

## STATE OF WASHINGTON

## **ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL**

PO Box 43172 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3172

February 1, 2007

## Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your reference is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the proposed Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project. This document is designed to supplement or correct information provided in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The proponent, Sagebrush Power Partners, L.L.C., has requested to construct and operate 65 wind turbines that would generate up to 195 megawatts (MW) of wind power in Kittitas County, Washington. The proposed project would occupy approximately 108 acres of land on either side of US 97 roughly halfway between Ellensburg and Cle Elum, Washington.

Under Washington State law, EFSEC is responsible for siting and licensing the construction and operation of major energy facilities in Washington State. This Project is an alternative energy facility as defined in 80.50.020(17) Revised Code of Washington (RCW). Sagebrush Power Partners, a subsidiary of Horizon Wind Energy, Huston, Texas, chose to receive site certification from EFSEC for the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project pursuant to RCW 89.50.060(2).

EFSEC is conducting its review as outlined in Chapter 80.50 RCW and Title 463 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). Under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), EFSEC is the state lead agency for facilities seeking state site certification pursuant to Chapter 80.50.RCW.

A DEIS was issued for public comment on December 12, 2003. The public comment period closed on January 20, 2004. A public comment hearing was held on January 13, 2004, in Ellensburg, WA. EFSEC received 78 written comment letters, along with oral comments from 31 individuals. A draft Supplemental EIS (DSEIS) was issued on August 11, 2004. The public comment period closed on September 13, 2005. A second comment hearing was held on February 2, 2006. EFSEC received 19 written comment letters, along with oral comments from 9 individuals. An addendum to the DEIS was issued on December 23, 2005.

The FEIS was prepared from information received from agencies, organizations, and individuals who submitted written and oral comments on the DEIS, DSEIS, and from testimony and exhibits presented in the adjudicative hearings before EFSEC. Comments on the DEIS and SDEIS have resulted in changes in text and illustrations where appropriate. Chapter 1 of this FEIS contains an updated summary. Chapter 2 contains changes relative to the proposed action, the off-site alternative analysis, regulations, and agency and tribal coordination, as appropriate. Chapter 3 contains text revisions to the resource elements, off-site alternatives, and cumulative impacts evaluated in the DEIS. Chapter 4 contains the references of the previous chapters. Chapter 5 contains the acronyms and abbreviations used in this document. Chapter 6 is the distribution list, and Chapter 7 lists the preparers of this final EIS. Volume 2 is dedicated entirely to the written comments and public hearing testimony concerning the DEIS, as well as responses prepared by the FEIS authors to the written comments and testimony.

For further information regarding this proposal or to request additional copies of this FEIS, you may contact Allen Fiksdal (360) 956-2252. The FEIS is also accessible on the Internet at <a href="https://www.efsec.wa.gov">www.efsec.wa.gov</a>.

Allen J. Fiksdal

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