

**Verbatim Transcript of Monthly Council Meeting**  
**Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council**  
**December 20, 2011**



1411 Fourth Avenue, Suite 820 • Seattle, Washington 98101

SEATTLE **206.287.9066**

OLYMPIA **360.534.9066** SPOKANE **509.624.3261** NATIONAL **800.846.6989**

Fax: 206.287.9832  
E-mail: [info@buellrealtime.com](mailto:info@buellrealtime.com)  
[www.buellrealtime.com](http://www.buellrealtime.com)

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WASHINGTON STATE  
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL  
Richard Hemstad Building  
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest  
Conference Room 206  
Olympia, Washington  
Tuesday, December 20, 2011  
1:30 p.m.

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MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING  
Verbatim Transcript of Proceeding

REPORTED BY: SHERRILYN SMITH, CCR# 2097

Buell Realtime Reporting, LLC  
1411 Fourth Avenue  
Suite 820  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206.287.9066 | Seattle  
360.534.9066 | Olympia  
800.846.6989 | National

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A P P E A R A N C E S

Council Members Present:

Jim Luce, Chair  
Dick Fryhling, Department of Commerce  
Jeff Tayer, Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Andrew Hayes, Department of Natural Resources  
Dennis Moss, Utilities and Transportation Commission  
Hedia Adelsman, Department of Ecology  
Doug Sutherland, Skamania County (via phone)

Staff in Attendance:

Al Wright, EFSEC Manager  
Stephen Posner, Compliance Manager  
Jim LaSpina, EFS Specialist  
Tammy Talburt, Commerce Specialist  
Kayce Michelle, Administrative Assistant 3  
Amber George, Office Assistant 3  
Kyle Crews, Assistant Attorney General

Guests in Attendance:

Richard Downen, Grays Harbor  
Karen McGaffey, Perkins Coie  
T. Patrick Sanchez, PacifiCorp Energy  
Rich Downen, Grays Harbor Energy

Guests in Attendance Via Phone:

Jennifer Diaz, Puget Sound Energy  
Eric Martin, Stoel Rives  
Brad Barfuss, Columbia Generating Station  
Eddie Kolitz, EDPR  
Eric Melbardis, Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project  
Elizabeth Robertson, Kittitas Valley Citizen

1 CHAIR LUCE: Good afternoon, my name is  
2 Jim Luce, Chair of the Washington Energy Facility Site  
3 Evaluation Council. Today is December 20th, 2011.  
4 Happy Hanukkah to those of you who are of the Jewish  
5 faith. The time is 1:30. We are meeting in Olympia,  
6 Washington.

7 Clerk will please call the role.

8 THE CLERK: Department of Commerce?

9 MR. FRYHLING: Dick Fryhling is here.

10 THE CLERK: Department of Ecology?  
11 Fish and Wildlife?

12 MR. TAYER: Jeff Tayer is here.

13 THE CLERK: Natural Resources?

14 MR. HAYES: Andy Hayes, here.

15 THE CLERK: Utilities and Transportation  
16 Commission?

17 MR. MOSS: Dennis Moss is here.

18 THE CLERK: Skamania County?

19 Chair?

20 CHAIR LUCE: Chair is present.

21 THE CLERK: There is a quorum.

22 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you.

23 I am going to have a couple of comments before  
24 we get into the actual substance of the agenda, but I  
25 will ask at this point in time, who is on the phone?

1 Could you please identify yourselves?

2 MS. ROBERTSON: Elizabeth Robertson.

3 CHAIR LUCE: All right.

4 Ms. Robertson, we will take public comments on  
5 the matter that you are interested in when we get to  
6 it. That will be down in the agenda just a little  
7 bit.

8 Anyone else on the phone?

9 MS. DIAZ: Jennifer Diaz, Puget Sound  
10 Energy. Wild Horse Wind Facility.

11 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, Jennifer.

12 Let the record note that Hedia Adelsman just  
13 arrived from the Department of Ecology.

14 Anyone else?

15 MR. MARTIN: Eric Martin with  
16 Stoel Rives for Whistling Ridge Energy.

17 CHAIR LUCE: All right, Eric.

18 Others?

19 MR. BARFUSS: Brad Barfuss, Columbia  
20 Generating Station.

21 CHAIR LUCE: All right.

22 MR. KOLITZ: Eddie Kolitz with EDPR.

23 CHAIR LUCE: I'm sorry, my hearing must  
24 be going, so...

25 MR. KOLITZ: Eddie Kolitz with EDPR.

1 CHAIR LUCE: Okay.

2 Is that is?

3 MR. MELBARDIS: Eric Melbardis, EDPR,  
4 Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project.

5 CHAIR LUCE: All right.

6 Going once, going twice. That's it. All  
7 right.

8 Before I get into the substance of today's  
9 meeting, I want to say a couple of words about Mike  
10 Mills. Mike, as you -- many of us know, passed away  
11 on November 20th, 2011. And his service was very,  
12 very well attended. He served EFSEC in various  
13 capacities for more than, I believe, 30 years, and he  
14 will be missed.

