 2005 rate.

15 But most importantly and least to not forget  
16 is that commercial and industrial and businesses  
17 put in a dollar into the government coffers and  
18 only take out 25 cents. Residential, which is  
19 happening all around here, put in a dollar and  
20 demand a \$1.25 back. That is a net loss of  
21 25 cents.

22 Or for that 112-lots division that's being  
23 spoke about here by some members, well, that's  
24 84,000 a year you're going to be in the hole. So  
25 let's start thinking about ways to generate

1 income that will balance this out.

2 These taxes are not out of one pocket into  
3 the other, as one of the local attorneys would  
4 say to you. That's a fact of life. How congress  
5 doles out our tax money, you know, I might not  
6 agree with and believe in the way it is always  
7 done; but you know, unless I get a better  
8 lobbyist, I'm kind of sitting on the side with  
9 the rest of us.

10 The tax break they give is 2 to 4 percent of  
11 the total tax break given to the National Energy  
12 Policy tax break taken mainly by the oil, gas,  
13 and coal companies. So I believe their share of  
14 the pie is whatever crumb is left over.

15 Why are we still subsidizing the oil  
16 industry and the coal industry that is taking  
17 what kind of profits a quarter? I believe they  
18 were in the Bs.

19 We keep bringing up what the project will do  
20 negative to the area. What about what does it do  
21 positive for the area in the farming, ranching,  
22 Ag 20, Forest & Range lands that Loel owns that  
23 are being subdivided that keeps these acres  
24 together and it keeps and puts money into the  
25 government coffers along with the private

1 citizens.

2 And as you heard the DNR representative  
3 speak of, the schools. They get it twice. From  
4 our levies and from the school levy -- from the  
5 state. We must not forget that the 112-lot  
6 subdivision and other subdivisions will affect  
7 all of us in this valley. They've affected me.

8 Remember, this preserves 6000 acres of  
9 undeveloped land kept for agricultural,  
10 Forest & Range, and open space, which this land  
11 is zoned for and in the Comp Plan designations.  
12 This project ties up 6000 acres, which of that,  
13 90 acres will be used for actual footprint of  
14 project.

15 There is an energy transmission corridor and  
16 we have power lines and poles in it. This is  
17 where my little display here will come. As you  
18 can see, there is an approximate scale of a  
19 tower, a nacelle, and the blades. You can see  
20 where the little red houses are. Those are  
21 approximately to scale. And that is also  
22 approximately how far the nearest property  
23 owner's house is.

24 In the middle of it you'll see the property  
25 lines and the safety setback zone. That's quite

1 a ways to tie up some property which I don't  
2 think me or you would be willing to do on our  
3 property unless we'd signed with a reputable firm  
4 that will take care of my property and let me  
5 range my animals on it.

6 The energy that is produced here will be  
7 used here. It goes to the closest switch.  
8 Whether you turn it on, I turn it on, or it goes  
9 to the west side. The west siders want to have  
10 move over here to retire to get out of the  
11 traffic jam. They only want to move over here to  
12 live because it's a rural life. And I may add,  
13 bringing their masses with them to do away with  
14 the rural life.

15 When we are dividing hundreds of acres of  
16 farmland into lot size, one acre or less, that  
17 brings up a question. Pretty soon we're going to  
18 be out of water, power, sewer, because we have no  
19 plan for the sewer or the water yet. We maybe  
20 better put a moratorium on building until we have  
21 a water source designated for all the homes. And  
22 a sewer source for all the homes.

23 That is what is -- that is what Patty Murray  
24 says she put money in to help us --

25 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: Point of order,

1 Mr. Chairman. This is way off subject. We've  
2 got nine minutes left, and I'd ask the  
3 applicant -- or Chair to direct the speaker to  
4 resolve this issue and move on or --

5 MR. DESMOND KNUDSON: Thank you, I'm done.

6 MR. MARK HOLLOWAY: I don't think he was off  
7 subject.

8 MS. TERESA PETREY: Neither do I, sir.

9 CHAIRMAN BLACK: How much longer do you  
10 have?

11 MR. DESMOND KNUDSON: I'm done.

12 CHAIRMAN BLACK: I don't want you shut down.

13 MR. DESMOND KNUDSON: I'm not going to --  
14 I'm done.

15 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Okay, we go into the --  
16 Go ahead.

17 MR. MARK HOLLOWAY: Mark Holloway, 1581  
18 Thomas Road. I think that shutting down  
19 anybody's speaking in the middle of their  
20 presentation is totally -- I mean, we had people  
21 rambling on here. We're all here late, we're  
22 willing to stay up here, I'm staying up late --

23 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: Mr. Chair --

24 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Excuse me. Mr. Holloway,  
25 we'll give him an opportunity to finish his

1 presentation if he wants to do that.

