

# Verbatim Transcript of Monthly Council Meeting

## Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

May 18, 2021



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WASHINGTON STATE  
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

1:30 P.M.

Telephonic Monthly Council Meeting  
Verbatim Transcript of Proceedings

REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358

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Council members:

- KATHLEEN DREW, Chair
- KATE KELLY, Department of Commerce
- ROBERT DENGEL, Department of Ecology
- LENNY YOUNG, Department of Natural Resources
- STACEY BREWSTER, UTC

Council for Goose Prairie Project:

- BILL SAURIOL, WA Department of Transportation

Council for Horse Heaven Project:

- DEREK SANDISON, Department of Agriculture
- ED BROST, Benton County

Assistant Attorney General:

- JON THOMPSON

EFSEC Staff:

- JOAN OWENS
- AMI KIDDER
- AMY MOON
- KYLE OVERTON
- PATTY BETTS
- STEPHEN POSNER

Also in Attendance:

- ERIC MELBARDIS, Kittitas Valley
- JENNIFER GALBRAITH, Wild Horse
- MARK MILLER, Chehalis Generation
- ADAM TOREM, Administrative Law Judge
- MARY RAMOS, Columbia Generating Station
- BRAD BARFUSS, Columbia Generating Station
- CHRIS SHERIN, Grays Harbor Energy
- BILL SHERMAN, Counsel for The Environment
- BLAKE BJORNSON, One Energy
- TIM MCMAHAN, Stoel Rives
- OWEN HURD, TUUSSO Energy
- DAVE KOBUS, Scout Clean Energy

1 LACEY, WASHINGTON; MAY 18, 2021

2 1:30 P.M.

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

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6 CHAIR DREW: Good afternoon. This is  
7 Kathleen Drew, Chair of the Facility Site Evaluation  
8 Council, and I am calling to order our meeting, our  
9 monthly meeting for May 2021.

10 Will the clerk please call the roll?

11 MS. OWENS: Department of Commerce?

12 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, present.

13 MS. OWENS: Department of Ecology?

14 Department of Fish & Wildlife?

15 CHAIR DREW: He's excused.

16 MS. OWENS: Department of Natural Resources?

17 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, present.

18 MS. OWENS: Utilities and Transportation

19 Commission?

20 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, present.

