

Verbatim Transcript of Monthly Council Meeting

Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

December 15, 2020



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WASHINGTON STATE
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
Lacey, Washington
December 15, 2020
1:30 p.m.

Telephonic Monthly Council Meeting
Verbatim Transcript of Proceedings

REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358

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1 A P P E A R A N C E S

2 Councilmembers:

- 3 KATHLEEN DREW, Chair
- 4 STACEY BREWSTER, Utilities and Transportation Commission
- 5 MIKE LIVINGSTON, Fish and Wildlife
- 6 KATE KELLY, Department of Commerce
- 7 ROB DENGEL, Department of Ecology

8
9 Assistant Attorney General:

10 JON THOMPSON

11 EFSEC Staff:

- 12 SONIA BUMPUS
- 13 AMI KIDDER
- 14 AMY MOON
- 15 JOAN OWENS
- 16 TAMMY MASTRO
- 17 PATTY BETTS
- 18 STEW HENDERSON

19 Also in Attendance:

- 20 ERIC MELBARDIS, EDP Renewables
- 21 CHRIS SHERIN, Grays Harbor Energy
- 22 SARAH DE GROOT, Invenergy
- 23 MACKENZIE EVANS, Invenergy
- 24 FRANK SARDUY, South Shore Environmental
- 25 TIM MCMAHAN, Stoel Rives
- 26 KAREN MCGAFFEY, Perkins Coie
- 27 BILL SHERMAN, The Environment
- 28 OWEN HURD, TUUSSO Energy
- 29 JEREMY SMITH, Chehalis Generation
- 30 MARY RAMOS, Columbia Generating Station
- 31 MARK MILLER, Chehalis Generation
- 32 SCOTT INLOES, Department of Ecology
- 33 PHIL MACKEY, South Shore Environmental

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1 LACEY, WASHINGTON; DECEMBER 15, 2020

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3 1:30 P.M.

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5 P R O C E E D I N G S

6 CHAIR DREW: Good afternoon. This is
7 Kathleen Drew, Chair of the Energy Facility Site
8 Evaluation Council, and I call this meeting to order for
9 December 15th.

10 Clerk, Ms. Mastro, will you call the roll?

11 MS. MASTRO: Good afternoon, Chair Drew.
12 Department of Commerce?

13 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, present.

14 MS. MASTRO: Department of Ecology?

15 MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel, present.

16 MS. MASTRO: Department of Fish and
17 Wildlife?

18 MR. LIVINGSTON: Mike Livingston's present.

19 MS. MASTRO: The Department of Natural
20 Resources is vacant.

21 The Utilities and Transportation Commission?

22 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, present.

23 MS. MASTRO: Assistant Attorney General?
24 EFSEC Staff, Sonia Bumpus?

25 MS. BUMPUS: Sonia Bumpus, present.

1 MS. MASTRO: Ami Kidder?

2 MS. KIDDER: Ami Kidder, present.

3 MS. MASTRO: Amy Moon?

4 MS. MOON: Present.

5 MS. MASTRO: Mr. Overton is excused.

6 Joan Owens?

7 MS. OWENS: Present.

8 MS. MASTRO: Patty Betts?

9 MS. BETTS: Present.

10 MS. MASTRO: Stew Henderson?

11 MR. HENDERSON: Present.

12 MS. MASTRO: Stephen Posner?

13 For the record, my name is Tammy Mastro.

14 If the court reporter could identify
15 themselves.

16 THE COURT REPORTER: This is Tayler
17 Garlinghouse, present.

18 MS. MASTRO: Thank you, Ms. Garlinghouse.

19 Chair Drew, there is a quorum for the EFSEC
20 Council.

21 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. I did see
22 Mr. Thompson's name on my list, but I don't --

23 MR. THOMPSON: Yes, I'm sorry. This is Jon
24 Thompson, present.

25 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Great. Thank you.