2 MR. MARK HOLLOWAY: Okay.

3 CHAIRMAN BLACK: And that's his choice. If  
4 he doesn't want to do it, then it's the fact that  
5 Mr. McClain brought it up and we've now given him  
6 an opportunity to do it. If he decides not to do  
7 it, I don't think that Mr. McClain should be held  
8 responsible for it. So I think it's his choice  
9 now. And he has the --

10 MR. MARK HOLLOWAY: Yeah. I would just like  
11 to see --

12 CHAIRMAN BLACK: If he doesn't want to do  
13 it --

14 MR. MARK HOLLOWAY: (inaudible) -- in a  
15 civil way.

16 CHAIRMAN BLACK: I probably -- and as far as  
17 it goes, anybody else. And so I'm willing to sit  
18 here.

19 MR. DESMOND KNUDSON: Mr. McClain, are you  
20 going to withdraw that, or am I --

21 CHAIRMAN BLACK: I'm the chairman; you have  
22 to opportunity to finish your presentation.

23 MR. DESMOND KNUDSON: Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN BLACK: You're welcome.

25 MR. DESMOND KNUDSON: The transmission

1 corridor that this would be built in has been  
2 there for 60 years. Only to enlarge as -- only  
3 to get bigger as more power is used on the busy  
4 west side. So there will be more transmission  
5 lines built. I don't have a magic ball; I'm just  
6 using common sense.

7 Let us put the people who are willing to use  
8 their land as it is and not alter it with  
9 development of homes, roads, and, most  
10 importantly, more services, leave it the way and  
11 make income and taxes from them.

12 The opponents have not explained how they  
13 will pay for more services they demand without  
14 raising my taxes, my neighbor's taxes, and your  
15 own taxes.

16 Yes, these machines are big, but not as big  
17 as or out of proportion that the opponents would  
18 like you to believe and make you believe with  
19 their advertisements in the local paper. The  
20 visual sights will still be there, either with a  
21 lot of houses and/or with less homes and 64 to 80  
22 turbines. The sky is not falling; we can harvest  
23 the wind and our tax coffers will fill up.

24 Back to the props in front of you and the  
25 guy that was holding up the two-by-four earlier,

1 that was half the height of Mt. Stuart. And you  
2 guys are all kind of sitting there about the  
3 proper location that the southern view of that  
4 way would look. You're not going to see too much  
5 of a tower.

6 My quality of life has changed by all of the  
7 new people moving into the area, the college  
8 getting bigger, and the infrastructure not  
9 keeping up. However, you know what? I and  
10 others, we cope and look at it as a new way of  
11 life. Not that I like it that way, but I also  
12 understand we're getting to be bigger.

13 Most importantly, I close with the line I  
14 hear from most people when I say I'm from  
15 Ellensburg: Oh, the windy city; how's the wind  
16 blowing? Not. Oh, the Stuart range guy, the  
17 viewshed town.

18 Thank you very much and thank you for  
19 listening.

20 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

21 I believe that's the last of the public  
22 testimony? We will hopefully be able to do about  
23 ten or -- ten minutes or so as the rebuttal? Our  
24 clerk needs to go shortly after 11:00 or so. If  
25 we could do it, why it would be great, okay?

1           Are we ready? Flip a coin, let's do it. I  
2 believe she's on your payroll anyway, the  
3 stenographer.

4           MR. DANA PECK: Indeed.

5           For both commissions, thank you very much  
6 for your time. And for the audience both here  
7 and not here, thank you for a really orderly  
8 hearing. When you're the proponent in these  
9 kinds of situations, you don't come in expecting  
10 as good of couple of nights as we've had. And  
11 I'd just like to thank you for the way you ran  
12 the meetings.

13           And again, for the folks that are here and  
14 even for the folks that aren't, for the kindness  
15 and courtesy that we were shown as the proponent,  
16 that's really unusual. And staff's just been  
17 superb.

18           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

19           MR. DANA PECK: A very small point, a couple  
20 questions were raised about availability of  
21 reports. I think both we and the staff have done  
22 everything we could to make those available at  
23 the time they were submitted either to the County  
24 or to EFSEC, and we're trying to go the extra  
25 mile with the proposed Findings of Fact by

1 helping facilitate get that out electronically.

2 It's unfortunate that there's always someone  
3 who wanted to see something that they didn't know  
4 where to look. We sure tried to resolve that,  
5 and we're still working on it.

6 That said, while all the issues brought up  
7 were addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact  
8 Statement and various related analyses that are  
9 part of the record, I'll be briefly providing a  
10 summary of information on three topics that came  
11 up on Tuesday and Wednesday, and those are avian  
12 noise and scenic byway issues. I'm going to be  
13 submitting written reports, which I cleverly  
14 walked away without grabbing.