21 MS. OWENS: Local government and optional  
22 state agencies, the Goose Prairie Project for WSDOT?

23 MR. SAURIOL: Bill Sauriol, present.

24 MS. OWENS: For the Horse Heaven Project,

25 Department of Agriculture?

1 MR. SANDISON: Yeah, Derek Sandison,  
2 present.

3 MS. OWENS: For Benton County?

4 MR. BROST: Ed Brost, present.

5 MS. OWENS: For the Assistant Attorney  
6 General?

7 Administrative law judges, John Sull- --  
8 Johnette Sullivan?

9 MR. TOREM: Judge Torem -- this is Judge  
10 Torem. I'm on the line.

11 MS. OWENS: Okay. Thank you.

12 For Council Staff, Ami Kidder?

13 MS. KIDDER: This is Ami Kidder, present.

14 MS. OWENS: Amy Moon?

15 MS. MOON: Good afternoon. This is Amy  
16 Moon. I'm present.

17 MS. OWENS: Kyle Overton?

18 MR. OVERTON: Kyle Overton, present.

19 MS. OWENS: Patty Betts?

20 MS. BETTS: Patty Betts, present.

21 MS. OWENS: Stew Henderson?

22 Stephen Posner?

23 MR. POSNER: Good afternoon. Stephen  
24 Posner, Present.

25 MS. OWENS: For the operational updates,

1 Kittitas Valley Wind Project?

2 MR. MELBARDIS: Eric Melbardis, present.

3 MS. OWENS: Wild Horse Wind Power Project?

4 MS. GALBRAITH: Jennifer Galbraith, present.

5 MS. OWENS: Grays Harbor Energy Center?

6 Chehalis Generation Facility?

7 MR. MILLER: This is Mark Miller, present.

8 MS. OWENS: Columbia Generating Station?

9 MS. RAMOS: Mary Ramos, present.

10 MR. BARFUSS: Brad Barfuss, present.

11 MS. OWENS: Counsel for The Environment?

12 MS. SHERMAN: Bill Sherman, present.

13 MS. OWENS: Thank you.

14 And is our court reporter present?

15 MS. GARLINGHOUSE: This is Tayler

16 Garlinghouse, present.

17 MS. OWENS: Okay. Chair, there is a quorum

18 for the regular Council and for the Goose Prairie and

19 Horse Heaven Project.

20 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

21 Is there anyone else who is on the line who  
22 would like to introduce themselves at this point?

23 MR. DENGEL: This is Rob -- excuse me. This  
24 is Rob Dengel, Ecology, present.

25 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

1 MR. THOMPSON: This is Jon Thompson with the  
2 Attorney General's Office just joining. Thank you.

3 MR. BJORNSON: And hi, Chair Drew. Blake  
4 Bjornson with One Energy Goose Prairie Solar.

5 MR. MCMAHAN: Tim McMahan with Stoel Rives  
6 law firm.

7 MR. HURD: Owen Hurd with TUUSSO Energy  
8 Columbia Solar.

9 MR. KOBUS: Dave Kobus with Scout Clean  
10 Energy Horse Heaven.

11 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

12 We will move on to -- may I have a motion to  
13 adopt the agenda?

14 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, move to adopt.

15 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, second.

16 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

17 Are there any questions or comments or  
18 changes? Hearing none, all those in favor of adopting  
19 the agenda for today, please say "aye."

20 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

21 CHAIR DREW: Opposed? The agenda's adopted.

22 Now we have before us, I believe, three sets  
23 of minutes, so we will go through them one at a time.

24 The first before us is the informational  
25 meeting that was held on March 30th, 2021, the Scout

1 Clean Energy Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project. The draft  
2 minutes have been sent to you. Is there a motion to  
3 approve the March 30, 2021 informational meeting  
4 minutes?

5 MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel, motion to approve  
6 the March 30, 2021 Horse Heaven Wind Project  
7 informational meeting minutes.

8 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

9 Second?

10 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, second.

11 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

12 Are there any corrections or discussion  
13 about the minutes from the informational meeting?  
14 Hearing none, all those in favor of approving --  
15 approving the informational meeting minutes for Horse  
16 Heaven Hills Wind Project March 30, 2021, please say  
17 "aye."

18 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

19 CHAIR DREW: Opposed? The meetings are  
20 approved.

21 Moving on to the land use consistency  
22 hearing Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Hills Wind  
23 Project March 30, 2021 minutes, is there a motion to  
24 approve the minutes?

25 MR. BROST: Ed Brost, I'll move to approve.



1 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

2 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry, this is the  
3 court reporter. I didn't hear that.

4 CHAIR DREW: I believe that was Mr. Brost?

5 MR. BROST: Yes.

6 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

7 CHAIR DREW: Is there a second?

8 MR. DENGEL: Motion to second.

9 CHAIR DREW: Thank you, Mr. Dengel.

10 Is there any -- are there any corrections or  
11 changes to the minutes for the land use consistency  
12 hearing from March 30, 2021? Hearing none, all those in  
13 favor of approving the minutes from the land use  
14 consistency hearing, please say "aye."

15 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

16 CHAIR DREW: All those opposed? Minutes are  
17 approved.

18 Moving on to the monthly Council meeting  
19 minutes from April 20th, 2021. Is there a motion to  
20 approve the monthly -- April monthly Council meeting  
21 minutes?

22 MR. DENGEL: Rob Dengel, motion to approve  
23 April 20th monthly meeting minutes.

24 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

25 Second?

1 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, second.

2 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

3 I do have one correction in the Council  
4 minutes and that is page 14, line 5. It says wind lands  
5 and it should be wetlands.

6 Are there other corrections? Hearing  
7 none --

8 MR. KOBUS: Chair Drew, if I could just for  
9 a moment. This is Dave Kobus with Scout Clean Energy.

10 CHAIR DREW: Yes?

11 MR. KOBUS: Regarding the Horse Heaven Wind  
12 Project, I would suggest that the title be changed to  
13 delete hills as hills is not really part of the official  
14 name of the project.

15 CHAIR DREW: Okay. And was that in the  
16 previous -- where --

17 MR. KOBUS: Yeah, that was -- that was in  
18 two previous documents. I just realized that. You were  
19 saying hills and it's -- it's not part of the actual  
20 name of the project.

21 CHAIR DREW: Is that -- I'm sorry, I said it  
22 as that -- as it was written. I don't have it in front  
23 of me anymore. Let's see.

24 Maybe you can help me out with this,  
25 Ms. Owens.

1 MS. OWENS: The land use minutes should be  
2 on the screen now. Can you see them?

3 CHAIR DREW: Oh, okay. Is it also the same  
4 as -- in the --

5 MS. OWENS: It is.

6 CHAIR DREW: Okay. May I have a motion to  
7 then go back and change the title of the informational  
8 meeting and the land use consistency hearing meeting  
9 titles to eliminate the word "hills" in the title and  
10 throughout -- I think it's probably just the title -- as  
11 it appears throughout the document?