15 I brought, to share among councilmembers, and  
16 others who may be in attendance, the -- what do they  
17 call them when they hand them out at memorial  
18 services, the memorial service brochure, or words to  
19 that effect. So I'll pass that along. And I want you  
20 to know that Mike and his family are doing well. We  
21 miss Mike. He was one heck of a great guy. I'm sad  
22 to see him go.

23 Anyone else want to say anything?

24 All right. We'll pass this memorial service  
25 document around.

1           And we will now get to the meeting minutes.

2           Actually, we'll get to the proposed agenda.

3           Does anyone have any changes?

4           All right. Additions?

5           Deletions?

6           Ms. Robertson, you are here on the Kittitas  
7           Valley Wind Project?

8                        MS. ROBERTSON: Yes, I was hoping to see  
9           some -- to hear some information about the noise study  
10          that was done.

11                       CHAIR LUCE: What I wanted to just say,  
12          Ms. Robertson, is you are listed third on the agenda.  
13          But in the interest of taking public comment and not  
14          making you wait any longer than necessary, when we get  
15          to the projects, we will move Kittitas Valley up, so  
16          you will be first. That way you don't have to sit  
17          through the entire meeting.

18                       MS. ROBERTSON: Thank you, I appreciate  
19          that.

20                       CHAIR LUCE: Minutes of October 6th and  
21          November 15 have been provided to councilmembers. Do  
22          councilmembers have any comments or corrections or  
23          additions to those minutes?

24                       MR. HAYES: Yes, Chair Luce. I believe  
25          I misspoke on the October 6th evening session. I

1 would like to make that change. I have offered some  
2 amended minutes. They are in the board members'  
3 packages.

4 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you.

5 Anyone else?

6 I have a motion to adopt the minutes for  
7 October 6th and November 15th, together with Andy's  
8 corrections -- additions, I should say. So do we have  
9 a motion?

10 MR. FRYHLING: I would so move.

11 CHAIR LUCE: Is there a second?

12 MR. TAYER: I will second it.

13 CHAIR LUCE: A motion and a second to  
14 adopt. All in favor say "aye."

15 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.

16 CHAIR LUCE: Let the record reflect the  
17 vote was unanimous.

18 We will now turn to the individual projects.  
19 Kittitas Valley Wind Project will be first up.

20 Eric, are you on the phone, did I hear?

21 MR. MELBARDIS: Yes, I'm on the phone  
22 today.

23 CHAIR LUCE: You're going to have to  
24 speak up a little bit. Please give us your report,  
25 and then we will take comments from Ms. Robertson.



1 MR. MELBARDIS: Okay.

2 Can you hear me now?

3 CHAIR LUCE: I can hear you now.

4 MR. MELBARDIS: Okay. All right.

5 Good afternoon, Council and Chair Luce.

6 Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project monthly project  
7 update. Project status for the month of November, we  
8 produced 17,339 megawatt hours, with wind speeds at  
9 13.3 miles per hour, capacity factor of 23.9.

10 The project experienced no safety incidents.  
11 We have operated since our commercial operations date  
12 without a lost time or OSHA-recordable incident. The  
13 project is in compliance as of December 13th, when I  
14 submitted this update.

15 Under Noise, we have no new noise complaints.  
16 Of course, Ms. Robertson is on the phone about an  
17 existing noise complaint.

18 Just prior to this call, I had word that our  
19 completed and reviewed noise study is on its way to be  
20 signed, and then will be mailed to EFSEC. It shows us  
21 to be in compliance with the FDA, using conservative  
22 methodology. You should receive that report in the  
23 next week at the EFSEC office.

24 No shadow flicker complaints. Our automatic  
25 curtailment systems are working just fine.

1           For environmental, no environmental incidents  
2           or violations to report. Our weed and revegetation  
3           surveys continue, avian and bat fatality monitoring  
4           continues. We have completed all of our prewinter  
5           stormwater discharge BMPs this month, and are all set  
6           for any wet weather that we get with the coming snow.  
7           We continue to monitor all stormwater BMPs, improving  
8           them as necessary.