15 CHAIRMAN BOWEN: Can I get your name again,  
16 too, when I -

17 MR. DANA PECK: Yeah, sorry about that.  
18 Sorry about that. It has been a couple of  
19 nights. I'm Dana Peck, project manager for  
20 Horizon.

21 This is the -- I have a noise report from  
22 Mark Bastasch, who was here on Monday night; and  
23 I also have a brief wildlife response from Wally  
24 Erickson, who was here last night but it didn't  
25 quite suit himself to testify.

1           And then again, as we did on Monday, the  
2 closing remarks for Horizon Wind Energy will be  
3 handled by Erin Anderson.

4           On the WEST materials that I just submitted,  
5 which would be Tab 16 in the documents that we  
6 were all looking at on Monday night, Wally  
7 produced information to address some of the  
8 comments made by the Kittitas Audubon Society  
9 representative.

10           And for the record, Wally Erickson is widely  
11 recognized as one of the nation's leading experts  
12 on wind and wildlife interactions. He's the  
13 author of literally dozens of reports and peer  
14 review articles on the subject.

15           And to summarize his report, Wally states,  
16 "The studies conducted at the KV site were  
17 approved by the WDFW and were consistent with  
18 others in the region. These studies at the KV  
19 site do not indicate the area is a major  
20 migratory flyway, and estimates of raptor use of  
21 the site do not suggest raptor mortality will be  
22 significant. The references to the GAO" -- or  
23 General Accountability Office -- "report made by  
24 the" Audubon Society "representative were  
25 selective and out of context and do not

1 accurately reflect the conclusions of that  
2 report."

3 And the printed submission goes into that in  
4 considerably more detail, which I won't trouble  
5 you with on the abbreviated schedule.

6 On noise, I'm going to spend a little bit  
7 more time on that, because it was addressed  
8 several times in the course of the evening. I'm  
9 going to read from this very closely because this  
10 is not my area of expertise; I'm reporting what  
11 Mark said.

12 We asked Mark Bastasch of CH2, which is  
13 Tab 12, to clarify the noise analysis information  
14 presented in the Draft Environmental Impact  
15 Statement, the addendum, and the proposed  
16 Findings of Fact.

17 The basic point of Mark's report is -- this  
18 is taken right out of the printed report -- "The  
19 noise modeling and analysis conducted by the  
20 Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project" -- which was  
21 conducted using accepted and proved  
22 methodologies -- "demonstrates that the proposed  
23 project will, and indeed must, meet all  
24 applicable county and state regulatory  
25 requirements for noise."

1           Continuing from Mark's report -- a question  
2           was raised last night about how the sound  
3           modeling was performed, and there were repeated  
4           references to the 105 dBA figure in Mark's  
5           report. After explaining the distinction between  
6           sound pressure level, the measure used for noise  
7           which is always accompanied by distance from the  
8           sound source, and sound power level, which is  
9           used in the calculation of noise and the  
10          computation, Mark goes on to say, "...the sound  
11          power level 105.3 dBA was used in the model."  
12          That was sound power level.

13                 "There is often confusion about sound power  
14          level and sound pressure level as discussed  
15          above. Sound pressure level is what is measured  
16          with a meter...and is what you hear. The sound  
17          power level will always be a higher number than  
18          the sound pressure level that is measured. This  
19          is because sound power takes into account the  
20          size of the source. The sound power level of a  
21          turbine is not the sound level you would measure  
22          or hear immediately at the turbine. The noise  
23          level of the turbine will not be 105 dBA, it will  
24          be much less" -- and you heard those reports  
25          tonight -- "you are able to hold a conversation

1 at the base of turbines and OSHA does not require  
2 hearing protection for workers working outside of  
3 the turbine," which I think is pretty  
4 instructive in itself.

5 On the scenic byways issue, Horizon Wind's  
6 predecessor, Zilkha, always recognized the  
7 presence of established scenic byways in the  
8 vicinity of the project; and in fact, several  
9 years back, proactively reached out to the  
10 Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, Kittitas  
11 County cause, before the original project permit  
12 was even applied. After several meetings, the  
13 original project was modified to address their  
14 concerns, leading to the removal of the wind  
15 turbine generators from Lookout Mountain.

16 And as you can see from your record, that  
17 organization's not chosen to comment on the  
18 project in its current configuration.

19 With respect to Highway 10, while a plan is  
20 prepared by the advisory group, it's my  
21 understanding that it was never adopted by the  
22 County. In any case, the Scenic Byways  
23 legislation at RCW 47.39.069 labeled "Designation  
24 and Removal Criteria" clearly states under  
25 Section 2 that -- and I quote from the RCW --

1 "the criteria developed in Subsection 1 of this  
2 section must not impose nor require regulation of  
3 privately owned land or property rights."

