

Verbatim Transcript of Monthly Council Meeting
Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

April 20, 2021



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WASHINGTON STATE
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
Tuesday, March 20, 2021

Telephonic Monthly Council Meeting
Verbatim Transcript of Proceedings

REPORTED BY: Ronald L. Cook
CCR, CRR, RDR, FAPR

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

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3 Council members:

- 4 KATHLEEN DREW, Chair
- 5 STACEY BREWSTER, Utilities and Transportation Commission
- 6 MIKE LIVINGSTON, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- 7 KATE KELLY, Department of Commerce
- 8 ROB DENGEL, Department of Ecology
- 9 LENNY YOUNG, Department of Natural Resources

7

8 Local Government and Optional State Agencies:

9 BILL SAURIOL

10

Assistant Attorney General:

11

JON THOMPSON

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13 EFSEC Staff:

- 14 AMI KIDDER
- 15 SONIA BUMPUS
- 16 AMY MOON
- 17 PATTY BETTS
- 18 KYLE OVERTON

17

Also in attendance:

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- 19 JENNIFER GALBRAITH, Puget Sound Energy
- 20 CHRIS SHERIN, Grays Harbor Energy
- 21 MARY RAMOS, Columbia Generating Station
- 22 BILL SHERMAN, Counsel for the Environment
- 23 BLAKE BJORNSON, Wenatchee Renewables
- 24 DEREK SANDISON, Department of Agriculture
- 25 MARK MILLER, Chehalis Generation Facility
- MAGGIE DOUGLAS, Association of Washington Cities
- TIM MCMAHAN, Stoel Rives
- KAREN MCGAFFEY, Perkins Coie
- JUDGE TOREM

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1 TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021

2 1:31 P.M.

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5 CHAIR DREW: Good afternoon, everyone.

6 This is Kathleen Drew, chair of the Washington Energy
7 Facility Site Evaluation Council, and I'm calling this
8 meeting to order.

9 This is our first council meeting using
10 the Microsoft Teams, so we think it all will work
11 well, but bear with us should we have any technical
12 issues, which I'm not expecting.

13 Ms. Kidder, will you call the roll.

14 MS. KIDDER: Thank you, Chair Drew.

15 Department of Commerce?

16 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, present.

17 MS. KIDDER: Department of Ecology?

18 MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel, present.

19 MS. KIDDER: Department of Fish and
20 Wildlife?

21 MR. LIVINGSTON: Mike Livingston,
22 present.

23 MS. KIDDER: Department of Natural
24 Resources?

25 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, present.

1 MS. KIDDER: Utilities and Transportation
2 Commission?

3 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, present.

4 MS. KIDDER: Local government and
5 optional state agencies for the Goose Prairie project,
6 Bill Sauriol?

7 MR. SAURIOL: Bill Sauriol, present.

8 MS. KIDDER: And for the Horse Heaven
9 project, Department of Agriculture?

10 MR. SANDISON: Derek Sandison, present.

11 MS. KIDDER: And Benton County?

12 Assistant Attorney General?

13 MR. THOMPSON: Jon Thompson.

14 MS. KIDDER: Council staff. Sonia
15 Bumpus?

16 MS. BUMPUS: Sonia Bumpus is present.

17 MS. KIDDER: Amy Moon?

18 MS. MOON: Amy Moon, present.

19 MS. KIDDER: Kyle Overton?

20 MR. OVERTON: Kyle Overton, present.

21 MS. KIDDER: Patty Betts?

22 MS. BETTS: Patty Betts, present.

23 MS. KIDDER: Stew Henderson?

24 Council for the Environment?

25 MR. SHERMAN: This is Bill Sherman.

1 MS. KIDDER: And now I'll -- Chair, there
2 is a quorum for both the Horse Heaven project and the
3 Goose Prairie project, as well as the EFSEC Regular
4 Council.

5 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
6 Would you please call the facilities
7 (inaudible).

8 MS. KIDDER: Yes. Kittitas Valley,
9 Mr. Melbardis?

10 Wild Horse Wind Facility, Jennifer Diaz?

11 MS. GALBRAITH: Yes, Jennifer Diaz,
12 present.

13 MS. KIDDER: Chehalis Generation
14 Facility, Jeremy Smith.

15 MR. MILLER: This is Mark Miller, plant
16 manager for the Chehalis Generation Facility,
17 participating today.

18 MS. KIDDER: Thank you.
19 Columbia Generating Station and WNP-1/4,
20 Mary Ramos?

21 MS. RAMOS: Mary Ramos, present.

22 MS. KIDDER: Chair Drew, that is the
23 representatives for all of our facilities.

24 CHAIR DREW: I didn't hear Grays Harbor
25 Energy Center.

1 MS. KIDDER: Oh. I apologize. Grays
2 Harbor Energy Center, Chris Sherin?

3 MR. SHERIN: This is Chris Sherin, for
4 Grays Harbor Energy Center.

5 MS. KIDDER: Thank you. I apologize for
6 that, Mr. Sherin.

7 CHAIR DREW: Is there anyone else on the
8 line who, for the record, would like to introduce
9 themselves, please do so now.

