WASHINGTON STATE
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
Lacey, Washington
March 16, 2021
1:30 p.m.

Telephonic Monthly Council Meeting
Verbatim Transcript of Proceedings

(All participants appeared virtually.)

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APPEARANCES

Councilmembers:

KATHLEEN DREW, Chair
STACEY BREWSTER, Utilities and Transportation Commission
MIKE LIVINGSTON, Department of Fish and Wildlife
KATE KELLY, Department of Commerce
ROB DENGEL, Department of Ecology
LENNY YOUNG, Department of Natural Resources

Local Government and Optional State Agencies:

BILL SAURIOL

Assistant Attorney General:

JON THOMPSON

EFSEC Staff:

SONIA BUMPUS
AMY MOON
KYLE OVERTON
PATTY BETTS
STEPHEN POSNER

Also in Attendance:

ERIC MELBARDIS, Kittitas Valley
JENNIFER DIAZ, Wild Horse
CHRIS SHERIN, Grays Harbor
MARY RAMOS, Columbia Generating Station
BILL SHERMAN, Counsel for the Environment
PAT LANDESS, Horse Heaven
TIM MCMAHAN, Horse Heaven and Goose Prairie
BLAKE BJORNSON, Goose Prairie
OWEN HURD, Columbia Solar
SONIA SULLIVAN, Office of Administrative Hearings
LACEY, WASHINGTON; MARCH 16, 2021

1:30 P.M.

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PROCEEDINGS

CHAIR DREW: Good afternoon. This is Kathleen Drew, Chair of the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council and I am calling our monthly meeting to order.

Ms. Owens, will you call the roll?

MS. OWENS: Department of Commerce?
Department of Ecology?

MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel, present.

MS. OWENS: Department of Fish and Wildlife?

MR. LIVINGSTON: Mike Livingston, present.

MS. OWENS: Department of Natural Resources?

MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, present.

MS. OWENS: Utilities and Transportation Commission?

MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, present.

MS. OWENS: Local Government and Optional State Agencies for the Goose Prairie Project, Bill Sauriol?

MR. SAURIOL: Bill Sauriol, present.

MS. OWENS: For Horse Heaven, Derek
Sandison?

Assistant Attorney General Jon Thompson?

MR. THOMPSON: Jon Thompson is present.

MS. OWENS: Counsel Staff, Sonia Bumpus?

Amy Kidder?

Amy Moon?

MS. MOON: Amy Moon is present.

MS. OWENS: Kyle Overton?

MR. OVERTON: Here.

MS. OWENS: Patty Betts?

MS. BETTS: Present.

MS. OWENS: Stew Henderson?

Stephen Posner?


MS. OWENS: Is our court reporter on the line?

THE COURT REPORTER: Yes. This is Tayler Garlinghouse. I'm present.

MS. OWENS: Kittitas Valley Wind EDP Renewables, Eric Melbardis?

MR. MELBARDIS: Present.

MS. OWENS: Wild Horse Wind Project, Jennifer Diaz?

MS. DIAZ: Present.

MS. OWENS: Grays Harbor Energy, Chris
Sherin?

MR. SHERIN: Present.

MS. OWENS: Chehalis Generation Facility,

Mark Miller?

MR. MILLER: Present.

MS. OWENS: Columbia Generating Station, Kip

Whitehead?

MS. RAMOS: This is Mary Ramos reporting for Columbia Generating Station.

MS. OWENS: Okay. Thank you. And counsel for the Environment, Bill

Sherman?

MR. SHERMAN: Present.

MS. OWENS: Chair, there is a quorum for the Council and for the Goose Prairie and Horse Heaven Councils.

MS. KELLY: Joan, I apologize. This is Kate Kelly from Commerce. I arrived late.

MS. OWENS: Thank you.

MS. BUMPUS: And, Joan, this is Sonia Bumpus. I am on the line.

MS. OWENS: Thank you.

CHAIR DREW: Thank you, Ms. Owens.