4 On a personal note I was, among other  
5 things, tourism director of Klickitat County. We  
6 not only thought the wind farms, wind power  
7 projects would be a tourism draw; when the  
8 turbines that were there on an experimental  
9 basis -- and they were considered a highly  
10 successful experiment; they taught us not to  
11 build turbines like that. But the new ones don't  
12 work anything like the ones in Goldendale 20  
13 years ago.

14 There were a lot of people who came to the  
15 area. It's still a topic of conversation. The  
16 relatives came to see those turbines, but they  
17 never come over to Goldendale for any other  
18 reason. My wife, who's education curator at  
19 Maryhill museum, says that her predecessor  
20 validates that those same people came by the  
21 museum on their way home.

22 So the idea that these things are  
23 reflexively not good for tourism certainly wasn't  
24 proven out by the Klickitat County experience.

25 With those points made, I'd like to ask Erin

1 if she could prepare our closing remarks for us.

2 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: Would you mind if we  
3 ask you a couple questions?

4 MR. DANA PECK: Oh, sure, sure.

5 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Absolutely.

6 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: There was some  
7 discussion and confusion about whether or not  
8 this is a 1.5- or 3-megawatt turbine. Did you  
9 want to address that at all?

10 MR. DANA PECK: I think the confusion turns  
11 really more on a question of number of turbines.  
12 It's an evolving technology. As one of the  
13 previous people who mentioned, said 25 years ago  
14 they weren't as good, yep. Ten years ago they  
15 weren't as good. 18 months from now they'll be  
16 better than they are today.

17 The idea being that the basic technology has  
18 stabilized around a standard design, but they're  
19 finding out how to get more power out of that  
20 design on almost a quarter-to-quarter basis  
21 within the industry, and that's why we talk  
22 numbers of turbines and set strings at this stage  
23 of the game, because we don't really have an  
24 answer to what technology -- what unit for sure  
25 we're going to deploy.

1           But it'll certainly be within anything that  
2 we've reported in any of the Draft Environmental  
3 Impact Statement or related materials.

4           COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: There was some  
5 questions about the braking system and the noise  
6 that's created from the braking. Can you explain  
7 that?

8           MR. DANA PECK: Well, the braking system  
9 itself is used during maintenance cycles. The  
10 turbines in a high-wind regime, when wind becomes  
11 a survival issue for the machine, the blades of  
12 the turbine are really more analogous to airplane  
13 propeller blades. They literally yaw within  
14 their -- you know, I'm going to get jargon in  
15 here.

16           The turbine shuts itself down by feathering  
17 out the blade, not by putting on the brakes. The  
18 braking mechanism on the current generation of  
19 turbines and actually for about the last four  
20 generations existed to lock the thing down when  
21 somebody was going up to work on it. So there's  
22 not -- there's not some sort of a disk brake,  
23 jake break noise coming out of them in operation.

24           COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: And with respect to  
25 the federal subsidies or subsidies regarding

1 this, is that -- there was a lot of discussion  
2 about that being the thing that makes this  
3 project actually viable or makes it such a way  
4 that you can actually build this project. Did  
5 you want to address that?

6 MR. DANA PECK: Well, it certainly adds to  
7 the profitability of the process -- of the  
8 project. On the, on the subsidy as a percent of  
9 total energy subsidies, the previous person was  
10 right on the money; we get less than 3 percent of  
11 the national take of federally provided energy  
12 subsidies. It's not a, typically, make-it-or-  
13 break-it situation for wind power.

14 There was a time when it was. That time was  
15 when natural gas was a lot cheaper than it is  
16 today. We compete very successfully with natural  
17 gas.

18 There isn't a utility -- I used to be  
19 strategic manager for Pacific Power & Light.  
20 There isn't a utility company in the world that's  
21 going to go to a utility commission and say, Let  
22 us buy something that costs more than it's worth.

23 And in fact, the reason that utilities are  
24 going out into the market for more green power is  
25 because they've got customers that on one hand

1 will pay more for it, but for the rate-based  
2 customer who doesn't want to, it's still more  
3 cost-competitive than natural gas right now. And  
4 during your Wild Horse deliberations, I think the  
5 PSE representative went to great lengths to  
6 demonstrate why they're buying wind power. And  
7 it was price.

8 CHAIRMAN BLACK: You will have people  
9 available during our deliberation?

10 MR. DANA PECK: Certainly will.

11 CHAIRMAN BLACK: To answer these questions?

12 MR. DANA PECK: Certainly.

13 CHAIRMAN BLACK: I think maybe, if that's  
14 okay with you, Mark, I'd just as --

15 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: That's fine --

16 CHAIRMAN BLACK: -- Mr. McClain, I'd just as  
17 soon do that during the deliberation --

18 MR. DANA PECK: Okay, I'll -- and I'd  
19 like --

20 CHAIRMAN BLACK: -- and Ms. Anderson to  
21 finish up, and then we can continue this into the  
22 deliberation portion. We have a bunch of  
23 questions that we want to ask you at that time.