1 MS. MASTRO: Thank you, Mr. Thompson.

2 CHAIR DREW: Are there others who'd like to
3 identify themselves for the record for this meeting?

4 MR. SHERIN: Chris Sherin, Grays Harbor
5 Energy Center.

6 MR. MCMAHAN: Tim McMahan with Stoel Rives.

7 MS. MCGAFFEY: Karen McGaffey, Perkins Coie.

8 MR. HURD: Owen Hurd, TE Columbia Solar.

9 [Multiple speakers]

10 CHAIR DREW: That was Jeremy Smith,
11 Chehalis, and I believe Mary Ramos, Columbia Generating
12 Station.

13 MR. MILLER: And Mark Miller with the
14 Chehalis Generation Facility as well.

15 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

16 MR. INLOES: Scott Inloes with Department of
17 Ecology.

18 MS. DE GROOT: Sarah de Groot with
19 Invenergy.

20 MS. EVANS: Mackenzie Evans with Invenergy.

21 MR. SARDUY: Frank Sarduy with South Shore
22 Environmental.

23 MR. MELBARDIS: Eric Melbardis with EDP
24 Renewables.

25 MR. MACKEY: Phil Mackey, South Shore

1 Environmental.

2 MR. SHERMAN: Bill Sherman as counsel for
3 The Environment from the Attorney General's Office.

4 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you.

5 Moving on to the proposed agenda. You see
6 it before you on the screen. Would Councilmembers like
7 to adopt the proposed agenda?

8 MR. DENGEL: This is Rob Dengel, motion to
9 adopt the agenda.

10 MS. KELLY: Kate -- Kate Kelly, second.

11 CHAIR DREW: All those in favor, say aye.

12 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

13 CHAIR DREW: Opposed? The agenda is
14 adopted.

15 Moving on to the meeting minutes from
16 November 17th, 2020. You received them in your packets.
17 Is there -- and there they are on the screen. Is there
18 a motion to approve the meeting minutes for
19 November 17th, 2020?

20 MS. BREWSTER: This is Stacey Brewster. I
21 move that we approve the meeting minutes from
22 November 17th, 2020.

23 MR. LIVINGSTON: This is Mike Livingston,
24 I'll second that.

25 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

1 Are there any corrections to the minutes?
2 Hearing none, all those in favor of
3 approving the minutes for November 17th, 2020, please
4 say "aye."

5 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

6 CHAIR DREW: Opposed? The meeting minutes
7 are adopted.

8 We shall now move on to our facility
9 updates. First, Kittitas Valley Wind Project,
10 Mr. Melbardis?

11 MR. MELBARDIS: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,
12 EFSEC Council, and Staff. This is Eric Melbardis with
13 EDP Renewables for the Kittitas Valley Wind Project. We
14 are celebrating our tenth year of operation this week.
15 For the period -- the reporting period, we had nothing
16 nonroutine.

17 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. And I understand
18 from your report, that you are now -- you have now
19 brought the maintenance staff in-house rather than
20 contracting for them. So congratulations on your tenth
21 anniversary of operation and also on -- on the actions
22 to have maintenance staff in-house. So thank you for
23 sharing that with us.

24 MR. MELBARDIS: You're welcome.

25 CHAIR DREW: Wild Horse Wind Power Project?

1 Ms. Diaz is not able to be with us, so Ms. Kidder?

2 MS. KIDDER: Thank you. Good afternoon,
3 Chair Drew and Councilmembers. For the record, my name
4 is Ami Kidder. As Chair Drew mentioned, Ms. Diaz is
5 unable to join us for this month's council meeting. You
6 will find the facility's monthly update in your Council
7 packets, and there was nothing nonroutine to report for
8 this period.

9 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

10 Moving on to Chehalis Generation Facility,
11 Mr. Smith?

12 MR. SMITH: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,
13 Council, and EFSEC Staff. This is Jeremy Smith,
14 environmental analyst representing Chehalis Generation
15 Facility. The facility does not have any nonroutine
16 items to report for the previous month.

17 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

18 Moving on to Desert Claim Wind Power
19 Project, Ms. Moon?

20 MS. MOON: Good afternoon, Council Chair
21 Drew and Councilmembers. For the record, this is Amy
22 Moon providing the update on the Desert Claim Project.
23 EFSEC Staff continue to coordinate with Desert Claim;
24 however, there are no other project updates at this
25 time.

1 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

2 Columbia Solar Project, Ms. Kidder?

3 MS. KIDDER: Thank you, Chair Drew. The
4 certificate holder continues to update EFSEC Staff on
5 their preconstruction activity; however, there are no
6 further project updates at this time.