12 MR. BROST: As long as it's just the title,  
13 this is Ed Brost, I'll motion to approve.

14 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you.

15 Is there a second?

16 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, second.

17 CHAIR DREW: Okay. All those in favor of  
18 deleting the word "hills" from the title on the  
19 informational meeting minutes and in the land use  
20 consistency hearing minutes, all those in favor?

21 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

22 CHAIR DREW: Opposed? Thank you.

23 Okay. Let's take a step back. We were in  
24 the middle of the approval of the Council meeting  
25 minutes. I apologize. I guess there was a motion on

1 the floor before I went to make that change. The April  
2 monthly meeting minutes with one change as previously  
3 stated on page 14, line 5, should be wetlands rather  
4 than wind lands. With that amendment, all those in  
5 favor of approving the minutes from the April 20th, 2021  
6 Council meeting, please say "aye."

7 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

8 CHAIR DREW: Opposed? The minutes are  
9 approved.

10 Okay. Thank you, everybody. That was a lot  
11 to review and to move forward on. So now moving to our  
12 project updates. Kittitas Valley Wind Project, is  
13 Mr. Melbardis here?

14 MR. MELBARDIS: Yes, I am.

15 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

16 MR. MELBARDIS: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,  
17 EFSEC Council, and Staff. For the record, this is Eric  
18 Melbardis with EDP Renewables with the Kittitas Valley  
19 Wind Power Project. We had nothing nonroutine to report  
20 for the period.

21 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

22 Moving on to the Wild Horse Wind Power  
23 Project, Ms. Galbraith?

24 MS. GALBRAITH: Yes, thank you, Chair Drew,  
25 Councilmembers, and Staff. This is Jennifer Galbraith

1 with Puget Sound Energy representing the Wild Horse Wind  
2 Facility, and I have nothing nonroutine to report for  
3 the month of April.

4 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

5 Chehalis Generation Facility, Mr. Miller?

6 MR. MILLER: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,  
7 EFSEC Council, and Staff. This is Mark Miller, the  
8 plant manager representing the PacifiCorp Chehalis  
9 Generation Facility. I have one nonroutine note in the  
10 submitted report for the month of April.

11 The Chehalis plant conducted an annual  
12 relative accuracy test audit of the continuous emission  
13 monitors during the last week of April. The preliminary  
14 results were within compliance requirements, and a draft  
15 report is currently being reviewed by PacifiCorp  
16 corporate environmental staff and it will be submitted  
17 to EFSEC Staff this month, the month of May.

18 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

19 Grays Harbor Energy Center, Mr. Sherin?

20 MR. SHERIN: Good afternoon -- good  
21 afternoon, Chair Drew, Councilmembers, and Staff. This  
22 is -- this is Chris Sherin, plant manager with Grays  
23 Harbor Energy Center. Nonroutine items for the month of  
24 April, I'll point out that we did begin our annual  
25 maintenance outage on April 15th conducting major

1 inspections on the gas turbine, the (unintelligible)  
2 turbine, and also the -- we're undergoing the  
3 implementation of the installation of the AGP on -- on  
4 the gas turbines.

5 Under environment compliance, one -- I need  
6 to make one correction on the first bullet. I need to  
7 remove the word "emission," because as I'll point out in  
8 nonroutine -- for nonroutine items, Grays Harbor  
9 submitted a letter notifying EFSEC Staff of an emissions  
10 event on April 8th. The event was a technical violation  
11 of the Air Operating Permit, but no environmental limits  
12 were exceeded. So we're currently working with ORCAA  
13 and EFSEC Staff to tell us what the next step with the  
14 event is.

15 Also for nonroutine items, I'll point out  
16 that we're in the process of updating our CO2 mitigation  
17 planned annual payments for the site certification  
18 amendment agreement. Because due to the installation of  
19 AGP, it necessitated a change to the annual payments  
20 that we make to the Climate Trust, and that plan has  
21 been submitted to EFSEC Staff.

22 That's all I have unless there's any  
23 questions.

24 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

25 Are there any questions?

1 I don't hear any. Thank you, Mr. Sherin.

2 Moving on to the Columbia Generating Station  
3 and WNP-1/4, Ms. Ramos.

4 MS. RAMOS: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,  
5 EFSEC Councilmembers, and Staff. This is Mary Ramos  
6 reporting for Energy Northwest. For the month of April,  
7 I have two items to report.