24 MR. DANA PECK: Happy to.

25 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you.

1 MS. ERIN ANDERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair,  
2 Board of County Commissioners; Mr. Chair,  
3 Kittitas County Planning Commission. It is late;  
4 I'm tired, I'm cold, I'm sure you are as well, so  
5 I'll try to make it brief.

6 Very quickly, I want to point out two points  
7 of correction quite quickly. Mr. Landreth's  
8 comments regarding the Draft Environmental Impact  
9 Statement, the DEIS, which has been kicked around  
10 for nearly four years, addressed all ranges and  
11 sizes in terms of height and number of turbine  
12 generators. So if you take the time to go back  
13 and read it, you'll find it. It's a lot of  
14 reading, and we do understand that it's a lot of  
15 reading.

16 I don't perceive us to be in haste. This  
17 has been a long process. We've been at this for  
18 years. I would encourage you to take the time to  
19 go through those materials. We're familiar with  
20 them because we've worked with them so long.

21 Insofar as setbacks, I would like to  
22 reiterate that 541-foot setback from the property  
23 line is what we will comply with under any  
24 scenario. That's what shows up in the  
25 development agreement and that's simply

1 mandatory. And you know that; you've been  
2 through this process before.

3 Insofar as technical reports on the new  
4 layout, they were provided to the County at the  
5 same time as they were delivered to EFSEC, and  
6 we'll get those out.

7 One follow-up to Mr. Peck's comments about  
8 scenic views, the actual statute that he was  
9 referring to is the Highway Advertising Control  
10 Act. It is not the Scenic View Protection Act;  
11 it is the Highway Advertising Control Act  
12 designed to deter billboards. So please don't  
13 get confused. I have that entire statute here  
14 for anybody that would like the citation I'm  
15 referencing.

16 EIS -- I'm trying to make this quick. And  
17 Louise, I will try to speak slowly and clearly  
18 but still make it fast.

19 The Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
20 received plenty of review from scoping on  
21 forward. This has been the most widely  
22 publicized project in Kittitas County since it  
23 hit the press years ago. Every year it makes the  
24 Daily Record's top ten list of the biggest issues  
25 in the valley. This year it was No. 1. So we've

1 all been kicking it around for a long time.

2 Draft Environmental Impact Statements, as  
3 you know, cover a range, always cover a range of  
4 events. You know that because we went through  
5 this in Suncadia years and years ago. They had a  
6 proposed range, they had a proposed impact level.  
7 There are preferred and less-preferred  
8 alternatives. You know this stuff.

9 I understand that people get confused when  
10 they say is it this or is it this or is it this.  
11 But what we also know is we're requesting a  
12 maximum megahertz -- or I'm sorry, megawatts, a  
13 maximum number. And within those confines you  
14 work, much as you did in Suncadia, much as we did  
15 at Wild Horse. That's nothing new.

16 Insofar as what these three nights have  
17 turned into appears to be a referendum on what is  
18 the future policy of land use in Kittitas County.  
19 Is it residential, is it going to be wind power.  
20 Folks, you can't make that decision in this  
21 process. You cannot say, We now prefer  
22 residential over an already existing Comp Plan  
23 designation and a zoning use.

24 But you all know what I do for a living.  
25 I'm a land use and municipal lawyer. My

1 responsibility is to watch the land use laws and  
2 how to deliver services to the public.

3 I keep hearing that we want to preserve this  
4 property for residences. Let me tell you what  
5 we're seeing trend-wise, is rezones to five  
6 acres. As a land use lawyer, I know how to get  
7 all of those approved without going through  
8 environmental review in this county. And when I  
9 get to the end of my summation, I'm going to  
10 start pointing out where it's already happening  
11 in this county.

12 But I want to talk about the consequences of  
13 that, because apparently there is some sense that  
14 we must choose that over an alternate energy  
15 source. Rezoning to five acres on 6000 acres,  
16 five-acre parcels, for 6000 acres of this  
17 project, by my math -- and I double-checked it,  
18 because I'm not a mathematician -- yields 1200  
19 new homes. Just in this one spot. 1200 new  
20 homes.

21 That is 1200 new lights in the night sky  
22 that I see from my house every night. Not 16 on  
23 turbines but 1200 porch lights, sodium vapor  
24 lights, whatever they are. It yields generators,  
25 it yields barbecues -- and barbecues actually

1 start fires. People and cigarettes and children  
2 start fires. This is a woody area. The biggest  
3 cause of fires isn't turbines; it's us.

