BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the matter of:
Application No. 2003-01
SAGEBRUSH POWER PARTNERS, LLC,
KITTITAS VALLEY WIND POWER PROJECT

Public Comment Meeting           Pages 1 - 60

A public meeting in the above matter was held in the presence of a court reporter on September 20, 2006, at 7:00 p.m., at Kittitas County Fairgrounds, 512 North Poplar Street, Home Arts Building, in Ellensburg, Washington before Energy Facility Site Evaluation Councilmembers.

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JUDGE TOREM: Good evening. We're going to come to order here for the second of three public hearings in the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project adjudication conducted by the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council for the State of Washington.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you.

JUDGE TOREM: We're going to fix that. My name is Adam Torem. I'm an Administrative Law Judge for the State of Washington Office of Administrative Hearings and I was saying today is Wednesday night, September 20. It's a little after seven o'clock. We're at the fairgrounds in Ellensburg, Washington to conduct the second of a total of three public comments hearings that are being held in conjunction with the EFSEC adjudication
for the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project.

I don't know where the handouts are for tonight or what color they are, but they should be explaining that this is a public comment meeting and this is not a time when the Council's going to interact much with the folks here except to listen.

So at the last day of the adjudication itself we're hearing expert testimony and we don't have an opportunity for comment which will be tomorrow in the adjacent building. We have three witnesses scheduled in the morning and the adjudication should come to basically a close. There may be one or two exceptional items to be taken care of on the telephone next week.

Tonight though we've asked you to sign up. You will each have three minutes to speak. The microphone is directly in front of me and Mr. Allen Fiksdal who's trying to play magician of with the microphone and the sound system has the fancy cards to tell you how much time you have left. He'll be sitting immediately to your left and my right and be indicating the time as it elapses.

Tonight I anticipate we're probably going to have more than 30 some people signed up. We have another night of public testimony scheduled for tomorrow night same time.

Last Tuesday at South Seattle Community
College we had 36 people testify and it took us to shortly before nine o'clock. My Councilmembers have asked me not to allow us to go past ten o'clock tonight so they can get the rest they need. So if we have over 50 people tonight, I don't think we'll be able to get anymore than that in, and EFSEC staff by the doors have been advised as to approximately how many will fit. If we get more than 50, they'll be telling you.

There are some people already signed up for tomorrow night. So if you know you want to speak, but you want to wait and hold your thoughts until you've heard more of your friends and countrymen here in Ellensburg, you can sign up for tomorrow night in advance. Just please make sure you show up so that if we call your name wherever it is on the list tomorrow if you're not around you're going to miss your turn.

If you've already spoken in Seattle, we're trying our best to monitor the list, and you have some that are good at names, some that are good at faces; so we're only giving one shot at testimony.

If you're looking for information about the project and somehow over the last two or three years you don't have it yet, there are probably folks from the Applicant here that can make any information available, but this is not an information session where we give
information to you. It's exactly the opposite. You give information to us.

I want to go down the list here and point out all the folks and have them sort of wave as who they are and what their purpose is here on the Council, essentially name and what state agency they represent. So to my immediate right, the Chairman, Mr. Jim Luce. To his right is the Utilities and Transportation Commission, Tim Sweeney. Further down the Department of Ecology is Hedia Adelsman and on the far right is Kittitas County's representative Patti Johnson. To my immediate left is Chris Smith Towne from Fish and Wildlife. To her left is Judy Wilson from the Department of Natural Resources, and Mr. Dick Fryhling from Community, Trade, and Economic Development.

You can see we have a court reporter at the far end of the table, and if we do look like we're going to go past nine o'clock tonight, I probably will be taking a break at 8:30. So we'll try to go off the record for a short period of time. With a gathering of this size it's a little bit hard to get everybody back in their seats. So I'll have a five minute break knowing it will turn to ten. That will give our court reporter the break she needs. If we choose to take one tonight, it will be at around 8:30, and we'll try to be back on with testimony at
around 8:40. Just so you know if we do take a break and you want to see where you are on the list be timing it from there.

If you want to submit your testimony in writing because perhaps you thought you would have longer than three minutes, I think in the past we made that four or five minutes at these public hearings, but because of the number of people and to keep it at a reasonable time we've cut it down to three minutes. That's what we did last week and we're going to stick with that tonight and tomorrow. You can certainly hand Mr. Fiksdal your written comments.

If you choose make written comments after hearing the other public comments tonight and tomorrow, you can send that into EFSEC. There should be some white public comment forms that you could use or you can simply e-mail those in, get that information from other EFSEC staff by the door, and as long as you get that in a week from Friday, September 29, it will be read and considered by all these fine folks that are making the decision on this project.

The record is replete with comment already and if you add yours to it, I assure you they are reading these items and taking them seriously and getting a good feel for what the public wants EFSEC to do.
I think I've covered all the preliminaries that I possibly can before I start listening to you folks tonight. So what I'm going to do is ask the first couple of people to make their way closer. If you know you're going to be called up in the first three or four, just immediately start coming up when the next person is finishing so we can take the dead time out as much as we can.

The first three speakers tonight are going to be Lee Bates, then it will be David Crane, and then Helen Wise. She'll be followed by Henry Yoder. Again, once we ask you to start speaking, Mr. Fiksdal has the stop watch and will be keeping track. I'll ask you to state your name and your address and then give us your comment.

Mr. Fiksdal, are you ready?

MR. FIKSDAL: Yes.

JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Bates.

COMMENTS BY LEE BATES

My name is Lee Bates, 1509 Brick Road, Ellensburg and I represent myself. I do not feel the wind farm developer has been honest in their wind farm presentation for the following reasons:

The wind farm developer hides the fact all the new turbines will be 410 feet tall (see the DEIS).

The wind farm developer has not come out to the public
with information on which turbine configuration they have selected. The noise levels estimated in the DEIS Table 3.12-5 shows the estimator used the turbine hub height of 67 meters or 221 feet, which is for the smaller turbines and not the 410 high turbines they want to build for this project. If you're going to make accurate noise estimates you need to use the same size turbine in the project, not a smaller turbine.

I feel that only Kittitas County should decide on the wind farm not EFSEC.

Any questions?

JUDGE TOREM: You made yourself clear, Mr. Bates. Thank you.

Next speaker is David Crane.

COMMENTS BY DAVID CRANE

David Crane, 1201 Vista road, Ellensburg, Washington. I have a written statement here, but I believe after listening to the objections to the wind farms over several months that the objections are baseless and silly, and I have spent many hours talking to people. I believe after going to more than 150 houses that the huge majority in Ellensburg support this project. I think that the permitting process is too long and cumbersome. I believe that the people, the Zilkha people and the Horizon people, have been courteous, factual, and very patient,
and I think that they're very professional. I believe that it's not reasonable to object to this on the basis of many of the ideas that have been presented. I've written them out in a statement here. I do believe that if we use the logic that is being used against these wind farms, that we would not have Grand Coulee Dam or any of the other dams, and there are some people now who advocate breaching dams to save the fish. And I think when a person's buys a piece of property there is no guarantee that the surroundings will always stay the same. Our area is growing. Some things better. We like the old. The reality is, however, that progress happens, and I think it would be in the favor of all of us here to approve the siting. Those who are opposed will likely recover and our whole community will greatly benefit.

