

1 BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
2 ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
3

4 In the Matter of Application No. 2004-01:
5 WIND RIDGE POWER PARTNERS, LLC;
6 WILD HORSE WIND POWER PROJECT
7
8

DECLARATION OF CHRIS TAYLOR IN
OPPOSITION TO THE INTERVENTION
REQUEST OF F. STEVEN LATHROP

9 I, CHRIS TAYLOR hereby declare as follows:

- 10 1. My name is Chris Taylor and my business address is 210 SW Morrison. Suite 310, Portland,
11 Oregon 97204.
- 12 2. I am employed by Zilkha Renewable Energy, and my position is Project Development Manager,
13 and I am responsible for development for the Wild Horse Wind Power Project. Specifically,
14 I am responsible for permitting and land use issues including managing experts and
15 consultants and interacting with local, state and federal agencies and other interested parties.
- 16 3. I am familiar with all aspects of the project.
- 17 4. In the Petition for Intervention of F Steven Lathrop, he made the following statements:
- 18 a. He was “very familiar” with the Project area.
- 19 b. Most of the Project area will be visible from his residence.
- 20 c. He and his family own agricultural property within the county, which will be
21 directly affected by the Project.
- 22 d. The project could set a precedent for future wind power projects in Kittitas
23 County and directly affect his property values.
- 24 5. Most of the Project area cannot be seen from his property. The majority of the proposed
25 wind turbines lie north and east of Whiskey Dick Mountain and below the ridgeline created

DECLARATION OF CHRIS TAYLOR

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1 by the mountain. A site layout of the Project is attached hereto as Exhibit 1, and
2 incorporated by reference herein as if fully set out.

3 6. The Project boundary is 19 miles distant from the boundary of closest owned by Lathrop in
4 the County. A map, based on County assessor records was prepared at my direction,
5 showing the distance between his closest property to the site, and the site, and is attached
6 hereto as Exhibit 2 and incorporated by reference herein as if fully set out.

7 7. F. Steven Lathrop has alleged that the Project would be visible from his property, and that
8 somehow such visibility would significantly affect him. However the visual simulation
9 attached as Exhibit 1, to the Declaration of Arne Nielsen in Opposition to Intervention
10 Request of F. Steven Lathrop, shows that the turbines are at most barely discernible from his
11 property on a clear day.

12 8. As set out in the EFSEC DEIS at page 3.9.10 the permanent footprint of the Project will
13 remove only approximately 165 acres from open space and grazing uses for the life of the
14 Project. The remaining 8,400 acres within the Project boundary will remain undeveloped,
15 and may or may not allow grazing. At a maximum, the removal of approximately 8,600 acres
16 of land from the approximately 445,000 acres of pasture or unimproved grazing land in
17 Kittitas County would represent a reduction of 1.9%. The potential cumulative impact from
18 all three proposed wind power projects in the County would also be diminimus. The EFSEC
19 DEIS at page at page 1-74 establishes that the all three of the proposed wind power projects
20 would be located on approximately 17,966 acres land used primarily for agricultural
21 purposes which would represent only 4% of the Forest and Range-zoned land in the County.
22 Further the existing agricultural uses would not be displaced, and only 330 acres of
23 agricultural land would be converted to non-agricultural use. It is beyond reason that the
24 Project would adversely affect agricultural land in the county.

1 9. The EFSEC DEIS in Section 2.6 establishes that there are no other reasonably developable
2 wind power facility sites in the County other than the three already proposed and analyzed,
3 and that any further development in the County is highly unlikely. The statements of F.
4 Steven Lathrop regarding concern for potential precedent from the siting of the project is
5 highly speculative and without basis.
6

7 I CERTIFY UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF
8 WASHINGTON THAT THE FOREGOING STATEMENT IS TRUE
9 AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE.
10

11 Dated this ____ day of _____, 2004.

12 _____
13 CHRIS TAYLOR
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