4 More concern to me, that's 1200 new straws  
5 in the aquifer. Because each of them is going to  
6 be served by a well because there is no potable  
7 drinking water delivery system there.

8 Likewise you get 1200 new septic tanks on  
9 this hilly property. When you clear hilly  
10 property, you do it so that you can build a house  
11 and an apron for parking and garage. You then  
12 remove some of the material that holds the soil  
13 in place on this woody property.

14 So what you're going to have is 1200 new  
15 homes with a lot of impervious surface, septic  
16 systems on 1200 homes, and there's no storm water  
17 management system out there.

18 You get traffic, you get police, emergency  
19 medical services. Fire protection. These kids  
20 show up at the schools. It is unrefuted in the  
21 record -- and I think it is true; we've been  
22 through this before as well -- residential does  
23 not pay for itself. For every dollar of taxes  
24 they generate, they take 1.25 in services.

25 This is just 6000 acres. That whole

1 hillside is going to become a huge burden. And I  
2 heard people saying, Put it up on the hills so we  
3 don't ruin the valley floor. That's not the  
4 right answer. We don't put sprawl up on the  
5 hills so we don't have to look at it in the  
6 valley.

7 And that's not what our code says and that's  
8 not what your Comprehensive Plan says. What your  
9 Comprehensive Plan says is preserve these natural  
10 uses, natural resources' already predominant use.

11 Unfortunately this has seemed to turn into  
12 some kind of referendum. Do we want to promote  
13 rampant sprawl or do we want to put a small  
14 portion of that land -- because 6000 acres  
15 certainly is a lot to any of us, I'm sure, but on  
16 that hillside it's not a huge amount. I don't  
17 think you have to look at this as a either/or  
18 kind of thing.

19 Briefly, to address concerns that people  
20 expressed regarding who's going to run this in  
21 the future, we don't know who's going to run this  
22 in the future. You know how to -- actually  
23 Kittitas Country does a very sophisticated job of  
24 negotiating assignability so that there are  
25 criteria to review before an approved operation

1 gets handed over to somebody else.

2 And we've most recently seen that with  
3 Suncadia, who has been through the transition --  
4 the first I ran into them, they were Trend West,  
5 then they were Mountain Star, and now they are  
6 Suncadia, which is actually a joint venture  
7 between between Jeld-Wen and Lowe Enterprises  
8 under the mantra of Easton Ridge, LLC. So we  
9 know how to do that. That's what you use a  
10 development agreement for, to fix these things  
11 down, to screw them down so that there isn't that  
12 question from the public.

13 How do we know that you're going to get  
14 somebody good to run this? You do a very good  
15 job of that. You've used general counsel in the  
16 past, you've dealt with PSE on this.

17 Same with financial protection. There are  
18 indemnity provisions. I've -- Kittitas County's  
19 pretty tough on developers on these kinds of  
20 things.

21 Decommissioning, likewise. There are all  
22 sorts of requirements, bonding, letters of  
23 credit, guaranty. You've used those in Suncadia,  
24 you've used them at Wild Horse. You guys know  
25 how to do this.

1           Specifically, I would direct your attention  
2           to decomm at Section 6 of the Draft Development  
3           Agreement, financial protection at Section 13,  
4           and assignment in Section 10. I know you've  
5           dealt with all of this before.

6           I would encourage you not to make this  
7           decision as banking on the future use, which is  
8           residential sprawl that is not compatible with  
9           your current Comprehensive Plan and your current  
10          zone. If that is this county's desire, there's a  
11          process for that. This is not it.

12          This applicant and the participating  
13          property owners have every legal right to ask  
14          that this application be processed in accordance  
15          with the law as it reads. And I ask you to do  
16          that.

17          For 30 seconds, I'm also Erin Anderson, not  
18          at 105 East First Street in Cle Elum and 200 East  
19          Third Street here in Ellensburg, but I'm also at  
20          360 Willowbook Lane here in the county, a private  
21          citizen. I'm the last house in the flight path.  
22          It is incredibly noisy. I built my house there  
23          on purpose. To me that's the sound of freedom.  
24          I choose to live there. I love being near the  
25          airport. My children are learning to fly there

1 already. Those are lifestyle choices.

2 I also situated my house to face the Stuart  
3 range and to face this project, knowing it was  
4 coming. This project came before I went there.  
5 Those are personal, subjective choices.

6 One of the messages I would hope that you  
7 all come away with here is it is a beautiful  
8 valley. We all think our home is beautiful. The  
9 stars still fall in Alabama; they love Alabama,  
10 whether I want to be there or not and would  
11 rather have them handle my energy problems.