8 The first one is Energy Northwest requested  
9 and received approval to operate on nonroad engines with  
10 a cumulative size greater than 2,000 horsepower on site.  
11 And the nonroad engines are being utilized to support  
12 Columbia's R-25 refueling and maintenance outage.

13 The second item I have to report is the  
14 Amendment 1 for EFSEC Resolution 347 was issued on April  
15 23. This resolution authorizes fish -- fish collection  
16 for the Columbia Generating Station Radiological  
17 Environmental Monitoring Program.

18 That's all I have.

19 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

20 Are there any questions?

21 Hearing none, we will be moving on to the  
22 Desert Claim Wind Power Project. Ms. Moon?

23 MS. MOON: Good afternoon, Council Chair  
24 Drew and Councilmembers. For the record, this is Amy  
25 Moon providing an update on the Desert Claim Project.

1 EFSEC Staff continue to coordinate with Desert Claim;  
2 however, currently there are no other project updates.

3 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you.

4 Moving on to the Columbia Solar Project.

5 Mr. Overton.

6 MR. OVERTON: Yes, this is Kyle Overton, the  
7 EFSEC site specialist overseeing the Columbia Solar  
8 Project. I have two items today for Columbia Solar.

9 The first being that EFSEC Staff, we  
10 continue to coordinate with the facility and our  
11 contractors on preconstruction plan review. This  
12 includes review and coordination on the initial site  
13 restoration plan, or the ISRP, as required by Washington  
14 Administrative Code or WAC 463-72-040 and their site  
15 certification agreements. EFSEC Staff are working with  
16 the certificate holder to finalize these ISRPs and after  
17 which they will be presented to the Council for their  
18 approval.

19 Is there any questions on that part?

20 CHAIR DREW: My question would be, you were  
21 working on that now, do you expect that you will have it  
22 to the Council before the June meeting so that  
23 Councilmembers can review it and then we'll have an  
24 opportunity to discuss it at the June meeting?

25 MR. OVERTON: That's our goal. We're --



1 we're very close to getting a final product. There's  
2 just a few items to work out. So that's our current  
3 goal, yes, have it ready for June 15th meeting.

4 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you.

5 Any other questions?

6 Okay. Go ahead.

7 MR. OVERTON: All right. So my next item  
8 here, you know, Staff are also continuing to work with  
9 the certificate holder on issuing permits required prior  
10 to construction. I noticed intent for each of the three  
11 facilities to be covered under general construction  
12 stormwater permits for the three sites were submitted by  
13 the certificate holder on April 28th.

14 In accordance with WAC 463-76-041, a 30-day  
15 public comment period is required prior to issuing these  
16 permits. The public comment period is scheduled to  
17 start on May 19th and will continue on June -- or  
18 conclude on June 18th. Notice has been distributed to  
19 our mailing lists and posted in the Daily Record paper  
20 in Ellensburg, Washington. Comments will be accepted in  
21 writing via email and via our online comment database,  
22 which can be found on the EFSEC website.

23 Are there any questions for that?

24 CHAIR DREW: Are there any questions from  
25 Councilmembers?

1 I don't see anyone raising questions. Thank  
2 you.

3 MR. OVERTON: Yep, thank you.

4 CHAIR DREW: Oh, Goose Prairie Solar  
5 Project, Mr. Overton.

6 MR. OVERTON: Yeah, this is Kyle Overton  
7 again, the EFSEC site specialist for Goose Prairie. Two  
8 items here also.

9 The Staff continue to coordinate with the  
10 applicant and our contractors on review of their  
11 application materials, and a site visit was conducted on  
12 May 4th with representatives from One Energy, Department  
13 of Ecology, and WFW present. The purpose of the site  
14 visit was to conduct the wetland screening and to aid  
15 the ongoing wildlife and habitat impact review for the  
16 State Environmental Policy Act or SEPA. That was a  
17 general update on the current status of the project  
18 there.

19 The next item, WAC 463-43-050 requires that  
20 a SEPA determination is needed prior to making a  
21 decision regarding the applicant's request for expedited  
22 processing. WAC 463-43-050 also requires a decision on  
23 expedited processing 120 days after receipt of their  
24 request or such time later as is mutually agreed by the  
25 applicants and Council.