Is there anyone else on the line who would like to state that they are at this meeting at this
MR. LANDESS: Hi, good afternoon. This is Pat Landess with Horse Heaven Wind Farm.

MR. MCMAHAN: And Tim McMahan with Horse Heaven and Goose Prairie.

MR. BJORNSON: And Blake Bjornson with Goose Prairie Solar.

MR. HURD: This is Owen Hurd with Columbia Solar.

MS. SULLIVAN: Sonia Sullivan observing from the Office of Administrative Hearings.

CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you, all.

Before we move on to our proposed agenda, I would like to welcome our newest member to the EFSEC Council and that is Lenny Young, who has been designated by Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz to serve as the Department of Natural Resources representative on EFSEC.

Lenny is DNR's deputy chief operating officer. He has worked with DNR since 1989 in a number of science and management roles. He has represented DNR in several collaborative formats including Washington's Forest and Fish Policy Committee, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Team, Governor Gregoire's Natural Resources Subcabinet, Governor
Inslee's State Efficiency and Environmental Performance


Lenny holds a bachelor's -- bachelor's degrees in zoology and wildlife management from University of Maine, a master's degree in wildlife biology from University of Montana, and Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certification of University of Washington Tacoma.

Welcome, Lenny.

MR. YOUNG: Thank you, Kathleen. I'm very glad to be here.

CHAIR DREW: So moving on, then, to the meeting minutes. We have before us the -- oh, excuse me, I jumped ahead. We have the proposed agenda. Is there a motion to approve the proposed agenda?

MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel, motion to approve agenda.

MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, second.

CHAIR DREW: Is there any discussion or any changes?

Hearing none, all those in favor of adopting the proposed agenda, please say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR DREW: Opposed? The agenda is
Moving on to the meeting minutes from February 16th, 2021. Is there a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 16th?

MS. BREWSTER: This is Stacey Brewster. I'll make a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the February 16th meeting.

CHAIR DREW: Second?

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

CHAIR DREW: Are there any changes in the draft minutes?

Hearing none, all those in favor of approving the minutes from February 16th, 2021, please say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR DREW: All those opposed? The minutes are approved.

We will now move on to our operational updates. Kittitas Valley Wind Project, Mr. Melbardis.

MR. MELBARDIS: Good afternoon, Chair Drew, EFSEC Council, Staff, welcome, Lenny. For the record, this is Eric Melbardis with EDP Renewables. I'm the senior operations manager for the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project. We have nothing nonroutine to report for the period.
CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

Wild Horse Wind Power Project, Ms. Diaz.

MS. DIAZ: Yes. Thank you, Chair Drew and Councilmembers and Staff. This is Jennifer Diaz with Puget Sound Energy representing the Wild Horse Wind Facility. I have nothing nonroutine to report for the month of February.

CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

Chehalis Generation Facility, is it Mr. Smith or...

MR. MILLER: This is Mark Miller speaking this month, Chair Drew. Good afternoon, Chair Drew, EFSEC Council, and Staff. This is Mark Miller, plant manager representing the Chehalis Generation Facility. I have one correction in this minute report for the month of February. The report should be corrected to read megawatt hours generated for -- in February, not January. And those were 145,748 megawatt hours generated in February. And that's the only correction, and I have nothing else nonroutine to report this month.

CHAIR DREW: Thank you, Mr. Miller.

Grays Harbor Energy Center, Mr. Sherin?

MR. SHERIN: Good afternoon, Chair Drew and Councilmembers. Chris Sherin, plant manager at Grays Harbor Energy Center, and for the month of February, I
also have nothing nonroutine to report.

[Brief interruption.]

CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

MR. SHERIN: Need to repeat anything there?

CHAIR DREW: Nothing's happening right now either, right? Thank you, Mr. Sherin.

Moving on to Columbia Generating Station,

Ms. Ramos.

MS. RAMOS: Good afternoon, Chair Drew, EFSEC Council, and Staff. This is Mary Ramos reporting for Energy Northwest, Columbia Generating Station, and WNP-1/4. In February 18th, Energy Northwest admitted comments regarding a draft radioactive air emissions license for Columbia Generating Station. We're working with EFSEC to discuss the comments with the Department of Health.