12 The Sunshine State in Florida; they -- we  
13 all wrap ourselves in the mantra of home. But we  
14 are members of a bigger community. That is the  
15 United States of America, and we're all  
16 Americans. It's not fair to say, We're more  
17 important so put it over there.

18 And folks, there is a price to everything.  
19 We just watched this play out on CNN. Coal  
20 mining takes lives; it takes lots of lives. It  
21 takes people in the prime of their life.  
22 Appalachia is beautiful. We watch the scenes of  
23 the coal mines and the conveyer belts, and those  
24 people love that. And it costs them their lives  
25 to pursue that living so that they could fuel

1           this nation.

2           Nuclear. I get nuked for saying the "N"  
3 word. We don't even talk about nuclear.

4           Oil. Our kids are dying in Iraq for oil.  
5 We're all going to pay the price on delivering  
6 energy to the biggest consumptive beast this  
7 planet has ever known, and that is this culture  
8 of America. Whether it is dying through mining.  
9 The nuclear word. Frankly, I don't want to have  
10 to take my kids down to Selective Service and  
11 register them and see them go over to Iraq and  
12 die for this.

13           This society will pay this price, and it's a  
14 burden we should all share. None of us are  
15 better than the rest. We should all be treated  
16 fairly and equally under the law.

17           It's tough. It's a tough call. I do trust  
18 you to do the right thing, and I thank you for  
19 the many, many hours and the courtesy that you've  
20 shown. And also the courtesy of the  
21 participants; because it's been testy and hard on  
22 all of us. And the staff, who's been with us  
23 every inch of the way. So thank you very much.

24           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Thank you. With that --

25           MS. ERIN ANDERSON: Can I sit down? Thanks.

1 CHAIRMAN BLACK: With that, I believe that  
2 we have completed the, the public testimony  
3 portion. And we will go into a continuation for  
4 the deliberation. And we are looking at --  
5 correct me if I'm wrong -- maybe the 25th of  
6 January? That's a Wednesday. 25th of --

7 MR. DANA PECK: We all have a conflict.

8 CHAIRMAN BLACK: You have a conflict?

9 MR. DANA PECK: We have a conflict.

10 CHAIRMAN BLACK: When don't you have a  
11 conflict? Because we really -- I would encourage  
12 the Planning Commission all to sit down and go  
13 through the questions and write their own  
14 questions and come up with some questions for  
15 you.

16 So we really -- I believe in order to do a  
17 fair job on this, we really need you to be  
18 available.

19 MR. DANA PECK: The 25th or the 27th is the  
20 one time that we couldn't commit to right now.

21 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: Could we do it the  
22 day of our regular Planning Commission meeting?

23 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Our regular Planning  
24 Commission looks like the agenda is a two-day  
25 agenda to start with, so it's the 23rd and 24th,

1 probably. I was looking for the 25th to be the  
2 best time, but we can go into the following week?

3 MR. PIERCY: What I might suggest,  
4 Mr. Chairman, is that we could conduct your  
5 normal agenda business on the 24th and carry into  
6 deliberations on that night. We probably have  
7 several hours available prior to the ten o'clock  
8 hour, if that would be something that you would  
9 have an interest in. And then that could be  
10 continued to a further date from that point if  
11 you would like.

12 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Okay. I think that's  
13 probably --

14 The regular agenda will take us into the  
15 24th; is that correct?

16 MR. PIERCY: We believe, based on what we  
17 see as the action items for you to consider, the  
18 agenda will take you into the 24th, but we also  
19 believe that you will have additional time  
20 available on the 24th prior to 10:00 p.m.

21 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Okay, that would be fine.  
22 And then if we needed to continue that, we could  
23 continue it to the 25th, because we probably  
24 wouldn't need -- most of our questions would be  
25 answered, I believe, for the --

1 MR. PIERCY: Or at that point you could  
2 continue it to the next week, with the  
3 opportunity for additional preparation and  
4 deliberation of the information heard.

5 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Mr. Peck?

6 MR. DANA PECK: The afternoon of the 24th is  
7 our travel day.

8 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Oh, okay.

9 (A discussion was held off the record.)

10 MR. PIERCY: So it sounds like the week of  
11 the 30th would be the first available date.

12 MR. DANA PECK: That would sure be ideal,  
13 because -- or next week.

14 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Next week's out. We need  
15 to -- we have reams and reams and reams of paper.  
16 If we don't go through them -- we need to go  
17 through that material and read it, develop some  
18 questions, and get back to you.

19 I think my recommendation, if it's okay with  
20 the Planning Commission, would be that we do it  
21 the Monday the week of the 30th and...