9                       CHAIR LUCE: Thank you.

10                      Anything else?

11                      MR. MELBARDIS: That's all I have.

12                      CHAIR LUCE: Councilmembers, questions?

13                      No questions.

14                      Mr. LaSpina, I would like you to introduce  
15           Ms. Robertson to the Council and give us a brief  
16           summary of what you have heard, very brief. And then  
17           I want to turn the phone over to Ms. Robertson.

18                      Ms. Robertson, I would ask that -- the  
19           comments that you give us today, we very much  
20           appreciate receiving them. We are going to need them  
21           in writing, as you can imagine, to be able to act on  
22           them and respond to you appropriately. Give us your  
23           comments after Mr. LaSpina has made the introduction  
24           here, but also give them to us in writing as soon as  
25           you can.

1 MS. ROBERTSON: Okay.

2 CHAIR LUCE: All right.

3 Jim, do you have any introductory remarks?

4 MR. LaSPINA: I just want to set a  
5 context and say that the Robertsons have made their  
6 concerns to the Council known several times over the  
7 past year about shadow flicker and noise impacts to  
8 them. I didn't really have any other comments  
9 prepared.

10 CHAIR LUCE: Okay. All right.

11 Ms. Robertson, the floor is yours.

12 MS. ROBERTSON: Okay.

13 I really don't have a lot to say, other  
14 than -- I mean, I have made my complaints known. We  
15 are thrilled to bits with Horizon's dealing with the  
16 shadow flicker. We had one little oopsie a couple,  
17 three months -- or three weeks ago and they have been  
18 absolutely fantastic.

19 The noise is another problem. I was calling  
20 in today, hoping to hear that the noise study had been  
21 done and the report had been done. I know it had been  
22 done in August. It is a continuing problem. It's  
23 been great these last few weeks, because we've had --  
24 the turbines haven't been on a lot. But when there is  
25 no wind at my home, and yet wind enough to turn the

1 turbines, it is stopping me from sleeping, and, you  
2 know, it's not good.

3 So I was really -- not really prepared for a  
4 comment today, I was just wanting to listen to see if  
5 the report was going to be introduced anytime soon.

6 CHAIR LUCE: It sounds like the report  
7 is done and will be forwarded to us in the very near  
8 future. We will review it, and it will be a public  
9 document at that point in time.

10 MS. ROBERTSON: Okay.

11 CHAIR LUCE: I can't give you an exact  
12 time within which it will arrive or when we will  
13 complete our review. We will do so as expeditiously  
14 as possible, bearing in mind this is the holiday  
15 season. And I'm sure you've got your hands full in  
16 that area, too.

17 MS. ROBERTSON: Yes, I do.

18 CHAIR LUCE: Well, thank you very much.  
19 I appreciate your comments. We will take, as written,  
20 a request that Staff provide you a copy of the noise  
21 study as soon as we've had it.

22 If you could write us a very brief letter or  
23 e-mail, and just request that the noise study be made  
24 available to you as soon as possible, that would be  
25 helpful.

1 MS. ROBERTSON: Okay. All right.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you very much for  
4 commenting.

5 We will go back to the normal agenda now.

6 Satsop, Grays Harbor.

7 MR. DOWNEN: My name is Rich Downen with  
8 Grays Harbor Energy. Good afternoon, Chair Luce and  
9 Council.

10 To summarize the monthly operational report  
11 that we submitted, no issues with safety or  
12 environmental concerns. Very little operation at  
13 Grays Harbor again for the month of November. We ran  
14 for about three days.

15 And as far as complaints, we received two  
16 complaints. On November 15th, we received a complaint  
17 from -- via Jim LaSpina from EFSEC. It was a  
18 complaint that he had e-mailed to him from the Farr  
19 family, regarding noise and odor from the previous  
20 week. When we got the report, it was a week old. And  
21 all that we could do was look back at our logs and  
22 note that we didn't have any abnormal operations  
23 during that run, and there was nothing that would have  
24 generated additional noise. That was the only  
25 response that we could make.

1           And then on November 29th, the plant received  
2 a few calls, again from the Farr family, from Patty  
3 Farr, regarding an Elma school bus that was dropping  
4 kids off out on the road just adjacent to the plant.  
5 She had concerns about safety of the kids out on that  
6 road due to the proximity of the plant.

7           I returned her call and talked to her about  
8 that. I forwarded that information on to Mr. LaSpina,  
9 who responded with a letter to Mrs. Farr and to the  
10 Council and to myself, just about how it wasn't an  
11 issue that was -- was the plant's responsibility or --

12                   CHAIR LUCE: It's a school district  
13 issue, perhaps.

14                   MR. DOWNEN: Yes, a school district  
15 issue.

16           With the monthly report, I submitted the call  
17 log. It's the first phone call complaint that we've  
18 received at the plant for quite some time. Whenever  
19 we do receive a call, we submit that with the report  
20 for monthly input to the Council. That call log was  
21 submitted.