We opted out of the power facility below Vantage, the Wanapum Dam, and it went to Grant County. We bought into WPPSS which was a fiasco. With all due respect it seems that in both cases the decisions were faulty. Let us get it right this time. Either we want clean renewable energy or we don't. If we want wind power, we need to build where the wind is the most ideal and stop caving into lame objections.

We don't build dams in the desert. We don't build roads and railroads around houses. We move the
houses. Here no one is being forced to move. Being
offended or inconvenienced is not the same as being
harmed. Approving this project will benefit even those
who oppose it. I think it's time to make a wise decision
here. And it will help us all out with a tax reduction
and help our facilities, our schools, our fire, and roads,
and this would be a huge benefit to all of us. Thank you
very much.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Mr. Crane. If you
will give a copy of your written statement to EFSEC staff,
that will also be considered in the record.

Next is Helen Wise and while she's making
her way up, I'll ask that Henry Yoder, Ginger Morrison,
and Tom Morrison each get ready to speak.

Mr. Knudson, you make a fine microphone
stand.

Ms. Wise, go ahead.

MS. WISE: My name is Helen Wise.

JUDGE TOREM: You'll have to speak up,
ma'am.

COMMENTS BY HELEN WISE

My name is still Helen Wise. I live at 1106
East Third Avenue here in Ellensburg. Having spent the
last six weeks undergoing two surgeries and in the
beginning of rehabilitation, I have been unable to focus
on new writings to present to you. So please accept
copies of a couple of articles that I've written before
that give the strong reasons for overriding the County
Commissioner's denial of the project, and they are
relevant to this hearing.

From my observations, from countless
hearings and letters and articles in the Daily Record,
many of the opponents are self-centered and short-sighted.
Most of the most vocal opponents are those who have
purchased land overlooking our valley assuming that the
valley is there for their domain. Their arrogance may or
may not be encouraged by realtors, but it seems to be
quite spontaneous.

The Planning Commission seems to agree with
this perspective. During the Planning Commission's
January 30 meeting at which the decision to recommend
denial the KVWPP applications Commissioner Martin McClain
referred to the testimony of Roger Weaver representing the
realtors as the most relevant to the decision apparently
to the exclusion of other concerns.

The Planning Commission's document is the
findings of fact which support their recommendation to
deny the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project in its
entirety. The first seven principal findings are about
the process. Finding No. 8, the Applicant has failed to
demonstrate that the proposal is essential or desirable to the public convenience. Testimony was given very clearly about the greatly increasing demand for electricity locally as well as regionally, but it seems to have been ignored.

I suspect the public will be inconvenienced when demands for electricity cannot be met. It is interesting to note that the electricity for public use has not been generated in the valley since 1951 when the City Light Power Plant on the Yakima River was shut down. Obviously, we have been using electricity that wasn't ours for over 50 years.

Truly it is essential and desirable now and in the future to generate electricity in Kittitas County. Finding No. 9 proposal is detrimental and injurious to the public health.

JUDGE TOREM: It goes by pretty quick, Ms. Wise, but I know that you've got some written comments for us. Give those to EFSEC staff. They'll become part of the record. Thank you for coming tonight.

MS. WISE: Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Yoder to be followed by Ginger Morrison, Tom Morrison, and then Bertha Morrison.

MR. YODER: That is Henry.

JUDGE TOREM: Henry, I'm sorry.
MR. YODER: I know it's well scribbled.

COMMENTS BY HENRY YODER

My name is Henry Yoder, 1201 Vista Road, Ellensburg, Washington. Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight. I favor the wind farms and believe them to be a vital addition to our energy resources. I fervently hope you find favorably to have the project approved.

Further, in that finding I hope fervently that you will restore many of the turbines that have been caused to be taken out. I think that the garbage that Horizon has had to go through because of our County Commissioners they should be reimbursed by being able to build these additional towers, turbines.

I obtained a transcript of all the hearings since January 10 of 2006 regarding the Horizon Energy Company and the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project. In reading them there have been a few recurrent themes that have been harped on. I went through the January 10 hearing transcript and part of the 11th before I became too jaded by the misstatements, exaggerations, and misrepresentations and one was made here already tonight by Mr. Lee Bates. He says these towers are 400 feet tall. They are not. They are 363 feet tall. They are 410 with the turbine blades in its upright position. This is one of the themes that have been harped and harped and harped,
the height of the turbines, and they have misrepresented it and everybody is beginning to believe it because of the consistent, constant harping.

I was so irate I began to write out the opposition statements and, boy, I believe them to be fallacious. Near the middle of the January 11 transcript I could no longer maintain my ability to do so and I had to stop. But since these are already transcripts that you've got, I am only excerpting them, filled in what I believe them to be fallacious and I would like to turn them in to this committee tonight. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Mr. Yoder.

All right. I'm going to ask that folks when they come up please again spell their last name for the court reporter. I believe this will be Ginger Morrison.

MS. MORRISON: That's correct.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, ma'am.

COMMENTS BY GINGER MORRISON

My name is Ginger Morrison. I reside at 41512 North Sherman Road in Deer Park, Washington.

I was a resident of Kittitas County for over 37 years, and my family owns over 1,500 acres here today. I am very much in favor of the wind turbines. I have been at most of the hearings that have gone on. My husband and I decided in early 2000 when someone came to him about
putting wind turbines in Kittitas County that we needed to do a little homework on our own. So we went down to the Nine Mile Project and the amazing thing to us is when we drove there and all those hundreds of turbines are around. We got out of the car and we stood there and he looked at me and goes, "Listen." I said, "I don't hear anything." He said, "Exactly." So there has been a lot of exaggeration that has gone on about the wind turbines, and we have seen wind turbines all over the western part of the United States different times, with being California, Utah, Wyoming, Montana.

Tonight I brought some very vital information that does not pertain to Kittitas County, but I felt was very important for EFSEC to take a look at. Number one, this was published in Denver, August 1, 2006, the headlines read this: Vale Resorts chooses wind power for 100 percent of the electricity use. It becomes second largest corporate wind power purchaser in U.S. There's a lot of information there. I will hand that over.

The other one comes from Health Links which is a linking to health and environment. It's the pros and cons, myths and misconceptions of wind turbines, and it goes on in talking about the bird kill which I find very interesting. It says a two-year project where over 7,000 turbines were involved only 182 dead birds were found. I
know that's been a subject that's been brought up a lot. There's a lot of other interesting things in that article. Thank you.

The other one deals with Green Power News in Boulder, Colorado and using green power in the community, and I also have some other renewable energy information that comes from the Office of State Deputy Comptroller in the City of New York as they are using it there.