And then also during February, the week of February 22nd, the Washington State Fire Marshal's Office conducted an inspection of Energy Northwest's industrial development complex and nonpower block buildings at Columbia Generating Station, and the inspection scope included a review of 2019 open actions as well as the annual inspection for 2020.

For other updates, Columbia Generating Station is getting ready for our next refuelling outage.
It will be our 25th refuelling and maintenance outage to begin on May 8th with a target duration of 40 days. And for this outage, the entire site shifts focus on the outage and preoutage work begins to ramp up starting in mid March.

CHAIR DREW: And thank you, Ms. Ramos. For the newer Councilmembers, this is an activity which happens every two years; is that correct?

MS. RAMOS: That's correct. Would you like me to provide a little bit more information regarding our outage?

CHAIR DREW: Yes.

MS. RAMOS: Okay. So like I said, we're getting ready for our 25th refuelling and maintenance outage, which begins in May 8th, and more than 1300 skilled workers hired locally and also from all over the country will join Energy Northwest's workforce of about a thousand employees to support the refuelling outage.

Part of the scope, we're going to replace 260 of the 754 nuclear fuel assemblies in Columbia's core with new fuel. And those will be placed in our dry cask storage on site and they remain stored securely in -- aboveground.

Other maintenance projects, we have replacement of a low pressure turbine rotor, replacement
of reactor water cleanup heat exchangers and piping, and
refurbishment of condensate pump and motor.
So various maintenance projects as well as
replacing fuel.

CHAIR DREW: Thank you very much for that additional report.
I would --

MS. RAMOS: That's all I have.

CHAIR DREW: I guess one -- one question I have is, are there additional precautions that you have to take even though we are, you know, certainly by May hopefully even more so declining in -- in the incident of COVID-19 amongst the community, is that -- are you taking additional precautions because of that?

MS. RAMOS: Absolutely, yes. We have a dedicated pandemic response team not -- and they -- that response team was set up well before outage in not only looking at outage, but also, you know, the ongoing safety and health of EN employees.

They have been benchmarking with other power plants to see how they -- you know, what they have learned and what protocols they have implemented to safely conduct their outage. We're actually one of the later plants -- it's my understanding we're one of the later plants to go through an outage in the midst of the
pandemic. So we have a lot of operating experience that we've gained from other plants, and we're taking lots of precautions. I know that they're expanding our what we call our in-processing when they first badge and go through the motions of -- of on-boarding new employees. We have very thorough health screenings and lots of trainings to make sure that they have the right behaviors in the midst of the pandemic.

Does that answer your question? I could certainly reach out to our pandemic response team to see if they have a better summary of the more details related to COVID.

CHAIR DREW: That's fine. I -- thank you for that summary.

Are there questions from any Councilmembers? I know some of us had the opportunity, in fact, to visit Columbia Generating Station as well as all the other facilities, operational facilities, and as we get through the restrictions that we've had because of COVID-19, if the newer Councilmembers are interested in tour- -- in seeing any of our facilities, if they can contact probably the best would be Sonia Bumpus, our manager, and perhaps have an opportunity to -- to see any of our facilities that we have, the oversight,
environmental oversight of. So thank you very much.

Moving on to Desert Claim, Ms. Moon?

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

CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

Columbia Solar, Mr. Overton?

MR. OVERTON: Yes, thank you. This is Kyle
Overton, the site specialist for Columbia Solar. We
don't really have anything new for this month. EFSEC
Staff continue to coordinate with the facility and our
contractors on some pre-construction plant review. Any
questions?

CHAIR DREW: I don't hear any, so thank you
very much.

Goose Prairie Solar, Mr. Overton?

MR. OVERTON: Yep, thank you. This is Kyle
Overton again, the site specialist for Goose Prairie.
So right now EFSEC Staff, we continue to coordinate with
the applicant and our State agency and third-party
contractors on their review of their application for
site certification.
Coming up later on today we have a public information meeting and a land use hearing, which is to begin at 5:00 a.m. and will be held virtually via Skype to accommodate in-person meeting restrictions. This meeting is -- or these meetings and information hearing, land use hearing are required per WAC 463-43-030 and are part of the expedited process and determination process.