22           The last issue that I was going to talk about  
23 is the -- is we've completed -- and I briefly spoke  
24 about this at the last meeting. We've completed the  
25 sound mitigation -- the installation of the upgrades

1 to the sound mitigating devices at the plant, we  
2 completed that last month. We have submitted, with  
3 this month's operational report, a copy of the  
4 procedure that we are -- we are going to do the  
5 follow-on noise study with. Which, in a nutshell, is  
6 the same test that was done before, only with our  
7 own -- you know, without a consultant and without the  
8 more expensive test equipment.

9 We have a noise level meter that we sent out  
10 for calibration. It's come back now, so the next time  
11 that we start and run the plant, we will be performing  
12 that follow-on study, which is validation that we are  
13 still within compliance with the State standards for  
14 noise.

15 So we will communicate to EFSEC the date of  
16 that survey when we are notified that we will be  
17 dispatched, so that Jim, or others, or ORCAA can come  
18 and watch as we do that, if they would prefer. We  
19 will take noise readings during the start-up, during  
20 the run, during the shutdown. We kind of hope that it  
21 would fall during this time, when all of the leaves  
22 are down, so we should get the best -- kind of the  
23 worst case noise carrying conditions. And, again,  
24 with so little run time, we anticipate that it will  
25 occur within the next month, but market conditions

1 dictate when the plant comes on.

2 And there were no site visits by regulatory  
3 personnel during the month of November.

4 That is the summary of our monthly report.

5 CHAIR LUCE: Great. Thank you very  
6 much.

7 Council?

8 MR. FRYHLING: Can I ask a question?

9 CHAIR LUCE: Sure.

10 MR. FRYHLING: You said something about  
11 odor. Is it that the people out there said they were  
12 getting a smell of something?

13 MR. DOWNEN: Correct.

14 MR. FRYHLING: Is it caused by your  
15 plant? And if it is, why would it be giving an odor?

16 MR. DOWNEN: Every time that we have  
17 received a complaint about this -- and actually maybe  
18 Jim could speak to this.

19 MR. LaSPINA: Yes. EFSEC staff is  
20 working with our compliance contractor for odor,  
21 that's ORCAA, Olympic Region Clean Air Agency. The  
22 Farris have made a number of complaints about odor.  
23 Unfortunately, they don't tell us in a timely manner,  
24 so by the time an ORCAA staff person can get there,  
25 the situation -- there's no odor to smell, so none of



1 these complaints have ever been confirmed.

2 MR. FRYHLING: What I'm interested in,  
3 Jim, is what in a gas fire plant is going to -- what's  
4 going to smell?

5 MR. LaSPINA: Well --

6 MR. FRYHLING: I don't know if you can  
7 answer that or --

8 MR. LaSPINA: When the previous  
9 personnel were there, the previous plant manager and  
10 engineer, they actually one time smelled a chlorine  
11 smell. The plant staff changed additives in the  
12 cooling water. The chlorine is used as a biocide in  
13 the cooling water, so that's a possibility. The plant  
14 does use ammonia in its pollution control processes.  
15 However, as I said, the actual substance has not been  
16 identified, so...

17 And I just also wanted to briefly say, just  
18 very briefly summarize the letter. The letter also  
19 tells the Farris that all three studies that have --  
20 noise studies that have been done have shown that the  
21 plant is in compliance.

22 And as far as the school bus complaint -- the  
23 school bus stop complaint, in the letter, we assured  
24 the Farris that when it comes time to do the traffic  
25 management plan, if and when the company decides to go

1 ahead with the expansion, that the Company will work  
2 with the County to protect the safety of the children.

3 But we also assured the Farris that we have no  
4 jurisdiction over the school district bus stop siting,  
5 but we can take that into account when we do the  
6 traffic management plan.

7 CHAIR LUCE: Go ahead, Hedia.

8 MS. ADELSMAN: Jim, can we next time,  
9 when the plant is running, ask ORCAA to go out there  
10 and look [sic] at the odor? I mean you said it hasn't  
11 been verified. Really, you haven't been able to  
12 confirm any of that because they weren't running, I'm  
13 assuming.

