

BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the Matter of Application No. 2001-02

Starbuck Power Company, LLC

Starbuck Power Project

Notice of Application for Site Certification;

Notice of Public Information Meetings; and

Notice of Scoping Meetings Under the State
and National Environmental Policy Acts.

On August 27, 2001, Starbuck Power Company LLC submitted an application to the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) to construct and operate the Starbuck Power Project, a 1,200-megawatt natural gas-fired combustion turbine electrical generation facility. Associated with the CT will be an approximately 16-mile electrical transmission line and a 1,200-foot natural gas pipeline. The proposed Starbuck Power Project will be located within Columbia County, approximately six miles northwest of the Town of Starbuck.

EFSEC has taken lead agency status under WAC 173-11-938 [State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Rules] for the environmental review of the combustion turbine facility. The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is the lead agency for the transmission line and natural gas pipeline that are under federal jurisdiction. EFSEC and BPA will be preparing a joint environmental impact statement (EIS) for this project. When siting a new energy facility, EFSEC is required to hold a public information meeting in the county in which a project is located. At that meeting, the applicant will present a description of the project, reasons why the proposed site or location was selected, and a short summary of anticipated environmental, social, and economic impacts. The Council staff will describe the state's siting process. A short presentation will also be made by the Counsel for the Environment, a Washington State Assistant Attorney General who represents the citizens of Washington State before EFSEC. In addition, BPA staff will be present to explain the federal review process for the gas pipeline and the transmission line.

EFSEC will hold a public information and scoping meeting pursuant to the National and State Environmental Policy Acts on October 3, 2001. The meeting will be held at the Starbuck Public School, 717 Tucannon Street, Starbuck, Washington. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. with an Open House, followed at 7:00 p.m. with an informal information presentation and a formal scoping meeting pursuant to the requirements of the State and Federal Environmental Policy Acts.

During the scoping meeting, members of the public may provide suggestions and comments regarding issues to be addressed in the environmental impact statement. The issues identified in the scoping process will be taken into account during the preparation of the environmental impact statement about the project and the associated natural gas pipeline and electrical transmission line.

The general public will be able to speak to members of the Council, the Council's independent consultant, and both EFSEC and BPA staff during these meetings. Written comments relating to the proposed project will also be accepted at the meeting. In addition to these public meetings, there will be other opportunities for public comment at future public meetings. Comments may also be submitted via facsimile by using the following number: (360) 956-2158, or by e-mail to efsec@ep.cted.wa.gov. Comments concerning the scope of analysis in the EIS must be received in the Council office by 5:00 p.m. on October 5, 2001.

If you require additional information, special assistance, the assistance of a translator, or auxiliary aids to participate in the meeting, please contact Mariah Laamb, EFSEC Secretary, at (360) 956-2121 as soon as possible. For TDD, call (360) 586-4224.

Dated at Olympia, Washington this 14th day of September 2001.

Washington State Energy Facility Site
Evaluation Council

By: _____/s/_____
Allen J. Fiksdal
EFSEC Manager