10 JUDGE TOREM: This is Judge Torem,
11 administrative judge for the -- where are we? In the
12 Tri-City project. The Horse Heaven project.

13 CHAIR DREW: Horse Heaven.

14 Thank you, Judge Torem. You should be on
15 our list. We'll remember to do that.

16 MS. DOUGLAS: This is Maggie Douglas,
17 from Association of Washington Cities.

18 MR. BJORNSON: This is Blake Bjornson,
19 from Wenatchee Renewables, for the Goose Prairie Solar
20 project.

21 MR. MCMAHAN: Tim McMahan here, Stoel
22 Rives law firm, on behalf of Goose Prairie and Horse
23 Heaven.

24 MS. MCGAFFEY: Karen McGaffey, Perkins
25 Coie.

1 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

2 We'll now move into our proposed agenda.
3 Council members, you have before you the proposed
4 agenda for this meeting. Is there a motion to approve
5 the agenda?

6 MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel. Motion to
7 approve the agenda.

8 CHAIR DREW: Second?

9 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly --

10 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, second.

11 CHAIR DREW: I think we'll give it to
12 Lenny. Thank you, Kate.

13 All those -- any discussion about the
14 agenda?

15 All those in favor of approving the
16 general -- proposed agenda, please say "Aye."

17 COUNCIL MEMEBERS: Aye.

18 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?

19 The agenda is approved.

20 For the -- next on our agenda is the
21 approval of the monthly meeting minutes for
22 March 16th. You have had them for review. Is there a
23 motion to approve the meeting minutes for March 16th?

24 MR. LIVINGSTON: This is Mike Livingston.
25 I'll move to approve the minutes from March 16th.

1 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

2 Second, Kate Kelly?

3 MS. KELLY: Second. Kate Kelly.

4 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

5 Any comments?

6 MS. BREWSTER: Chair Drew, this is Stacey
7 Brewster.

8 CHAIR DREW: Yes.

9 MS. BREWSTER: I did notice one minor
10 correction. On Page 15, Line 3, the public meeting
11 was referred to as occurring at 5:00 a.m. It should
12 read 5:00 p.m.

13 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. Yes. I don't
14 believe any of us were there at 5:00 a.m.

15 So any other changes to the minutes?

16 Hearing none, all those in favor of
17 approving the minutes as amended from 5:00 a.m. to
18 5:00 p.m., please say "Aye."

19 COUNCIL MEMEBERS: Aye.

20 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?

21 The meetings are approved.

22 Moving on to the March 16th Goose Prairie
23 special meeting minutes, is there a motion to approve
24 those minutes?

25 MS. BREWSTER: This is Stacey Brewster.

1 I'll move to approve the meeting minutes from the
2 Goose Prairie meeting.

3 MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel. Second the
4 motion.

5 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

6 Are there any amendments or changes to
7 those Goose Prairie special meeting minutes?

8 Hearing none, all those in favor of
9 approving the March 16th Goose Prairie special meeting
10 minutes, please say "Aye."

11 COUNCIL MEMEBERS: Aye.

12 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?

13 The meeting minutes are approved.

14 We'll now move on to our operational
15 updates. Kittitas Valley Wind project.

16 MR. OVERTON: This is Kyle Overton, site
17 specialist for the Kittitas Valley project.

18 For the month of March, Kittitas Valley
19 has no nonroutine items to report.

20 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

21 Moving on to the Wild Horse Wind Power
22 project. Ms. Diaz?

23 MS. GALBRAITH: Yes. Thank you, Chair
24 Drew.

25 For the record, this is Jennifer

1 Galbraith, formerly Diaz, with Puget Sound Energy, for
2 the Wild Horse Wind Facility.

3 I have no nonroutine updates for the
4 month of March other than that my last name has
5 changed from Diaz to Galbraith.

6 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. We'll make note
7 of it.

8 MS. GALBRAITH: Thanks.

9 CHAIR DREW: Appreciate it.

10 Chehalis Generation Facility.

11 MR. MILLER: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,
12 EFSEC Council, and staff. This is Mark Miller, the
13 plant manager, representing the Chehalis Generation
14 Facility.