14 MR. DOWNEN: If I may?

15 MS. ADELSMAN: Sure.

16 MR. DOWNEN: The last time that we  
17 received a complaint, which was this month, so it  
18 doesn't show up in this report, ORCAA came out that  
19 day and couldn't determine any odor. And I had -- I  
20 do the same thing when I show up to the plant every  
21 morning, when we get started. So I guess the only  
22 thing that I want to make clear is that it's not that  
23 there's an odor that hasn't been identified, it's that  
24 we haven't validated that there is an odor.

25 None of the people that work at the plant can

1 detect any odor. So we've -- we've worked with ORCAA  
2 and we've tried to -- we communicated to them the last  
3 time that we started to try to get them out, you know,  
4 at midnight, when we start the plant, to be there  
5 through the entire process. They come a few hours  
6 later, but we have not been able to, ourselves, detect  
7 any odor.

8 That doesn't really clear things up, but I  
9 want to make sure that we aren't saying that we  
10 haven't identified a constituent or something that is  
11 the source of the odor. We haven't even determined  
12 that there is an odor at this point.

13 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you.

14 Other questions?

15 Thank you very much for your report, sir.

16 I guess I have one quick question. Maybe it's  
17 to Jim. Does ORCAA have a hotline so that if someone,  
18 whether it's at the project, the Grays Harbor project,  
19 or otherwise, can just dial 1-800-ORCAA and report:  
20 It's now 11:22 and I just detected this odor? We used  
21 to have that when I lived in Everett for the mills,  
22 the pulp mills. There was an instant recording made  
23 of the time and the circumstances.

24 What I thought I heard was that the Farris  
25 reported this about a week late?

1 MR. DOWNEN: That was on a previous --

2 CHAIR LUCE: Okay.

3 MR. DOWNEN: That was on the  
4 November 15th complaint. It was an e-mail that kind  
5 of summarized it and said, hey, last week there was an  
6 odor and a noise issue.

7 On this particular day, this month, they  
8 called ORCAA --

9 CHAIR LUCE: Okay.

10 MR. DOWNEN: -- and left a voicemail.  
11 I'm drawing a blank -- Rob responded to that, as soon  
12 as he got there.

13 CHAIR LUCE: Okay.

14 MR. DOWNEN: And he was there quickly in  
15 the morning.

16 MS. ADELSMAN: When you say "they," I'm  
17 sorry, who is "they"?

18 MR. DOWNEN: Well, the Farr family is  
19 the ones that have made this complaint.

20 MS. ADELSMAN: Okay.

21 CHAIR LUCE: Have you had complaints  
22 from others about the smell?

23 MR. DOWNEN: Not that I'm aware of,  
24 ever.

25 MR. LaSPINA: No.

1 CHAIR LUCE: Okay. All right.

2 MR. LaSPINA: And I wanted to assure  
3 you, Chair Luce, that actually what we're trying to  
4 work out now, that the plant apparently gets a few  
5 hours' notice from their marketing agency, or  
6 whatever, that they need to turn up. So in the  
7 interest of trying to find out if these odors are  
8 caused only during start-up, we are working with ORCAA  
9 at this time to have somebody at the plant during this  
10 start-up.

11 CHAIR LUCE: Okay.

12 MR. LaSPINA: But, however, the  
13 atmospheric conditions have to be just right, the wind  
14 has got to be just right.

15 CHAIR LUCE: Right.

16 MR. LaSPINA: You know, it's tough to  
17 catch.

18 CHAIR LUCE: Right, understood.

19 Thanks very much. Thank you, sir.

20 Chehalis?

21 MR. SANCHEZ: Good afternoon, Chair  
22 Luce, councilmembers. I'm Patrick Sanchez, Chehalis  
23 power environmental analyst, here to review the  
24 monthly report to EFSEC.

25 Safety, there were no medical treatments or

1 recordable incidents for the period. We have achieved  
2 3,328 days without a lost time accident. We have no  
3 stormwater, waste water or air emissions monitoring  
4 results that are out of compliance with the permit  
5 limits for the month of November.

6 On our carbon offset project, we continue to  
7 work on the development of the project with the  
8 Chehalis River Basin and the Confederated Tribes of  
9 the Chehalis Reservation. We held a meeting in  
10 November with Mr. Wright, Mr. LaSpina and Mark White,  
11 the Natural Resources Director for the Chehalis  
12 Tribes, to discuss the current agreements that have  
13 been worked out with some landowners and the Tribe, to  
14 discuss initial plans for the proposal.

15 Documents for the proposed plan are being  
16 prepared for a target date presentation at the January  
17 2012 monthly meeting for EFSEC. The plant also  
18 continues to work with the corporate legal department  
19 on development of a contract with the Tribe.