And, lastly, is, again, like I said, I live in Deer Park, Washington and our Inland Power News just came out this week with Inland Power introduces green power plus. It's very interesting and the fact thing is one of the places that the power will be purchased from is the State Line Project in Walla Walla County, Washington. Thank you very much for your time.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, ma'am.

Next is Tom Morrison.

COMMENTS BY TOM MORRISON

Tom Morrison, 41512 North Sherman Road, Deer Park.

JUDGE TOREM: Speak into the microphone please, sir.

MR. MORRISON: Did you get that? But anyway we've lived or I've lived here the first 62 years of my life and are landowners here. But the one thing that
strikes my mind is where's all the electricity going to come from in the future for all these new homes that are being built? I do have a couple articles here. One of them is an educational tool or environmental impact. It talks about a school with two wind turbines. It says the caption under picture here it says Micron left or Wind World 250 -- 800 feet south of the elementary and middle schools and this is in Iowa. So I thought that would be interesting for you.

The other thing I have a wind map here that if you're going to generate wind with wind turbines it makes since to put the wind turbines where the wind is and as near as I can measure about 30, 35 miles north of Yakima. It doesn't show Ellensburg here. It does not show that, highways either, but it does show the power lines in the state and in this area some of the best wind in the state. So it makes sense to put wind turbines there and that's all I have. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, sir.

Bertha Morrison and followed by Michael Genson, Tony Helland, and Andrew Johnson.

COMMENTS BY BERTHA MORRISON

I'm Bertha Morrison. I live at 9131 on the Nanan Road in Ellensburg, Washington. I've been a resident of Kittitas County for 88 years, and I sure hope
that we get the wind power that I'm very much in favor of them. We need our taxes lowered, and we need a little more control of the people that own the ranches and own the places in Ellensburg. I've been on the same ranch all of my life and I'm still there. So we hope the wind power will bring us more electricity so it will help our country. Thank you.

COMMENTS BY MICHAEL GENSON

Mike Genson, G-e-n-s-o-n, 101 Elk Springs Road, Ellensburg. I'm a supporter of this wind farm and any wind farm since there aren't any rivers left to dam, and science and common sense says we should not put any more pollutants into the atmosphere. We need to turn to these clean renewable resources. Right now wind is the one that's most viable.

It's obvious that there's a need for more energy. All we have to do is take a look around us. So what seems to me is the question is if this is the correct site for the wind farm project and the answer is an emphatic yes. We have the best winds in the state across this area as the previous speaker spoke to. We have the grid that is necessary there and we have landowners who are willing and anxious to have wind turbines on their property.

Will there be an impact? Yes. But the
positive impacts are much, much greater than the negative impact which pretty much boils down to impact on the view shed. Impact on a view shed is a very subjective thing. Some people like to look at houses and mercury vapor lights. I prefer looking at wind turbines. Thank you for your time. Please approve this project.

JUDGE TOREM: Tony Helland and then Andrew Johnson and Shannon Cogan.

COMMENTS BY TONY HELLAND

My name is Tony Helland, H-e-l-l-a-n-d. I live at 414 Alpine Drive, Ellensburg. First off, I'd like to apologize to all you people for being uprooted and drug out here because our County Commissioners didn't have the foresight to approve this project months and months ago.

You will hear about the vast majority of people are against this project. Everybody that's interested is here tonight. The rest of the people in the county don't care. You'll hear about people not being against wind power if it's sited properly. Horizon is not going to come out and spend millions of dollars to put a wind park in a place where it's not going to work so it is a properly sited. They talk about driving the tourists away.

I work up at Wild Horse right now. I'm the gate guard. I get anywhere from three to eight people a
day as far away as Moses Lake coming to look at the wind farm because they can see it and they're interested in it and they think it's the greatest thing in the world. So I urge you to approve this wind farm and not make the same mistake as our County Commissioners did. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Andrew Johnson.

COMMENTS BY ANDREW JOHNSON

Andrew Johnson, 260 Leves Road, Ellensburg.

I have been wondering for quite a while why I have to pay for a wind farm through my tax money to pay the subsidies to the people who put these things up so that they can put them up and cause my electric rates to raise. That's historical.

The Wild Horse Project was put in. Puget Sound Energy bought it and promptly raised our electrical rates twice. It doesn't make sense to build a wind farm to raise our electrical rates and take the money to do it out of my hip pocket.

Now, let's talk about a couple of other things, and Fish and Wildlife, Ms. Towne and Ms. Adelsman, you'd be interested in this. Because when the demand for electricity goes onto the wind farm they also have to run turbines with water power as a standby in case the wind quits because the demands of the grid don't change. Think about that. That's water that has to go through those
turbines just to turn them. So that if the wind lowers or
quits, the turbines kick in to provide the electricity
that have been lost when the wind turbines aren't turning.
That is wasteful in my book and I think our Ecology people
and Fish and Wildlife should be most interested in that.
We're wasting water when we do that.

Now, I won't go into a lot of other things
that have been discussed here, but those things really do
concern me, and so I hope you will turn this thing down
and get these people off our backs. They have been
pushing and shoving this thing ever since they started.
Thank you very much.

JUDGE TOREM: Shannon Cogan, and Ms. Cogan
will be followed by W. C. Fitzgerald and Catherine Clerf.

COMMENTS BY SHANNON COGAN

Shannon Cogan, 3111 Bettas Road, Cle Elum.
We purchased our property on Bettas Road based on the fact
that there was unobstructed beauty, no man-made
structures. We have an older manufactured home. We
bought it for the land. We could have bought a nice piece
of property with power lines in front of us, a view of the
Stuart, but we chose that area based on what's around.

I understand that other people have the
ability to do what they want with their property and can
have towers put on it, but it requires a rezone that was
unanimously denied by all the commissioners. I have restrictions on what I can do with my property. I can't throw things up on it and ruin things for my neighbors.

I'm also in real estate. I have the home next to me listed. I had an offer about a month and a half ago, and the people walked away based solely on the possibility of a wind farm going in. It's now on the market for $10,000 less than the offer that we had.

I do know people to the north of us who have purchased property to build their retirement homes. A lot of people had no knowledge of the wind farm. When we purchased we had no knowledge of the wind farm and would have not purchased there knowing that.

I want to have the ability to build a nicer home on my land and have it in some valley which is not going to happen with the huge structures right across the road from our house. You know, the shadow flicker 233 days a year. The sun rises over there. It's going to cast a huge shadow, and these people that want the revenue having the towers on their property it's going to affect property owners for miles around, and it's not an area where this belongs.

I believe in having alternative energy sources, but it's just not the place for it. There's too many homes and small parcels. Parcels down to three acres
in the area that will be affected. They're not just huge
landowners. So I really hope that this is denied.
Thanks.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, ma'am.

W.C. Fitzgerald and then Catherine Clerf and Geoff Saunders.