15 I have one nonroutine note in the
16 submitted report from the month of March. We received
17 a letter -- deviation closeout letter from EFSEC staff
18 determining that no further action was required
19 regarding the December 2020 emissions deviation
20 related to a failed generator breaker.

21 And that's all I have.

22 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

23 Grays Harbor Energy Center. Mr. Sherin?

24 MR. SHERIN: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,
25 Council members. This is Chris Sherin, the plant

1 manager from Grays Harbor Energy Center.

2 For the month of March, the only
3 nonroutine items to report is we did send EFSEC staff
4 a notification of physical operational change for
5 installation of AGB on both units, and just also noted
6 that we're in the process of updating our CO2
7 mitigation plan annual payments. And it says in my
8 notes I sent in for PSD No. 5. That should actually
9 be per the site certification agreement. Correction.

10 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you.

11 And do you have a date on when the
12 advance gas plant work is going to be completed or
13 started, I guess?

14 MR. SHERIN: Yes, we actually -- it will
15 be reported in next month's operational notes, but we
16 actually -- yesterday I sent letter of notification of
17 construction -- physical or operational change --

18 Excuse me. I'm looking at the wrong one.

19 We sent the notification of commencement
20 construction and PSD prior notice of start-up
21 yesterday. So we started our spring outage on the
22 15th, Thursday. Last week. And we're still
23 estimating approximately 31st of May operation.

24 CHAIR DREW: Great. Thank you for the
25 update.

1 MR. SHERIN: You're welcome.

2 CHAIR DREW: Columbia Generating Station.

3 Ms. Ramos?

4 MS. RAMOS: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,
5 outside Council members and staff. This is Mary Ramos
6 reporting for Energy Northwest.

7 For the month of March, Energy Northwest
8 reviewed and provided comments on a state waste
9 discharge notice of temporary permit for Columbia
10 Generating Station, and we're scheduled to meet with
11 Ecology and EFSEC staff to discuss our comments this
12 week.

13 No other updates for the month of March.

14 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

15 Desert Claim, project update?

16 MS. MOON: Good afternoon, Council, Chair
17 Drew, and Council members. For the record, this is
18 Amy Moon, providing an update on the Desert Claim
19 project.

20 EFSEC staff continued to coordinate with
21 Desert Claim; however, currently there are no other
22 project updates.

23 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

24 Columbia Solar project update?

25 Mr. Overton.

1 MR. OVERTON: Yes, thank you. This is
2 Kyle Overton, the EFSEC site specialist for Columbia
3 Solar.

4 The -- no real major updates. EFSEC
5 staff continue to coordinate with the facility and our
6 contractors on the preconstruction plan review in
7 anticipation for the beginning construction shortly.

8 Are there any questions?

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

11 Okay. Thank you.

12 Goose Prairie Solar project.

13 Mr. Overton.

14 MR. OVERTON: Thank you. This is Kyle
15 Overton, the site specialist for the Goose Prairie
16 project.

17 For the update this month, the staff
18 continue to coordinate with the applicant and our
19 contractors on the review of their application
20 materials. An initial data request was sent to the
21 applicant at the end of March seeking additional
22 information regarding the project proposal.

23 We are continuing to work with -- work
24 through the SEPA process and are working closely with
25 the applicant, WFW, and Ecology in preparation of

1 developing a SEPA threshold determination and
2 associated staff memo for review by the SEPA official.

3 Also, on May 4th a site visit has been
4 scheduled in coordination with the Department of
5 Ecology to conduct on-site ~~wetlands~~ ^{wetlands} review.

6 A SEPA determination is needed prior to
7 making a decision regarding the applicant's request
8 for expedited processing. WAC 463-43-050 requires a
9 decision on expedited processing 120 days after
10 receipt of a request or such later time as is mutually
11 agreed by the applicant and the Council.

12 EFSEC received the request for expedited
13 processing on January 21st, making May 21st the
14 120-day mark. While we have made and continue to make
15 significant progress in the SEPA process, there may
16 still be a need for further review. This would be to
17 ensure a thorough SEPA review is completed and all
18 aspects of the project have been addressed.

19 In order to accommodate this further
20 review and the planned site visit in May, a SEPA
21 threshold determination may not be feasible prior to
22 the May 21st deadline date.

23 Prior to the expiration of the date,
24 during the May Council meeting, EFSEC staff may
25 propose to the Council a new decision date for the

1 expedited processing application.

2 Are there any questions?

3 CHAIR DREW: Are there any questions from
4 Council members?

5 Thank you --

6 MR. OVERTON: Thank you.

7 CHAIR DREW: -- for the very thorough
8 update.

9 Horse Heaven Wind Farm. Ms. Moon.

10 MS. MOON: Good afternoon, Council,
11 Chairman Drew, and Council members. For the record,
12 this is Amy Moon, providing an update on the Horse
13 Heaven Wind project.