22 MR. DANA PECK: I'm sorry to express that  
23 kind of inflexibility, but it's the guys who sign  
24 our paychecks that --

25 CHAIRMAN BLACK: You're pretty inflexible.

1           MR. PIERCY: Then that would be Monday,  
2           January 30th?

3           MR. DANA PECK: That would be, yes.

4           CHAIRMAN BLACK: Does that work for  
5           everyone?

6           MR. DANA PECK: Again, my apologies for  
7           our -- for our not being able to be flexible in  
8           the dates.

9           CHAIRMAN BLACK: That gives us an extra day  
10          and a half to read this stuff, so that's fine.

11          And will it be here?

12          MR. PIERCY: We will obtain a location at  
13          the fairgrounds, so you can make it site-specific  
14          and time-specific in terms of your continuation.

15          CHAIRMAN BLACK: Because we've got quite a  
16          few questions from the audience that we would  
17          like to get some answers, and we'd like to get  
18          back to the audience, if at all possible, so.

19          MR. PIERCY: Yes.

20          CHAIRMAN BLACK: I would entertain a motion  
21          that we continue this public hearing to this  
22          location on November -- excuse me, January 30th,  
23          2006.

24          COMMISSIONER CLARK: I so move.

25          CHAIRMAN BLACK: Let's do it at 6:30.

1 MR. PIERCY: 6:30 would be fine.

2 CHAIRMAN BLACK: All in favor --

3 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: I'll second that.

4 CHAIRMAN BLACK: Moved and seconded that we  
5 hold this -- continue this public hearing to  
6 January 30th, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. in this  
7 building.

8 All in favor?

9 COMMISSIONER HARRIS: Aye.

10 COMMISSIONER McCLAIN: Aye.

11 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Aye.

12 COMMISSIONER WILLIAMSON: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN BLACK: I vote aye also.

14 With that, we'll turn it back to  
15 Commissioner -- or excuse me, Chairman Bowen.

16 CHAIRMAN BOWEN: Thank you, Chairman Black.

17 Just for clarification, for those -- I think  
18 in the -- earlier in the record we had indicated  
19 we'd continue to receive testimony through  
20 tomorrow at 5:00. Is that understood by staff?

21 MR. PIERCY: That is understood,  
22 Mr. Chairman.

23 CHAIRMAN BOWEN: Thank you. Gentlemen, what  
24 I was thinking for us is to continue this  
25 probably to our February 7 agenda, to get an

1 update from staff on where the Planning  
2 Commission is. And I'm not exactly sure where  
3 the record would be. Would it be open or at this  
4 point closed to public testimony? So I'm going  
5 to ask for some guidance.

6 COMMISSIONER HUSTON: What I'd suggest,  
7 Mr. Chairman, is that we go ahead and continue  
8 this to February 7th but make sure it's  
9 understood it's for the sole and express purpose  
10 to determine where the Planning Commission is in  
11 terms of their deliberation and our discussion is  
12 restricted only to the determination -- in fact,  
13 we can reach out and pick a date by which we will  
14 begin our own accumulation of the open record.  
15 Because we will make an open record here.

16 And so -- and the reason I make that very  
17 specific observation is that I don't want the  
18 public, or anyone else, for that matter, to  
19 believe there'll be anything else happen on  
20 February 7th. It will strictly be for us to talk  
21 about if in fact we have enough information in  
22 front of us to do so when we begin our series of  
23 hearings.

24 CHAIRMAN BOWEN: Great, that was my  
25 intention. Is that a motion?

1           COMMISSIONER HUSTON: I move to continue  
2 this public hearing to February 7, 2:00 p.m. in  
3 the commissioners auditorium.

4           CHAIRMAN BOWEN: Is there a second?

5           COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH: Second.

6           CHAIRMAN BOWEN: It's been moved and  
7 seconded to continue this public hearing to  
8 February 7, 2:00 p.m., in the commissioners  
9 auditorium.

10           Any discussion to the motion?

11           Hearing none, all those in favor indicate by  
12 saying aye.

13           COMMISSIONER CRANKOVICH: Aye.

14           COMMISSIONER HUSTON: Aye.

15           CHAIRMAN BOWEN: I too will vote aye, and  
16 the motion carries.

17           Thank you all.

18                         (The proceeding was adjourned at  
19                         11:23 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF WASHINGTON )  
 ) SS.  
COUNTY OF YAKIMA )

This is to certify that I, Louise Raelene Bell, Certified Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Washington, residing at Yakima, reported the within and foregoing hearing; said hearing being taken before me as a Notary Public on the date herein set forth; that said hearing was taken by me in shorthand and thereafter under my supervision transcribed, and that same is a full, true and correct record of the hearing.

I further certify that I am not a relative or employee or attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I financially interested in the outcome of the cause.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
LOUISE RAELENE BELL, CCR  
CCR No. 2676  
Notary Public in and for the  
State of Washington, residing at  
Yakima. My commission expires  
July 19, 2007.