COMMENTS BY WILLIAM FITZGERALD

I guess I'll get to hunch over. Anyway, William Fitzgerald, 1751 Bettas Road, and I lived in an area where they had wind power. And I think people here see the revenue in the beginning and the greatness of the these turbines, but they don't look at the long term of it and the fact that as these things get old, they bring in one and leave the old one there and bring in another one and leave the old one there until you get a place like Tehachapi, California where there's hundreds, two to three hundred of them standing there idle, not being used, not doing us any good, not creating any revenue because they're broken. They don't take care of them and it's cheaper to put up another one. So pretty soon you've got a wind farm all right, but you've got a wind farm of broken windmills that don't work that are just standing there and it's an eyesore. It's ghastly to put it mildly. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Catherine Clerf.
COMMENTS BY CATHERINE CLERF

Catherine Clerf, C-l-e-r-f-as in as Frank, 60 Moe Road, Ellensburg, Washington. I would like to preface my remarks first of all by saying I'm a fourth generation original cattle ranching family in Kittitas County, and for everyone in the entire hearing when you go across I-90 and look at the land behind Wanapum Dam, there once used to be a very large herd cattle ranch called Figure 2. My great grandfather, my grandfather, his brothers, my uncle, my father, and other co-related Clerf family members made several decisions. Figure 2 went because of federal domain. One big goose egg. My family did it because it was for the benefit of the United States of America, being a former Luxembourgers who are neither positive about Germany or any other foreign powers running the United States of America which is why they immigrated.

My family also gave up land to form the Yakima Firing Artillery Range. In the beginning for zero, sometimes a penny, sometimes a dollar. We also lost farmland because of two interstates upon which is where the original Hemming Clerf Farm resides. You can see it. It's that white hill on the knoll before the freeway leaves Yakima County.

I have done a lot of international traveling. I have my own consulting business for 13 years
based in Seattle. I have seen over 75 foreign countries, most of them developing, and I have one message for the State of Washington.

The Pacific Northwest and the United States of America, we need to use all of our natural resources: wind, minerals, coal, water, intelligence and capital. For those who like to bad mouth Goldman Sachs, remind yourself when you can't get a cheap mortgage loan it's probably Goldman Sachs thinking I'd like to have your spot.

So my message to the people representing the State of Washington is we have to make intelligent, cogent, clear, and concise decisions about the future. The only way to keep America strong and to have a vibrant economy and it requires infrastructure.

And I've traveled for years in countries such as Pakistan, India, Bangladesh where they're right there in that one little part of the world is 1.5 billion people. They need all of the things that we have and they don't have capital, intelligence, and engineering, money, land, and the political process by which to approve or deny something that will help and benefit the economy of the State of Washington. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Geoff Saunders, Ann Gabrielson, and then Gloria Baldi.
COMMENTS BY GEOFF SAUNDERS

Geoff Saunders, 8241 Elk Springs Road, Ellensburg. Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

Contrary to some of the previous speakers I believe this is really not about wind power. This is only about two issues: Is this an appropriate location for this particular project and do our elected officials here have the authority to make land use decisions that affect all of us in Kittitas County?

I think you know already why this is such a controversial project. First, it's a patchwork quilt of a project shoehorned into an area that currently has a lot of residential and recreational use, an area with booming real estate sales. Look at the map and I think you now had an opportunity to look at the area itself. There are roughly 500 properties within just one mile of the boundary of this proposed project, and at least a dozen of those nonparticipating landowners would actually be surrounded on all three sides by this project.

Second, this 6,000-acre project is far too close to Ellensburg with the closest turbine only 9 miles from the post office, not 12 miles that you frequently hear from the developer. It's also being one of the prettiest parts of the county. As I'm sure you know Highway 97 and that area is a state designated scenic
byway.

The proposed site is, of course, high up on the ridges that would make its strobe lights and spinning blades visible across the entire valley just as the strobe lights of Wild Horse are now visible across the entire valley even though they are 20 miles away.

Third, this developer has gone about this project in entirely the wrong way. Horizon ignored anything the County land use process. It's been highly critical of our elected officials and to ask you to preempt their decision.

In democracy preempting local government is wrong except under the most extreme circumstances, and there are no extreme circumstances here. Horizon has not shown this project is any way essential to the citizens of this state. It does not even have a buyer for the project or power for this project. There is no energy shortage, and in any case the amount of power from this project would be trivial by comparison with the enormous, with the conventional power plants. In this area the damage done by the project's footprint would out of any proportion to the benefits it might produce.

While it's important Washington State supports alternative energy, this is far from the only place that a wind farm can be built. Kittitas County has
already demonstrated that it's willing to site appropriate projects in appropriate locations. Now, there's another developer, Invenergy, that said it wants to build a wind farm near Wild Horse, and I think it's pretty safe there that Kittitas County will be willing to approve that one as well.

Wind farm developers don't need EFSEC for their projects. They only need EFSEC when they want to pound a project into an area where there's opposition from local government and residents. You have the ability to preempt the decision of our local authorities, but I urge you not to set such a major precedent using this highly unworthy project as your test case. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, sir.

Ann Gabrielson.

COMMENTS BY ANN GABRIELSON


I am representing my family, my husband Gordon, our three daughters and their families, our co-owners Dick and Dorie Kohler, their children and grandchildren. We total 25.

We own property immediately adjoining the proposed site. At least two of the wind turbines
only be feet from our property line. Our property was purchased because of the many recreational and outdoor educational opportunities for our families. The area has a unique ecosystem, four distinct seasons, occasional extreme weather from the Northwest and plant and animal life that change with the seasons and climate conditions. We value the peace and quiet, the opportunity to observe the undisturbed wildlife, the spectacular and changing floral displays, the night sky, and studying the geology of the area. All quantities special to that area that will be negatively impacted by noisy, blinking, and potentially dangerous I don't know if they're 363 or 400 foot towers, structures.

We have become increasingly aware of how intrusive these structures are as we watch construction of the Wild Horse Wind Power Project. The turbines, whether their revolving blades and strobe lights, are clearly visible day and night 22 miles as the crow flies from our property.

One part of the equation in the discussion regarding appropriate location for wind turbines needs to be considered. Northwesterners take great pride in the magnificent scenic beauty of our state. It is part of our culture and our values. Individuals and organizations state wide spend time, resources, and energy to protect
and restore the natural beauty of our area. State and local visitor bureaus spend many dollars encouraging others to come and admire our diverse scenery. Developing an unsightly wind turbine site on the major cross-state highway at the entrance of the rugged Cascade Mountain Range is it a good idea? We think not. The need for preservation of nature’s creations and protection of human values should not be sacrificed in the rush to appear progressive.