1 EFSEC received the request for expedited  
2 processing on January 21st making May 21st the 120-day  
3 mark. On May 14th, EFSEC received requests from One  
4 Energy with the support of EFSEC Staff to extend the  
5 expedited processing determination deadline to the  
6 completion of the SEPA review and issuance of  
7 determination. One Energy is requesting the deadline be  
8 extended to the date of the July Council meeting and a  
9 copy of this request letter is included in the Council  
10 packets.

11 Are there any questions?

12 CHAIR DREW: Are there any questions from  
13 Councilmembers?

14 MS. MOON: Chair Drew?

15 CHAIR DREW: Yes?

16 MS. MOON: This is Amy Moon. I had to step  
17 away real quick. So did I miss my Horse Heaven Wind  
18 Project update?

19 CHAIR DREW: No, we're still on Goose  
20 Prairie.

21 MS. MOON: Great. Thank you.

22 CHAIR DREW: So there before you on the  
23 screen is the letter from One Energy requesting the  
24 extension. As I understand it, this doesn't require  
25 Council action since this is agreed to both by the

1 applicant and by our Staff, but that is for your  
2 information, that 120 days, the consideration for  
3 expedited processing will be extended to July 15th. Any  
4 questions from Councilmembers?

5 MS. KIDDER: Chair Drew, if I could --

6 CHAIR DREW: Yes, Ms. Kidder?

7 MS. KIDDER: -- make a quick comment. This  
8 is Ami Kidder for the record. The language in WAC  
9 463-43-050 does say within 120 days of receipt of  
10 application or such time -- such later time as is  
11 mutually agreed upon by the applicant and the Council.  
12 As previously mentioned, Staff does recommend agreement  
13 with this request, and previously the Council has taken  
14 votes on this request, although it is not explicitly  
15 required to be voted on. But we would like to make sure  
16 that the Council has no concerns with approving this.

17 CHAIR DREW: Thank you, Ms. Kidder.

18 Are there any concerns with approving this  
19 extension?

20 Okay. Sounds like this is agreed upon by  
21 the Council since we have no -- no disagreements on  
22 that.

23 MS. KIDDER: Thank you, Chair Drew.

24 CHAIR DREW: Moving on to the Horse Heaven  
25 Wind Project, Ms. Moon.

1 MS. MOON: Okay. Thank you, Chair Drew.  
2 Good afternoon, Council Chair Drew and Councilmembers.  
3 For the record, this is Amy Moon providing an update on  
4 Horse Heaven Wind Project. EFSEC issued a State  
5 Environmental Policy Act, otherwise known as SEPA,  
6 determination of significance and request for comments  
7 of scope of environmental impact statement, which is an  
8 EIS, for the Horse Heaven Wind Project on May 11th. The  
9 notice stated that an EIS will be prepared and  
10 identified wildlife habitat, visual aesthetics, and land  
11 use as environmental elements that require a detailed  
12 analysis.

13 In addition, the notice stated that  
14 additional information is required before the -- before  
15 determining the level of analysis in the EIS for air,  
16 water, and water includes wetlands, water quality, and  
17 water resources, plants, energy and natural resources,  
18 environmental health, noise, light and glare, historical  
19 resources, and cultural resources.

20 The EIS will at a minimum include a no  
21 action alternative and the applicant's proposal. EFSEC  
22 will determine the full scope of the EIS including the  
23 range of alternatives to be analyzed at the end of the  
24 scoping period after comments are reviewed. A public  
25 comment period for the scoping is open until June 10th,

1 which allows for a 30-day comment period from the date  
2 of posting, which was May 11th.

3 And on May 10th, EFSEC Staff, an Ecology  
4 wetland scientist, and the applicant met at the project  
5 site for a wetland site visit. We visited several  
6 locations that had been identified during a desktop  
7 published resource review as potential wetlands and no  
8 wetlands were found.

9 Does the Council have any questions?

10 CHAIR DREW: So, again, the scoping notice  
11 has been sent to everyone on our list and is also on our  
12 website if people would like to take a look at that and  
13 how to respond; is that correct?

14 MS. MOON: Correct.

15 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Are there questions from  
16 Councilmembers?

17 Okay. I don't hear any. Thank you. We  
18 look forward to information following this scoping  
19 period.

20 And at this point, that concludes our  
21 agenda. So this meeting is adjourned and our next  
22 meeting will be -- and of course I did not put the date  
23 in front of me -- third Tuesday of June. We will talk  
24 to you all and expect additional information  
25 particularly on the Columbia Solar Project at a minimum

1 before that if we -- if we can get that to you. Thank  
2 you. We are adjourned.

3 (Adjourned at 1:57 p.m.)

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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