14 EFSEC staff continue to process the Horse
15 Heaven Wind project application for site
16 certification -- the acronym is ASC -- that was
17 received in February. The project proponent, Scout
18 Clean Energy, submitted a letter on March 29th, 2021,
19 withdrawing their request for an expedited process.

20 EFSEC plans to issue a State
21 Environmental Policy Act determination -- the acronym
22 for that is SEPA -- SEPA determination of significance
23 and request for comments on the scope of an
24 environmental impact statement that is otherwise known
25 as an EIS. The scoping process will identify the

1 topics for detailed analysis to evaluate potential
2 significant impacts because of the proposed project.

3 Benton County appointed Ed Brost to the
4 EFSEC Council for the Horse Heaven Wind project on
5 March 16th, 2021. A public informational meeting and
6 land use hearing were held virtually within 60 days of
7 the application receipt on March 30th, 2021, as
8 required by WAC 463-43-040. Oral and written comments
9 were accepted at the informational meeting. Benton
10 County and the project applicant presented testimony
11 at the land use hearing.

12 Comment letters received from Washington
13 state agencies have been posted to the EFSEC public
14 project website. Comments received from the public
15 have also been posted to the project website.

16 Does the Council have any questions?

17 CHAIR DREW: Are there any questions for
18 Ms. Moon?

19 JUDGE TOREM: Amy Moon, this is Judge
20 Torem. Do you know when we expect a transcript of
21 those hearings to be posted on the website?

22 MS. MOON: Ami Kidder may be able to
23 answer that. I have not been updated on that
24 expectation.

25 MS. KIDDER: I have not yet -- and I have

1 not -- Judge Torem, I have not yet seen the draft, and
2 so what will happen is the draft will come to Council
3 members, and we will review that probably before our
4 next meeting, and I would think that you would get
5 them at that time as a draft.

6 Ms. Bumpus?

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

8 MS. KIDDER: If I can jump in here for
9 the record. This is Ami Kidder. Typically we receive
10 drafts within about 30 days.

11 CHAIR DREW: Thank you, Ms. Kidder.

12 Okay. Any other questions?

13 Okay. That concludes our project
14 updates.

15 We now move on to the fourth quarter cost
16 allocation. Ms. Bumpus.

17 MS. BUMPUS: Thank you, Chair Drew. For
18 the record, this is Sonia Bumpus. Good afternoon,
19 Council, Chair Drew and Council members.

20 As we do at the end of each quarter, we
21 have a updated -- a nondirect cost allocation. I'm
22 going to go through the allocation percentages for
23 fourth quarter fiscal year 2021. This covers April 1,
24 2021, to June 30, 2021.

25 For the Kittitas Valley project, seven

1 percent; Wild Horse, seven percent; Columbia
2 Generating Station, 24 percent; Columbia Solar, nine
3 percent; WNP-1, three percent; Whistling Ridge, three
4 percent; Grays Harbor 1 and 2, 10 percent; Chehalis
5 12 percent; Desert Claim Wind Power project, five
6 percent; Goose Prairie Solar, 10 percent; and Horse
7 Heaven Wind Farm, 10 percent.

8 And that concludes my updates on the
9 fourth quarter cost allocation.

10 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

11 We've completed our agenda, and since
12 there is no more business to come before the Councils
13 today, we will make sure and provide you any updates
14 between meetings. On any SEPA determination that may
15 be made, as you heard, it may certainly occur in terms
16 of starting the scoping session before our next
17 meeting, but that will be determined by the EFSEC
18 manager, and so you will receive notification,
19 certainly, when that happens.

20 And other than that, our meeting for
21 today is adjourned. Thank you very much.

22 (The proceedings were concluded at
23 1:52 p.m.)

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STATE OF WASHINGTON)
) ss.
COUNTY OF KING)

I, Ronald L. Cook, Certified Court Reporter, Registered Diplomate Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, and Notary Public in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings were transcribed by me.

I further certify that the proceedings as transcribed are a full, true and correct transcript, including all objections, motions and exceptions of counsel, made and taken, to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am neither attorney for nor a relative or employee of any of the parties to the action; further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto, nor financially interested in its outcome.

As a matter of firm policy, the stenographic notes of this transcript will be destroyed three years from the date appearing on this transcript, unless notice is received otherwise from any party or counsel hereto on or before said date.

RONALD L. COOK, CCR, RDR, FAPR
State of Washington CCR #2523