We all recognize the need to develop additional power sources and that there will be some ecological impact surrounding a wind power site. Criteria for locating wind farms should concentrate on preserving quality of life for human and wildlife occupants of the area, not on minimizing the financial impact for the developers. The Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project seriously impacts a large number of property owners and wildlife residents. Thank you for the opportunity to share a few of my ideas with you tonight.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Ms. Gabrielson. I believe it's Gloria Baldi. She'll be followed by Gina Lindemoen and Gloria Lindstrom.

COMMENTS BY GLORIA BALDI

Council, my name is Gloria Baldi. I'm representing Kittitas Audubon, a membership of about 150
families in the Kittitas Valley.

       JUDGE TOREM: Ma'am, could you spell your
name for the court reporter.

       MS. BALDI: I'm sorry. B-a-l-d-i. The
Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project is proposed in the
location of the Pacific Migration Bird Flyway. The
company's Draft Environmental Impact issued in August of
'04, page 3-9 states that fact and adds that because it is
located closer to the Cascade Mountains and the Yakima
River it may have a higher incidence of use by migratory
birds than the Wild Horse site. To further verify the
importance of migration in the area, Hawkwatch
International for years monitored raptors as they flew
south past Diamond Head just north of the subject area
into the exact area of this proposed wind generating
project. The funnel effect where mountain ridges force
the concentration of birds as they follow the mountain
ridge tops is the proposed location of the Kittitas Valley
Project.

       Approximately four years ago when Zilkha
(now Horizon Wind energy) was beginning to introduce its
wind power project to valley residents, Kittitas Audubon
questioned the extent of bird research procedures. We
voiced our concern at that time about the accepted
protocol and we continue to stand behind the belief that
one year of point counts, which is the periodic noting of species within a certain defined area, is inadequate producing incomplete research to support this wind project. Mortality estimates were based on extrapolation from other sites and areas very different from Kittitas Valley. Therefore we have no way of knowing the kill numbers until they occur and then it will be too late.

No night migration patterns of birds and bats at altitudes to the 410 feet have been done to prove there will be no affect during night migration. The majority of the passerines, the song birds, migrate at night, not during the day when the avian studies were done. No night studies have been done to note bat activity. No continuous periodic observations have been done to note patterns of birds in the spring when the winds are heaviest or in spring and fall when the heaviest concentration of raptors funnel the canyons and over the ridges in the area of this project. Any wind power project like Kittitas Valley which is located on a bird migratory flyway is unique and should require additional study to prevent unintentional consequences of high wildlife kills. They have also found that for some reason bats are curious and they're attracted to the towers. Large numbers have been killed in the east. No one knows why bats appear to not be able to escape tower blades. It
appears that wind generating projects have the potential
to eliminate bats as dams have eliminated the salmon.

I've also included a couple of reports from
Bat Conservation International with more information on
the bats. The government accounting office has also
backed up our reasons and I'm done. Thank you very much.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Ms. Baldi. You can
just hand those to Mr. Fiksdal.

COMMENTS BY GINA LINDEMOEN

My name is Gina Jefferson Lindemoen, and my
last name is spelled L-i-n-d-e-m-o-e-n, and I live at
19000 Reecer Creek Road, and first of all, I would like to
thank our County Commissioners for having the foresight to
see what this valley could have become if they would have
allowed the wind turbines to go into our neighborhoods.

I've been listening to the radio this week,
and on PBR radio they've had several physicians and
scientists that have been studying deafness, and the wind
turbines are part of that study and it does cause
deafness. And they say that if young children are exposed
to that over a number years, that they will become deaf,
not partially deaf but completely deaf. They compared it
to the ipods that the kids are listening to now.

Also, I would like to say that I've heard
first hand from the manager of the Horizon project that
they would be glad to see the property values lessened here in our Kittitas County so they could purchase them here. I don't want to see that happen, and I don't want to see our property value go down.

Also, I guess a lot of us should have gone to see what Whiskey Dick really looks likes during construction. My husband knows that first-hand recognition of going out and seeing what is being done and about the unorganization of the whole project.

They don't provide material for the roads in a timely manner. There are bulldozers pulling dump trucks off the road, into the roads due to the rain and the poor conditions of the road, the lack of material that they have provided to put on the roads.

So there has not been a lot of planning process that's gone into effect to develop the road to actually get the trucks in to bring the material in for the holes they're digging.

Also we were talking about the water tables being disturbed. I can't even imagine what would happen if you actually saw one of the holes for one of the turbines what it would do to our water table. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Gloria Lindstrom. She will be followed by Hal Lindstrom and Diane Schwab.
COMMENTS BY GLORIA LINDSTROM

Gloria Lindstrom, L-i-n-d-s-t-r-o-m, 1831 Hanson Road. No matter how many wind turbines Horizon cuts back it will still be too many. They are simply in the wrong place. There are so many irresolvable problems associated with people living close by. Both the County Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners recognized this and voted unanimously to deny a permit for this project.

I have testified earlier that the one-year bird study was inadequate. Washington Audubon recommends a two-year study because usage and migration patterns vary from year to year. Decision makers must recognize and take into account that this area is a recognized raptor migration route because of the funnel effect. This phenomena is a consequence of geographic features which tend to funnel or concentrate birds into certain areas. Horizon should have undertaken a two-year study of both day and night activity and include both birds and bats. There has been ample time to do further study, but it hasn't been done. It is good that the one-year study by West was done, but it is only half a load also. What is in the works for oversight following construction in terms of competent regular studies of the avian effects?

This small valley should not be reigned by
wind turbines just because the power lines are here. The Wild Horse installation that is 20 miles east of our property is clearly visible and we can even see the blades turning. This big white, industrial turbine farm is out of character with its surroundings. If the KVWPP is allowed it will be much closer to Ellensburg and much more out of character. The upland area to the north and west of Ellensburg has a unique and lovely geography with the Stuart Range as its crowning backdrop. What will the addition of giant wind turbines with running blades placed in the foreground infested with blinking lights day and night do to this historic treasure view? If such a wind farm proposal is made in the Puget Sound area and it was to be sited in the view shed of either the Olympic or the Cascades Mountains, there would be a tremendous uproar and it would never happen.

Please don't let it happen to this small valley. My request to you is to protect the people who live in the area of the proposed KVWPP, protect the birds and bats and project the view shed of the Kittitas Valley for all of us. Wind farms are okay, but put them in their proper place located in unpopulated areas on disturbed terrain by farmed land.

Please do not make the mistake of preempting the local process. Instead take a message to Governor
Gregoire that we need leadership of all levels of government to promote energy conservation. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Hal Lindstrom.

COMMENTS BY HAL LINDSTROM

Hello. My name is Hal Lindstrom. I live at 1831 Hanson Road, Ellensburg, Washington. I am speaking for myself. It may sound like I'm also speaking for Gloria.