7 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

8 Moving on to Columbia Generating Station,
9 Ms. Ramos.

10 MS. RAMOS: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,
11 EFSEC Council, and Staff. This is Mary Ramos reporting
12 for Energy Northwest. For Columbia Generating Station,
13 there are no nonroutine items to report and no project
14 updates to report.

15 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. And WNP-1/4?

16 MS. RAMOS: Sorry, the same goes for
17 WNP-1/4, there are no nonroutine items to report. Thank
18 you.

19 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

20 Moving on, then, to Grays Harbor Energy
21 Center operational updates, Mr. Sherin?

22 MR. SHERIN: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,
23 Councilmembers. We did have one nonroutine item to
24 report for the month of November. Grays Harbor Energy
25 Center notified EFSEC Staff on November 28th of a

1 potential emissions event on the initial startup of the
2 units on November 27th. EFSEC Staff was provided more
3 detailed follow-up on December 1st.

4 During the startup, Williams Northwest
5 Pipeline failed to deliver adequate pressure to the
6 plant due to a failed valve actuator solenoid. Excuse
7 me. Shortly after starting the second gas turbine on
8 the startup, Grays Harbor Energy Center operators
9 aborted the startup of the second gas turbine due to the
10 loss of pressure in the pipeline.

11 They notified Williams Northwest Pipeline
12 operations center and the issue was not immediately
13 correctable from their operations center, and this
14 required a technician to travel to a substation and
15 manually operate the valve or open it.

16 Operators aborted the second startup of the
17 second gas turbine, which increased supply pressure to
18 normal operating pressure, and then operators noti- --
19 operations continued with the startup of initially fired
20 gas turbine. The gas turbine completed startup and was
21 emissions-compliant.

22 Gas -- gas pressure began to fall again, and
23 based on the estimated repair time from Williams
24 Northwest Pipeline, the operations center had provided
25 Grays Harbor Energy Center the operations dropped load

1 anticipating the repair to be made within minutes.
2 Dropping the load made the operating gas turbine no
3 longer emissions-compliant and began the shutdown window
4 per our permit for the gas turbine.

5 When the repair was not made for the
6 timeline, Williams Northwest Pipeline had provided the
7 operators commence shutdown of the gas turbine with the
8 intent of quickly restarting the gas turbine prior to
9 full shutdown to minimize emissions.

10 When Williams Northwest Pipeline technician
11 arrived, they immediately operated the affected blocked
12 valve and the rapid increase in gas flow caused a large
13 spike in pressure, more than the plant's high pressure
14 limit, and this tripped off the gas turbine 39 minutes
15 into shutdown.

16 In accordance with R5 of our air operating
17 permit, Grays Harbor Energy Center is promptly to notify
18 EFSEC of potential deviation from Conditions 11.3 of the
19 PSD Amendment 4 and AR 2.15.e.ii of the air operating
20 permit that limits planned shutdowns to 30 minutes.
21 Although the 30-minute limitation was exceeded by nine
22 minutes, none of the air emission permit limitations
23 were exceeded during the shutdown of gas turbine 2 or
24 during the shutdown of gas turbine 1 that occurred
25 initially.

1 And that's all I have unless there are any
2 questions.

3 CHAIR DREW: Are there any questions from
4 Councilmembers?

5 Okay. Thank you for your report.

6 Moving on to the PSD permit, Ms. Kidder?

7 MS. KIDDER: Thank you. In support of the
8 request to install the Advanced Gas Path Package, a
9 modified Prevention of Significant Deterioration or PSD
10 permit and fact sheet have been drafted and provided to
11 the Council for their review. This permit modification
12 does not increase existing emissions limits in the
13 current PSD.

14 At this time, the Staff are requesting the
15 Council to vote to release the draft permit and
16 associated fact sheet for public comment. Public
17 comment period would last a minimum of 30 days and is
18 currently planned to run from December 16th through
19 January 19th. Staff intends a public comment meeting
20 will also be held and is currently planned to take place
21 on January 19th. Notice will be provided through the
22 EFSEC email list, the EFSEC website, and in the Olympian
23 and Daily World newspapers.