Is there any questions?

CHAIR DREW: Are there any questions for Mr. Overton?

MS. BREWSTER: This is Stacey Brewster. Kyle, could you tell me a little bit about the third-party contractors, what exactly that means that you're working with?

MR. OVERTON: Right. So we contracted with a private firm, Golder & Associates, to aid us in some of the application review that is outside of expertise of some of our State agency contractors. So they're helping us look at things that are -- for example, visual aesthetics and -- and items like that that may not necessarily be the experts we find in our agency contractors.

MS. BREWSTER: Thanks.

MR. OVERTON: Yep.

CHAIR DREW: Other questions?
Thank you.

Moving on to Horse Heaven Wind Farm,

Ms. Moon?

MS. MOON: Thank you, Chair Drew. This is Amy Moon again providing an update on the Horse Heaven Wind Project. EFSEC Staff continue to process the Horse Heaven Wind Project application for site certification, otherwise known as the ASC, that we received on February 8th, 2021. We are working with the project proponent, Scout Clean Energy.

The application was submitted with an expedited process request per WAC 463-43. EFSEC Staff are working with the contractor of State agencies reviewing the ASC, the State Environmental Policy Act, or SEPA, the checklist, as well as evaluating the project relative to Benton County land use criteria.

A public informational meeting and land use hearing are scheduled for March 30th, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting and hearing will be in a remote virtual platform due to the current COVID-19 public health constraints. The informational meeting is being held within the 60 days of the application receipt as required by WAC 463-43-040. This meeting will provide information to the public concerning the nature and purpose of the proposed energy facility, information on
the Council process, and an opportunity for public

Immediately following the informational

meeting, the land use hearing will be held. The purpose

of the land use hearing is to determine if the proposed

Horse Heaven Wind Project is consistent and in

compliance with county land use criteria.

EFSEC sent notification letters to local and

State agencies who have the opportunity to appoint

someone to site -- someone on the Council for the

project on February 17th. So we sent the letters

February 17th soliciting councilmembers, and the

Washington Department of Natural Resource -- Resources

appointed Derek Sandison.

Letters were also sent on March 9th to

adjacent landowners announcing the public informational

meeting and land use hearing. And as a reminder, the

Horse Heaven Wind Project application included a request

for expedited process, which is a 120-day review

timeline per WAC 463-43, which would be June 8th.

The expedited processing determination

requires review of the application, environmental

checklist, and the holding of the land use hearing to

determine whether the proposed project is consistent and

in compliance with land use plans and zoning ordnances.
These activities are required prior to the Council determining whether the environmental impacts are not significant or may be mitigated to nonsignificant levels under the Revised Code of Washington 43.21(c).031. And copies of the Horse Heaven Wind Project application were submitted for public access at the Washington State Library in Olympia and locally near the proposed project location at the Mid-Columbia Libraries in Kennewick, Prosser, and West Pasco, also at the Richland Public Library, the Keewaydin, which I apologize if I've pronounced that wrong, the Keewaydin Park Branch Library, and the West Pasco Branch Library.

And does the Council have any questions? I gave a pretty lengthy explanation for the new Councilmembers.

CHAIR DREW: Thank you very much for that, Ms. Moon. One correction is that it's the Department of Agriculture who appointed Mr. Derek Sandison as a member. I heard you say Department of Natural Resources.

MS. MOON: Yes, I did say that. Thank you.

CHAIR DREW: You're welcome. And of course Mr. Young is our DNR representative. And I do thank you for that detail, especially about where the copies of
the application are located because it is a -- there are
numerous documents associated with that. People can
also go online to EFSEC.wa.gov, right? Our website for
information both about the hearings and to also review
the application; is that correct?

MS. MOON: Yes, and I think it's
EFSEC@utc.wa.gov.

CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

MS. MOON: Are there any questions from
other Councilmembers? Okay, then. I will --

CHAIR DREW: Thank you very much.

MS. MOON: You're welcome.

CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

That concludes our agenda, but for the good
of the order, I would like to read Resolution No. 348
commending services of EFSEC Staff member Tammy Mastro.
Councilmembers have seen this resolution and thank you
for your signatures, but we have had a longtime Staff
member move to a new position for which we congratulate
her, but it's also a difficult time for us because Tammy
basically introduced EFSEC to each one of the Staff
members who are with us now. So she was pretty much one
of the first people we met and -- Councilmembers as well
when we -- when we started our work with EFSEC.

So reading Resolution No. 348 commending
services of EFSEC Staff member Tammy Mastro.

Whereas Tammy Mastro has dedicated 18 years of career service and worn many hats within the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council including as an emergency hire office assistant on September 3rd, 2003, office assistant in training on June 1, 2004, office assistant 1 on December 1, 2004, office assistant 2 on June 1, 2005, office assistant 3 on November 15th, 2005, administrative assistant 3 on December 1, 2009, Commerce specialist in training on May 18th, 2010;

And whereas Tammy Mastro faithfully served the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council with great distinction in her final position as the Commerce specialist 1 from June 10, 2010, until March 15, 2021;

And whereas Tammy Mastro with great composure and presence of mind managed numerous interagency agreements and contracts, which often included difficult negotiation of contract budgets and review of invoices with contractors and utilities and Transportation Commission Staff;

And whereas Tammy Mastro tirelessly or was it exhaustively processed approximately 970 exhibits and countless briefs, dispositive motions, orders, interventions, and pleadings for EFSEC's first all electronic document adjudicative hearing for the
Vancouver Energy Project, the most controversial complex
ergy proposal in the Council's recent history;
And whereas Tammy Mastro bravely and
seemingly effortlessly manned the signup table at public
comment meetings including some of the largest and most
controversial projects in EFSEC's history while showing
great empathy and attention to detail with every person
she signed up and interacted with;
And whereas Tammy Mastro quickly became the
EFSEC great time puzzle queen supplying and solving
hundreds of puzzles greatly contributing to EFSEC's team
morale and comradery;
And whereas Tammy Mastro assisted with the
planning and logistics for multiple public meetings and
hearings held across Washington State such as Lacey,
Olympia, Spokane, Vancouver, and Ellensburg, Washington,
including five weeks of adjudicative hearings in
Vancouver and Olympia, the longest in EFSEC history;
And whereas Tammy Mastro has faithfully and
respectfully worked with and in support of five chairs,
40 Councilmembers, four AAGs, and 25 Staff members;
And whereas Tammy Mastro with no small
amount of blood, sweat, and tears did the one job that
absolutely no one wants to do, records management.
Now therefore be it resolved that Energy
Facility Site Evaluation Council hereby recognizes Tammy Mastro's outstanding, unwavering, and faithful contribution to the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council Staff and Council alike and gratefully expresses its sincere gratitude for her commitment, dedication, effort, professionalism, hard work, and consideration she has shown and I will add to Staff, to Councilmembers, and especially to the public over the past 18 years, dated this 15th day of March 2021.

One final note is that she is our historian of the activities of EFSEC, and we are grateful for the fact that she has moved to our sister agency, Commerce, and so when we need to know where a document is or what happened before, we know she's just a phone call away. So with that, applause for Ms. Mastro.

And at -- at this point, we have no further business, so our meeting is adjourned, and we will see Councilmembers at 5:00 p.m. today for our public meeting and land use hearing. Thank you all.

MS. BUMPUS: Chair Drew?

CHAIR DREW: Yes, Ms. Bumpus?

MS. BUMPUS: Thank you, Chair Drew. This is Sonia Bumpus. I just wanted to note that the website address for EFSEC online is https://www.efsec.wa.gov.

CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
Is there anything else to come before EFSEC today? Thank you. The meeting is adjourned.

(Adjourned at 1:58 p.m.)
CERTIFICATE

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, CCR 3358