I don't know how many public meetings have been held on this issue before the Kittitas County Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners but there have been many, and I've testified at all but one perhaps with essentially the same message; that both Desert Claim and now the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project, renamed Horizon, are inappropriately sited. The Horizon wind farm would severely impact homeowners who purchased property and live in the immediate area. They would lose much and for some all those values for which they purchased property. I estimate 80 percent of those who spoke at the public hearings that I attended were opposed to both Desert Claim and to this project for essentially the same reasons. Their views were supported by unanimous decisions from both the County Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners for Kittitas County to reject the proposal.
When my wife and I were returning from Yakima a couple weeks ago, we stopped to change drivers at a high point shortly after the I-82 rest stop out of Yakima. When I walked around the car sort of stretching and getting the kinks out, I looked to the north and, whoa, I could see the wind turbines installed at Wild Horse and looking at my map at least 23 miles distance. Yesterday afternoon I could see the turbines far more easily from Pfenning Road which is immediately east of town. I'd estimate approximately at least 15 miles turning and reflecting the sun. We're talking about a major impact to the scenic character of this truly tight little valley.

I treasure my home. Home for me is more than the one and a half acres that our house sits on. It extends to the larger Kittitas Valley. It really is difficult to put into words what this place where I've lived for almost 60 years now means to me. Seeing the natural wonder that is the Stuart Range, including Mount Stuart. I had lunch on top of it one day. And the Wenatchee Mountains is an integral part of my life and enjoyment that I've had for years that I've lived in this valley. To compromise this splendid view by installing these giant, spinning, lit by night turbines lining the ridges in the foreground would be a travesty.
For those who live in the immediate area and enjoy for the reasons they purchased their property and under the County's then existing land codes this industrial installation would be a nightmare full time.

Kittitas County bought into GMA and from my perspective tries to, not as well as I would like sometimes, to operate according to its mandates. I believe the County has performed accordingly in arriving at its decision to deny this project; therefore, I don't understand the basis for whereby EFSEC could preempt the County's decision to deny the project. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, sir. Diane Schwab will be followed by Richard Fischer and Jeb Baldi.

COMMENTS BY DIANE SCHWAB

My name is Diane Schwab. My address is P.O. Box 290 in Maple Valley, Washington 98038.

JUDGE TOREM: Could you speak up, ma'am.

MS. SCHWAB: We have 50 acres out in the hills. We've owned our land since 1993, and it was originally purchased to build a home and retire. We've spent thousands of dollars to develop it. When we originally heard of these massive wind farms everything was put on hold. We needed to do some research to find out the impacts of not only the land but to us personally.

Our land is long and narrow with a big
valley running through the middle of it. There are two prime home locations. Unfortunately one on the end will be directly next door to a row of wind turbines. The other is on top of the hill overlooking the valley. Both of these locations will have the full effect if these turbines go in.

As it stands now, there are met towers. That's 100-foot towers to measure the wind velocity to the north, south, land adjoining ours on the east, and land adjoining ours to the west. This also entails more than one developer. If these all come to be developed we will be completely surrounded by massive white structures. We should not be forced to live with the noise, shadow flicker, and sure massiveness of the wind turbines in our faces. There is no easy way out. They say we could put blinds on our windows, plant trees, etc., etc. This won't solve the problem. You can't plant trees that tall. And why have view property if you can't use it?

GPO 8.7 of the County code states that private landowners should not be expected to provide public benefits without just compensation. Okay. So why are a few of us up on the hill expected to give up our property? In my opinion that is stealing. According to local real estate professionals it would be next to impossible to sell any property located next to wind
turbines unless the property owners want to give away
their property for next to nothing, and I'm got more here.
I'll just give it to him. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Mr. Fischer.

COMMENTS BY JEB BALDI

Jeb Baldi, 1405 Brick Road in Ellensburg.

Thank you for this opportunity. Please make my comments
part of the official hearing for the Kittitas Valley Wind
Power Project No. 2003-01.

Every wind generating facility no matter
where it's proposed location needs to be reviewed as a
unique project, as well as the cumulative effects of all
other wind farm projects in the area. With this in mind,
please deny this project for the following reasons:

One, there is a threat to migrating birds,
especially raptors. Each spring and fall hundreds of
hawks migrate through Kittitas Valley along the ridges in
the subject area. Raptors funnel right down to the valley
on the flight south or they stay for the winter, depending
on the species. The lack of comprehensive data regarding
birds and no studies on bats are a major concern.

Number two, the placement of the towers in
the vicinity of residential homes there is little regard
for the mitigation to the nearby residents with such
negative features as noise, shadow flicker, and
infringement on the view shed.

Number three, no one is considering the conservation of electricity. Does our nation have an energy conversation policy? No. Does our state have one? No. Nor does Kittitas County or the City of Ellensburg. Before we spend all of Horizon's cash and our tax dollars on this project every one should learn to conserve. It's not renewable. It's just using less so the need is less.

Number four, this project like other wind developments is an energy sink hole. How much energy and resources are used to build the towers and the generator to bring the towers from Vietnam, the turbines from Europe? How much energy and resources are used in land transportation of these items to site? How much energy, gravel and cement is used to fill the holes that have been blasted deep into the ground? How much destruction of the habitat is there with building the roads and the ground ditching? And we're told it will be outdated in 20 years or less. What then? Will they stay or will they be taken down?

Do we not live in a democracy where we elect people to represent us? They in turn make decisions best suited for our community. Our elected officials felt it was in the best interest of Kittitas County not to approve this project after four years of hearings and studies.
The decision you make as a committee, not elected or appointed by us, does not directly affect you or your families, but it will drastically affect the lives of many people in this community. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, Mr. Baldi.

Is Richard Fischer still present?

COMMENTS BY RICHARD FISCHER

Hi, I'm Richard Fischer, F-i-s-c-h-e-r, 5053 Weaver Road, Ellensburg. This proposed wind farm 12 miles northwest of Ellensburg is in the wrong place. Many people have purchased land in which to build in this pictorial location and some have already built there. The residents of Kittitas Valley have always been proud of their view of Mount Stuart and its range of mountains along the Enchantments. Why should this splendor be marred when there are other locations which are suitable for wind farms? Two locations. Then too, the highway map of the State of Washington shows that Highway 97 where the proposed wind farm is to be located is a scenic highway. Here again, the proposed wind farm is in the wrong place.

If the state agrees to this proposed location, how is the state planning to recompense all of those involved which could include all those in the valley who value their magnificent view for the devaluation of the property? Thank you.
JUDGE TOREM: The next speakers are Debbie Strand, Chris Cole, and Marian Claassen. Following that I have three additional speakers and that will take us to 27 for the evening. A little under my guess, but maybe people are holding their tongues for tomorrow night. Anyone that is going to speak tonight see our EFSEC staff and make sure we get aware of it before these other remaining six speakers tonight are done.

COMMENTS BY DEBBIE STRAND

Good evening. My name is Debbie Stand, 221 East Fourth Avenue, Ellensburg, Washington. I'm the Executor Director of the Economic Development Group of Kittitas County and I am speaking on their behalf. The Economic Development Group is an organization, nonprofit organization that deals with business development and looks at the economy of our community here.