20 As an addendum to this report, I received  
21 communication from the tribal administrative  
22 assistant. They are trying to finalize the proposal  
23 for the first year plan, and they need to present that  
24 to their business council before they can proceed.  
25 They are trying to get that together.

1           And we spoke -- "we" being Mark Miller, the  
2     plant manager for Chehalis Power, and myself -- with  
3     the legal department person in our corporate office,  
4     put in charge of developing a contract with the Tribe.  
5     Evidently, they have this type of contract already,  
6     from a previous experience, so they have a template to  
7     work from. They should be able to proceed efficiently  
8     with that.

9           On the personnel side, we have 19 positions  
10    assigned to us, with 18 positions filled. We hired an  
11    electrician, who started December 6th. We also have a  
12    requisition, and it is moving forward, to hire a  
13    second electrician in the first quarter of 2012, which  
14    will put us at full staffing.

15           In November 2011, the plant generated 140,791  
16    megawatt hours at a capacity factor of 38.48 percent.  
17    Year-to-date, the plant has generated 544,938 megawatt  
18    hours at a capacity factor of 13.64 percent. We had  
19    no spills or exceedances to report for the period, and  
20    we did not have any air emission exceedances for the  
21    period as well.

22           We had no Critical Infrastructure Protection  
23    Standards violations during this reporting period, per  
24    the WECC requirements. We did not have any sound  
25    issues to report.

1           We are still working with an outside  
2 contractor on identifying energy savings at the plant,  
3 per Washington State Initiative 937. They have  
4 completed their study. They are providing  
5 recommendations on ways that we can introduce energy  
6 savings in our operation for our review.

7           CHAIR LUCE: Thank you very much.

8           Councilmember questions?

9           No questions. Thank you.

10          MR. SUTHERLAND: Mr. Chair?

11          CHAIR LUCE: Yes.

12          MR. SUTHERLAND: This is Doug  
13 Sutherland. I want you to know I am here and  
14 listening in.

15          CHAIR LUCE: While you are sitting on  
16 the lanai in 75-degree weather?

17          MR. SUTHERLAND: I'm sorry, say again?

18          MS. ADELSMAN: No comment.

19          CHAIR LUCE: Forget it.

20          MR. SUTHERLAND: All right, I shall.

21          CHAIR LUCE: Wild Horse Wind Power  
22 Project. Jennifer, you are on the phone.

23          MS. DIAZ: Thank you, Chair Luce and  
24 councilmembers. Good afternoon, this is Jennifer  
25 Diaz, environmental manager for the Wild Horse Wind



1 Facility.

2 The November wind generation totaled 52,243  
3 megawatt hours for an average capacity factor of  
4 27 percent. The Solar Demonstration Project generated  
5 43 megawatt hours. There were no lost time accidents  
6 or safety incidents to report in November. Under  
7 compliance and environmental, in accordance with the  
8 Operation Site Security Plan, Wild Horse was closed to  
9 public access on December 1st, and the Renewable  
10 Energy Center is closed for the winter season.

11 That's all I have, just a quick update. I  
12 would be happy to answer any questions.

13 CHAIR LUCE: Any questions?

14 Thank you.

15 Columbia Generating Station.

16 MR. BARFUSS: Good afternoon, Chair Luce  
17 and councilmembers. This is Brad Barfuss, sitting in  
18 for Shannon Khounnala, who is out on vacation.

19 Columbia Generating Station operational  
20 status: We are currently operating at 100 percent  
21 power, producing 1180 megawatt growth. The plant has  
22 been online for 31 days following a brief down-power  
23 last month.

24 Regarding the November down-power that was  
25 discussed last month at the council meeting, it was

1 completed successfully. A balance shot to reduce  
2 vibration on Columbia's main turbine generator was  
3 installed, which brought the vibration levels back to  
4 normal levels. This evolution was completed within  
5 the three-day estimated window for that work.

6 The Deputy Fire Marshal, the State Fire  
7 Marshal, completed the annual fire and life safety  
8 inspection at Columbia and the Industrial Development  
9 Complex on December 1st. We expect to receive the  
10 final report in January, and will provide additional  
11 information at that time.

12 Additionally, the Washington State Department  
13 of Health conducted an inspection of the potable water  
14 system at the Industrial Development Complex on  
15 December 6th. The inspection included a field walk  
16 done of the pump houses and water storage tank.

17 Additionally, the Department of Health  
18 Inspector reviewed reports and data and found all  
19 submissions to be acceptable. The inspection resulted  
20 in no concerns or issues.

21 That's the end of the project update for  
22 Columbia Generating Station.

23 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you.