24 We also have Scott Inloes available on the
25 call with Ecology, who is the primary drafter of the

1 proposed PSD permit, and he's available to answer any
2 technical questions the Council has.

3 Are there any questions?

4 CHAIR DREW: Any questions from
5 Councilmembers?

6 I presume we're going to -- the meeting is
7 going to be virtual?

8 MS. KIDDER: Yes --

9 CHAIR DREW: The public hearing?

10 MS. KIDDER: -- we anticipate that the
11 public meeting would be very similar to the public
12 informational meeting that we held in September -- or
13 no, I'm sorry, early October. That would be virtual and
14 call-in numbers would be available to the public and
15 public comment would be accepted through the public
16 comment database on EFSEC's website as well.

17 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

18 Any other questions? Is there a motion to
19 approve the draft permit -- help me with this,
20 Ms. Kidder.

21 MS. BUMPUS: Chair Drew, this is -- this is
22 Sonia Bumpus. I did want to propose, Chair Drew, that
23 the -- the Council take up the matter of the resolution
24 first before the vote on the Grays Harbor permit.

25 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. So we will move on,

1 then, to the Site Certification Agreement amendment
2 resolution. Ms. Kidder.

3 MS. KIDDER: All right. EFSEC Staff have
4 drafted the request of resolution for the Council's
5 consideration. The resolution considers both the denial
6 of the application to extend the construction window for
7 turbines 3 and 4 as well as the approval of the request
8 to amend the current Site Certification Agreement, or
9 SCA, to install the Advanced Gas Path Package and
10 combustion turbines 1 and 2.

11 This resolution also directs the facility to
12 provide an updated greenhouse gas mitigation planned
13 summary letter, which identifies the change in
14 mitigation calculations moving forward upon construction
15 completion and facility startup. The proposed
16 resolution has been provided to the Council for their
17 review and Staff are now asking the Council for their
18 vote on the resolution.

19 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

20 Is there a motion to approve the Resolution
21 No. 348?

22 MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel, motion to approve
23 Resolution No. 348 in regards to Grays Harbor Energy
24 Site Certification Agreement.

25 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

1 Is there a second?

2 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, second.

3 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

4 Are there questions for Staff, discussion?

5 Ms. Brewster, did I see you briefly there?

6 MR. DENGEL: This is Rob Dengel. I'll just
7 note that the issue for units 1 and 2 seem to be very
8 clear and it makes sense to move forward on that. And I
9 know we've already discussed in some detail the concerns
10 on units 3 and 4 coming at a much later date and needing
11 much more further analysis when that's closer to the
12 date where it can actually be undertaken and the scope of
13 it can be best under- -- understood.

14 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

15 Are there any other comments?

16 Okay. I will take the vote on Resolution
17 No. 348. All those this favor, please say aye.

18 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

19 CHAIR DREW: All those opposed?

20 The resolution is adopted, and thank you all
21 for your work and to the Staff and to the certificate
22 holder as well. Appreciate all the work that went
23 into -- into this.

24 So now moving back to the PSD permit,
25 Ms. Bumpus? The action we are being asked to take

1 specifically, please.

2 MS. BUMPUS: So thank you, Chair Drew. For
3 the record, Sonia Bumpus speaking. The -- the request
4 from Staff is that the Council make a tentative
5 determination to approve the draft PSD permit for Grays
6 Harbor Energy which will then allow EFSEC to move
7 forward with the public comment on the draft permit.

8 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. And as I understand
9 it, this goes along with the resolution in approving the
10 Advanced Gas Path with minor modifications to our
11 existing PSD permit?

12 MS. BUMPUS: That's correct, Chair Drew.

13 CHAIR DREW: So, Councilmembers, is there a
14 motion to tentatively approve the PSD permit subject to
15 public comment?

16 MS. BREWSTER: This is Stacey Brewster.
17 I'll move that the Council tentatively approve the draft
18 PSD permit and allow for public comment.

19 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

20 MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel, second.

21 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

22 Is there further discussion on the draft
23 permit? If not, all those in favor, please say aye.

24 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

25 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF THURSTON

I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand Reporter 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.



Tayler Garlinghouse
Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358