Based on the facts that our organization has collected, a lot of discussion, the organization has voted, the board members have voted to support the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project due to its nets positive impacts that it will have on the community related to taxes, jobs, capital investment, and income generated.

You've heard me state numerous times before, in fact you've heard many of the people here speak, and
there are passionate voices on both sides of this issue.

What I would like to do right now is provide you with a little bit of additional new information that we've collected.

As the Wild Horse project has been developed, the affects of our county our organization has been collecting data from it, and I believe that we could make some correlation between the two projects, even though the Kittitas Project is somewhat smaller as proposed today. What we've been doing is we've been trying to figure out what the local spending impact is on our community, and so we've been looking at how many jobs have been developed during the construction process, how many of those were local and how many of those are not local, these types of information; and how much local spending is being done on the project.

We recognize the fact that the towers and turbines are not purchased directly from our county. We're sorry to say that, but we don't produce that kind of materials here in the county. But based upon what we've been able to collect so far it looks like there's been about ten million dollars that's been put into our local economy due to this project. That includes things such as office supplies, utilities, services, etc, etc. There are about 40 percent of the jobs it looks like have been local
contractors, people who have been hired in the community here. Nonlocals are living in this community during the six- to nine-month period of time that the project is being developed, and they are renting apartments, motel rooms, buying food, purchasing additional services in the community.

Recognizing that my three minutes are just about up, I will tell you that I'm going to provide you with additional written data supporting some of the tax revenue information that we have collected and that type of information. But just based on what's happened here with the Wild Horse Project, I will tell you that there has been a net positive impact on our community locally. Thank you very much.

JUDGE TOREM: We certainly know that new hotels have gone up. We hope it's not just to accommodate our business.

Chris Cole, Marian Claassen, and then Harry Whitaker.

COMMENTS BY CHRISTINE COLE
Christine Cole. I'm representing myself and my partner Roger Binette. My name is spelled C-o-l-e. His is B-i-n-e-t-t-e. I live at 7430 Robbins Road here in Ellensburg.

Our County Commissioners made the right
decision. After many agonizing hours of hard work, public testimony, and review, finally an on-site visit to a wind farm somewhat comparable to what is proposed, they decided that those most affected, the nonparticipating landowners, would be subjected to conditions that could not be mitigated and there were many whose lives would be negatively affected.

We have a small taste of what is proposed here at KVWPP with Wild Horse. Those towers are barely half the size in comparison and are visible from everywhere. The ground is torn with infrastructure and ugly red lights do strobe at night and are visible from our homes 20 miles distant and easily more as one comes down into the valley from the east, south, and west.

The proponents' only argument is based on monetary rationale and gain for the few. And now another company wishes to make application for yet another industrial site so Pandora's box is open and we knew it would happen. This valley will look like an ugly, sick porcupine, and all the arguments for renewable and clean energy for this particular site are a smoke screen for monetary gain and nothing more.

Even with all the evidence presented throughout the process, the most telling was from the commissioners themselves in their visit to a site.
Nothing takes the place of that, and after that experience they knew nothing would mitigate the negative impacts for those who would bear the brunt of this industrial site. It is unconscionable to place these mega structures in a rural area filled with homes.

Granting these towers to be placed among our homes is an overwhelming disaster that need not occur. Choose not to do that. Do not force this valley into such an ugly situation just for the promised monetary gain. The cost is much too high and the valley irreplaceable and a cruel joke on people who know what will happen to their lives and to those who have no sense of what will happen to their lives. They must also be protected, perhaps from themselves.

There is little to gain and much to lose and it isn't just measured in monetary terms. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Marian Claassen.

All right. She's going to pass for tonight. Marian Claassen is not going to speak. Harry Whitaker, followed by Debbie Boddy and Art DePalma, and those are the last speakers I have signed up. If there are any others let EFSEC staff know before Mr. DePalma finishes.

COMMENTS BY HARRY WHITAKER

Harry Whitaker, W-h-i-t-a-k-e-r, 3411 Loop Road. I'm here representing myself. I'm opposed to this
particular project. I'm not opposed to wind energy, per se. I just feel this is an inappropriate siting. Kittitas County has been through a lot of agony over this particular project, as well as enXco's project, and came to what I feel were the right decisions to deny, and I'm hoping that you folks will back that up.

The reasons are as been stated so far the residential and recreational values out in that area the growth is pretty intense, and Kittitas County has demonstrated a willingness to place these wind farms in what I think and most people in the valley think are more appropriate sites at the east end of the valley where there's very little, if any, residential development.

There's another concern I have. I'm a piano tuner and I've worked on pianos for close to 30 years now. I worked at Central Washington University, but, again, I want to say I'm here just representing myself. I know for a fact that from my reading that these wind turbines produce powerful low frequency vibrations that can travel for miles and can penetrate buildings.

Now, the State of Washington has been spending tens of millions of dollars upgrading buildings on the campus. The measured distance from the closest turbine to the post office is a longer distance than that to the new music building where I spend my time. For the
last 18 months we've been in this new wonderful music facility which the State of Washington built, and I can say from my experience I was trained in Boston and I've been at Symphony Hall in Boston for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. I've been in Carnegie Hall and our particular hall is what I would say, and I don't think it's really disputed, it's acoustically just a fantastic facility. So placing these turbines in this particular location brings them into a range that I fear may produce affects that are not currently present. What those will be I'm not sure. But will there be an affect? I think there probably will? And I think it's somewhat of a gamble and experiment that I don't know we need to take.

So I'm hoping that you will side with the County fathers and deny this project, as well as enXco if they come back. Thanks a lot.

JUDGE TOREM: Debbie Boddy.

COMMENTS BY DEBBIE BODDY

Thank you. My name is Debbie Boddy, B-o-d-d-y, 790 Dudley Road, and tonight I'm here just to basically support our commissioners. It's been a long, tedious process. One sometimes I agree and don't agree with their decisions, but I really believe they're looking out in the best interest for the citizens of this county.

My message to the Governor would be the same
as it was to our commissioners when I spoke to them. To say yes to Horizon I believe is to set a new standard for wind farm development, not just now in our county but in the State of Washington. And that new standard would be that they could be built in close proximity to prime rural residential communities like Thorp, like Kittitas, Ellensburg, and so on.

The scenic byways would be affected. So to set this new standard you can put wind farms in scenic byways which will impact our mountain-to-sound scenic, our clear water scenic corridor which is beautiful Highway 10, and then, of course, Highway 97 recreational highway. Also it will set a standard to put wind farms in scenic river and canyon corridors like the Yakima River between Thorp and Cle Elum, close proximity to nature conservancies like Swauk Creek Winter Conservancy, and it impacts our John Wayne Millennium Legacy Trail which also I think puts in jeopardy other great recreational areas in the State of Washington.