24 Councilmember questions? Hedia?

25 MS. ADELSMAN: Yes, I have a quick

1 question. I'm kind of curious, on the Industrial  
2 Development Complex, the water right issue. Was that  
3 resolved? I don't think we heard anything recent, at  
4 least I didn't.

5 MR. BARFUSS: The permit application for  
6 the Industrial Development Complex Water Right is  
7 currently being reviewed by Department of Energy.  
8 Their legal counsel and the environmental folks are  
9 reviewing that application, and have been for several  
10 months.

11 CHAIR LUCE: All right.

12 I don't know --

13 MS. ADELSMAN: Can I ask why the --

14 CHAIR LUCE: I am anticipating your  
15 question. Yes.

16 MS. ADELSMAN: -- why the Department of  
17 Energy?

18 MR. BARFUSS: Because the Columbia  
19 Generating Station leases our property -- or the  
20 facility, from the Department of Energy, so per the  
21 application requirements, they are one of the signers  
22 of the application.

23 MS. ADELSMAN: Okay. Thanks.

24 MR. BARFUSS: You're welcome.

25 CHAIR LUCE: All right. Thank you.

1           Transmission Lines. Tammy, do you have  
2 anything on Transmissions Lines?

3                   MS. TALBURT: I do.

4           Good afternoon, Chair Luce and councilmembers.  
5 Central Ferry. BPA did not complete the preliminary  
6 construction activities, the access road or material  
7 yard for Central Ferry, the Lower Monumental  
8 Transmission Line project in August as expected. At  
9 the request of several transmission customers, BPA is  
10 reviewing their current estimate for when the projects  
11 will require transmission service. The construction  
12 of the transmission line is still scheduled to begin  
13 next spring.

14           On the Big Eddy project, construction for the  
15 northern portion of the project started in late  
16 September. BPA received a consistency determination  
17 with the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area  
18 Management Plan for the forest service in November of  
19 2011. Construction is beginning on other portions of  
20 the line, and easements continue to be acquired from  
21 the planned owners. The launch of operation is  
22 scheduled for February 2013.

23           And the I-5, on December 8th, 2011, BPA held a  
24 listening session with the public in Battle Ground,  
25 Washington. Approximately 280 individuals were

1 present, and 37 gave verbal remarks. BPA recorded the  
2 meeting, and a video is available on their website.

3 And I can forward that link to you, if you wish.

4 BPA has delayed the issuance of the I-5 DEIS  
5 to the spring of 2012. EFSEC will continue to monitor  
6 the progress of the BPA Transmission projects.

7 Are there any questions?

8 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you.

9 MS. TALBURT: Thank you.

10 CHAIR LUCE: Whistling Ridge,  
11 Mr. Posner.

12 MR. POSNER: Good afternoon, Chair Luce,  
13 councilmembers.

14 What I would like to do is just consolidate  
15 those two bullets, because essentially, the update  
16 concerns the petitions that we have received.

17 CHAIR LUCE: Right.

18 MR. POSNER: On October 27th, we  
19 received five petitions for reconsideration and one  
20 objection petition. Total number of pages was 115  
21 pages. On November 14th, we received six responses to  
22 the petitions. Total number of pages was 110 pages.

23 EFSEC staff has gone through all of the  
24 petitions, the objection, and the responses. We have  
25 developed responses to each of the issues that were

1 brought up in all of the petitions. We have put those  
2 together into a draft order, which the councilmembers  
3 will be looking into or reviewing for consideration.  
4 We hope to have this process completed, the order --  
5 and the order responding to the petitions finalized,  
6 hopefully, shortly after the first of the year.

7 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you. And we will do  
8 that as expeditiously as possible.

9 Al, do you have a manager's update for us?

10 MR. WRIGHT: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have  
11 two items. One, in your packet, you have the 2012  
12 EFSEC council meeting dates that we are proposing for  
13 the year. You'll see that three of them do not  
14 conform to the third Tuesday rule that you have.  
15 Those are all because of conflicts with this room.  
16 This room works very well for you, so we are trying to  
17 keep the meetings here, as much as we can. This list  
18 does differ from the one we mailed out to you here a  
19 couple of weeks ago. So just in case you have checked  
20 your calendar against that, you will want to check it  
21 against this one, because it's different.

22 So if you have concerns on any of these dates,  
23 or particularly if there's more than one of you that  
24 has concerns, let Kayce know, we will work out  
25 whatever arrangements. I would like you, if you

1 could, get that done before the first of the year.

2 CHAIR LUCE: Great. We will do that,  
3 right?

4 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Yes.