I believe the issue has never been if wind farms. The issue has been where. Our commissioners clearly saw that need and have both approved and denied wind farms. I say that if this particular wind farm goes in, whether it's 80 or 8 million wind farms they're going to go in the most prized and cherished land in the State
of Washington, especially with a yes vote by the Governor because it's escalated to that level. And that means our ocean's shores, our San Juan Island, and I just look at any new residential rural community in the state could be impacted. Do the right thing. Uphold and support Kittitas County people, government, and our commissioners. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Art DePalma

I do have one additional person signed up after Mr. DePalma, Woody Woodcock.

COMMENTS BY ART DEPALMA

My name is Art DePalma, that's D-e-P-a-l-m-a, and I live at Manastash Road, Ellensburg, Washington. As I see there's about four groups here tonight with about two or three different agendas.

First, there's Horizon and their agenda basically is the bottom line; how many millions of dollars they can get in tax incentives. Now, they're a business and this is what businesses do. So I mean this is really to be expected. They're not too concerned about residents in the area. They've argued that the towers won't affect home prices, the soft pedal effects of shadow flicker, evidence of low level noise which has been mentioned. Kind of belittling the residents calling them just west-siders with vacation homes when most of the people
live here. There's many bucks to be made and residents' quality of life isn't too big of a concern if it doesn't bring them money.

Then there's the landowners in the area who will benefit monetarily by these turbines, and you hear landowners' rights and keeping too many houses from being built. The need for electricity like our lights will go out if this isn't built and they won't. And I think if there weren't any profits, they'd probably be here testifying against the wind turbines or staying at home.

There are those who come up as environmentalists who tell you to build all the wind farms that you can build; that we need them. But they don't want it in their neighborhood. They're willing to sacrifice and ruin other people's quality of life for a minimal amount of energy. I had to chuckle in reading the paper when some of the people that were arguing for wind farms around all these peoples' homes was quite concerned when a gun club was coming a little closer to her, and she was quite concerned about home values, her home value.

Now, then there's the homeowners and the residents' quality of life that will be directly hurt and whose home value will fall. And they're here to tell you that they need your protection and will tell you that wind farms are fine as long as they're not close to these
homes.

And, me, I don't live near the wind farm so I probably should have stayed home, but what I think is that it's not right for some people for the sake of money to blight other people's properties and degrade their quality of life. They need the government to protect and Kittitas County has done just that. Imagine how you would decide if the project were coming out right around your house. So I ask you to give the residents in this area the same consideration and protection by denying this wind farm. Thank you.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, sir.

Mr. Woodcock.

Before you begin, staff, is there anybody to follow Mr. Woodcock?

All right. Mr. Woodcock, you have the last word tonight. We will be back at seven o'clock tomorrow. Go ahead, sir.

COMMENTS BY WOODY WOODCOCK

Thank you very much. I'm Woody Woodcock, 309 East Third Avenue, Ellensburg, W-o-o-d-c-o-c-k. I appreciate the opportunity to get up and speak on this. My concerns basically--well, first off, I oppose reconsidering this. I think my concerns were pretty well expressed by Mr. Saunders. This is the wrong place, and
it would preempt an intelligent and patient study by Counsel officials.

I hear a lot of people get up and say we need to put this where the wind is, and they don't say this is being put where the people are. I believe Mr. Saunders' numbers speak to that. There are a lot of people in this area and probably more to come as Mr. Whitaker stated. It's sort of a recreational, residence area. You know, Mr. DePalma or the last guy to speak anyway he sort of categorized the different groups that were up here, and it seemed like a lot of speakers are benefiting from this with cash were people wanting it to be reconsidered and a lot of the people in opposition are just trying to preserve a quality of life.

I'd just like to say one thing I've noticed with the Whiskey Dick Wind Horse site is shadow flicker. I work right out by there so I get to see it in the morning and the afternoon. And when the sun is low it will be like me turning these lights off just like this: darkness, light; darkness, light. And I don't think their mitigation aside from planting trees and putting up curtains has even come with dealing with that: the affect it's going to have on people that are in close proximity, if you will. Thank you.

I think we've got a great opportunity in
this county with a wind farm going in out there with the Wild Horse to just wait and see how these concerns—the noise, the shadow flicker, the birds kill, all of other ones that were mentioned—how they'll play out a few years down the line once people are allowed past the gate and can get out there and stand near these things and hear them, see them. And I think you should deny this just so we have some time to see how it fits in this valley.

I just also want to say it's great to be an American. We can all stand up here and say what we think with no fear of reprisal other than what people think about us. That's about all I have to say. Thanks.

JUDGE TOREM: Thank you, sir.

Thanks to all of you for the polite and consideration you gave all the speakers regardless of their points of view. As Mr. Woodcock points out that's what the process is all about.

We heard from 28 people tonight and last week in Seattle we heard from another 37. I expect there will be probably 20 or 30 more that will want to speak tomorrow night. Some of you may have signed up to speak on Thursday night, the 21st already.

We will be back here at seven o'clock tomorrow. As I said, the adjudication continues tomorrow morning at nine o'clock in the morning at the building
adjacent to us. It's a smaller room. There's going to be a site visit tomorrow as well that will wrap up the process.

So the Council will get a chance to see all the places you're talking about. That's been worked out. For those of you who are curious about the process, we'll close the record if you want any written comments by next Friday, September 29. We expect the post-hearing briefs to be done just before Thanksgiving so that all the lawyers will have told the Council all the reasons and sum what's occurred this past week and all the past years of proceedings.

You can expect hopefully by the end of the year, probably by the middle of December or a little bit later, that this group will be back to announce its decision on both the issues that are near and dear to your heart, whether or not the state will choose to preempt the local county commissioner, and, if so, what they'll recommend with regard to the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project. Just so you can put a mental reminder to yourself as when this might all be wrapped up, it should be the end of the year, and then the other lawyers will take over I'm sure one way or the other.

But if you're coming back tomorrow night, you won't be allowed to speak again. Certainly you're
welcome to listen, but you don't have to come back if I've
told you what you need as far as closure. We welcome you
to be back tomorrow. We welcome you to come see the
proceeding as it goes tomorrow morning. There's three
additional witnesses then, but if you want to know when
it's going to wrap up, that's my best estimate for now.

If there are direct questions as to timing,
I'll stick around a little bit after tonight. But these
are the decision makers. You can't talk to them. I don't
have a vote in this so you can ask me those procedural
questions.

It's now about 8:30, a little bit shy of
that, and we're going to close for this evening. We'll
see some of you back I'm sure tomorrow night on Thursday.

* * * * *

(Public comment meeting adjourned at 8:30
p.m.)
## PUBLIC SPEAKERS

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<td>David Crane</td>
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## INDEX (Cont'd)

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<td>Art DePalma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woody Woodcock</td>
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</table>
AFFIDAVIT

I, Shaun Linse, CCR, Certified Court Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript prepared under my direction is a true and accurate record of the proceedings taken on September 20, 2006, in Ellensburg, Washington.

________________________
Shaun Linse, CCR
CCR NO. 2029