5 CHAIR LUCE: That's a "yes."

6 All right.

7 MR. WRIGHT: The second item. Besides  
8 what you heard from Mr. Posner, we have one other item  
9 that has come in under the issues of the Whistling  
10 Ridge reconsideration, even though this one is  
11 different than the petitions that are filed under the  
12 adjudicated process.

13 We have one from the Friends of -- combined  
14 request from the Friends of the Columbia River Gorge  
15 and SOSA, asking that we reconsider the final EIS on  
16 Whistling Ridge, which is a SEPA action. It is not  
17 part of the adjudicated process, but it is part of the  
18 application process. And it is a request to either  
19 provide a supplement or a modification to the final  
20 EIS for three areas of concern that have been  
21 requested.

22 One is, there has been a revision to the  
23 recovery plan for the Northern Spotted Owl, and they  
24 have asked us to re -- their contention is that is new  
25 information, and we should reopen the EIS.

1           Second, is the fact that during your decision  
2   on October 6th, you did change the turbine  
3   configuration in the application. Their argument is,  
4   therefore, that opens up a new consideration, and that  
5   we should reopen the final EIS.

6           And lastly, that the archeological object -- I  
7   believe which is referred to as a "partial  
8   arrowhead" -- that was discovered on Shimawa Hill, is  
9   an issue that is new and different, and therefore  
10  requires opening the final EIS.

11           We are in the process of developing a response  
12  to that, along with all of the responses that  
13  Mr. Posner has already referred to. You will be  
14  seeing a letter in a packet soon regarding our  
15  addressing those three issues.

16           We just received yesterday -- we were somewhat  
17  waiting to see what the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
18  Service -- how they were going to respond to  
19  Bonneville under the Section 7 consultation procedures  
20  on the Northern Spotted Owl. We have that answer now.  
21  Basically, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has  
22  declined to reopen the Section 7 consultation with  
23  Bonneville on the joint SEPA/NEPA document that we  
24  have done.

25                           CHAIR LUCE: Great. Thank you.



1 Anything else?

2 Last item, I guess, is adjourn, me.

3 Before we get to adjourn, I would just notice  
4 that the legislature is going into session -- is it  
5 the 12th, Hedia?

6 MS. ADELSMAN: The 9th, I think.

7 CHAIR LUCE: The 9th, okay.

8 We've had one prefiled bill that affects us.  
9 Not a surprise. It's a small alternative energy  
10 resources bill. It was carried by Representative  
11 Morris in the past. It has been prefiled by Senator  
12 Ranker, who is the new chairman of the Senate Energy  
13 Committee, has responsibility for EFSEC. It pertains  
14 to not just wind, but all small alternative energy  
15 resources.

16 I'll get copies around to you. I don't have  
17 any comments beyond that at this point in time.

18 MR. TAYER: Mr. Chair?

19 CHAIR LUCE: Yes.

20 MR. TAYER: Just one addition to the  
21 legislative discussion. The Governor, in her budget  
22 proposal, has proposed to switch our energy section  
23 from general fund state to a fee, a fee proposal.

24 We are not quite sure what the vehicle is to  
25 do that, but EFSEC is one of the possible vehicles to

1 achieve that policy outcome.

2 MS. ADELSMAN: Do you mean the funding,  
3 Fish and Wildlife, for Energy?

4 MR. TAYER: I'm not --

5 CHAIR LUCE: Send that Christmas card to  
6 all the applicants and licensees, if you could, and  
7 wish them a -- new year.

8 I'm sure if it works for DFW, others will also  
9 join the parade.

10 MR. TAYER: Not our idea, Mr. Chair.

11 CHAIR LUCE: I understand that.

12 MS. ADELSMAN: A lot of that is really  
13 hydropower, so how --

14 MR. TAYER: Some is; some is not.

15 CHAIR LUCE: Well, that's a most  
16 interesting development. I'm sure that with the  
17 budget constraints or the financial constraints we  
18 have, there will be others as well.

19 MR. TAYER: I'm sure.

20 CHAIR LUCE: All right.

21 I have nothing else. If anyone else has  
22 anything, then we should raise it now. Otherwise, we  
23 will consider ourselves adjourned.

24 So we consider ourselves.

25 (Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
COUNTY OF KING

I, Sherrilyn Smith, a Certified  
Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the  
State of Washington, do hereby certify that the  
foregoing transcript is true and accurate to the best  
of my knowledge, skill and ability.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto  
set my hand and seal this 29th day of December, 2011.



*Sherrilyn Smith*

\_\_\_\_\_  
SHERRILYN SMITH

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:  
JUNE 2012