

Verbatim Transcript of Public Comment Meeting
OneEnergy Renewables-Goose Prairie Solar Project

September 27, 2021



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WASHINGTON STATE
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
Lacey, Washington
Monday, September 27, 2021
5:00 p.m.

Videoconference EFSEC Goose Prairie Photovoltaic Project
Public Comment Meeting
Verbatim Transcript of Proceedings

(All participants appeared virtually.)

REPORTED BY: CRYSTAL R. McAULIFFE, RPR, CCR 2121

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

2 Council Members:

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

9 UTC Staff:

- 10 KYLE OVERTON
- 11 ANDREA GRANTHAM

12 Local Government and Optional State Agencies:

- 13 WILLIAM SAURIOL, Department of Transportation
- 14 BYRON GUMZ, Yakima County

15 EFSEC Staff:

- 16 JOAN OWENS
- 17 SONIA BUMPUS

18 Also present:

- 19 BLAKE BJORNSON, OneEnergy
- 20 TIMOTHY MCMAHAN, Stoel Rives
- 21 BILL SHERMAN, AGO for the Environment
- 22 ED LISOWSKI
- 23 STEWART HENDERSON
- 24 TOM SIEH
- 25 KAYNE SEGURA
- SHANNON TURNER
- LINNEA FOSSUM
- MARK SCANLAN
- RICHARD STETLER
- JULIAN ELLISON
- JESSICA WADSWORTH
- JASON EARLES

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1 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

2 5:00 P.M.

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4 MS. DREW: Good afternoon, everyone. This
5 is Kathleen Drew, Chair of the Washington State Energy
6 Facility Site Evaluation Council, and we begin our
7 public informational meeting -- public -- excuse me, our
8 public comment meeting on the Goose Prairie Solar
9 Photovoltaic Project. And the proposed project location
10 is in Yakima County near the city of Moxee and will have
11 a maximum generating capacity of 80 megawatts.

12 If you are on the phone, would you please
13 mute your phones unless you were going to speak, since
14 it is giving us a little feedback.

15 So this comment meeting is in order to
16 receive verbal comments on conditions to be included in
17 a draft Site Certification Agreement for the proposed
18 project, and we will begin with calling the roll for the
19 EFSEC Council.

20 Ms. Owens, will you call the roll.

21 MS. OWENS: Department of Commerce.

22 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, present.

23 MS. OWENS: Department of Ecology.

24 Department of Fish and Wildlife.

25 MS. DREW: Excused.

1 MS. OWENS: Thank you. Department of Fish
2 and Wildlife -- sorry.

3 Department of Natural Resources.

4 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, present.

5 MS. OWENS: Utilities and Transportation
6 Commission.

7 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, present.

8 MS. OWENS: For the Goose Prairie Project,
9 Department of Transportation.

10 MR. SAURIOL: Bill Sauriol, present.

11 MS. OWENS: Thank you. Chair, there is a
12 quorum for the Council.

13 MS. DREW: Thank you.

14 MS. OWENS: And for Council staff, Sonia
15 Bumpus.

16 MS. DREW: Here is Mr. Dengel. Thank you.

17 MS. OWENS: For Council staff, Sonia Bumpus.

18 MS. BUMPUS: Sonya Bumpus is present.

19 MS. OWENS: Kyle Overton.

20 MR. OVERTON: Kyle Overton here.

21 MS. OWENS: Thank you.

22 MS. DREW: We also have joining us counsel
23 for the environment.

24 MR. SHERMAN: Thank you, Chair Drew. Bill
25 Sherman for the Attorney General's Office as counsel for

1 the environment.

2 MS. DREW: Thank you. Our agenda tonight
3 is -- if you have the screen in front of you, is on the
4 screen. And we will start with the EFSEC staff with an
5 explanation of the review process and then we will go on
6 to a presentation by OneEnergy Renewables and then we
7 will have public comments.

8 We do have five people signed up to comment
9 at this point in time. And we will allow 3 minutes a
10 piece, and then we will move on to people who haven't
11 signed in who maybe want to make a comment at that
12 point.

13 So we will begin with Mr. Kyle Overton.

14 MR. OVERTON: Yes. Thank you.

15 This is Kyle Overton, the EFSEC site
16 specialist that is working with the Goose Prairie
17 project. I'll be providing a brief talk here, as Chair
18 Drew said, kind of go over the history of our review
19 here and our process and a little bit of why we're
20 meeting here tonight.

21 EFSEC reviews applications for the siting of
22 energy facilities and prepares a recommendation to the
23 governor on whether to approve or reject the
24 application.

25 If EFSEC recommends approval, it prepares a

1 draft site certification agreement, or SCA, that must
2 include conditions to protect state or local
3 governmental or community interests affected by the
4 construction or operation of the energy facility.

5 The draft agreement must also include
6 conditions designed to recognize the purpose of
7 applicable state and local laws and ordinances which are
8 preempted to the extent that they regulate the location,
9 construction, and operation of energy facilities under
10 EFSEC's jurisdiction. If signed by the governor and the
11 applicant, the site certification agreement is binding.

12 So the applicant requested that EFSEC review
13 its application for site certification, or ASC, under
14 expedited processing. And if that expedited processing
15 is granted, EFSEC does not conduct an adjudicated
16 hearing on the application before preparing its
17 recommendation to the Governor.

18 To be eligible for expedited processing the
19 environmental impacts of the proposed energy facility
20 must not be significant or must be mitigated to a
21 nonsignificant level and must also be found consistent
22 and in compliance with local land use plans and zoning
23 ordinances.

24 Under WAC 463, and that is 26-090, the
25 applicant provided a certification letter from Yakima

1 County which certified that the project: (A) is defined
2 as a power-generating facility under Yakima County Code,
3 Title 19, the Unified Land Development Code; (B) is
4 proposed to be within the agricultural zoning district
5 within which power-generating facilities are a Type 3
6 use pursuant to Table 19.14-1 allowable land uses; and
7 (C) is consistent with Title 19 and would be eligible
8 for review and permitting under Yakima County processes.

9 Yakima County Code, Title 19.14.010(2)
10 states: Type 3 uses are uses which may be authorized
11 subject to the approval of the conditional use permit as
12 set forth in Section 19.30.030. Type 3 conditional uses
13 are not generally appropriate through the zoning
14 district. Type 3 uses require hearings and review of
15 applications subject to a Type 3 review and under
16 procedures in 19.30.100 and Yakima County subsection
17 16B.03.030(1)(c).

18 So in review of the expedited processing
19 application, EFSEC issued a mitigated determination of
20 nonsignificance under the State Environmental Policy Act
21 on July 30th, 2021. Based on this determination and on
22 EFSEC's finding that the project is consistent and in
23 compliance with local land use plans and zoning
24 ordinances, EFSEC granted the applicant's request for
25 expedited processing on August 6th, 2021, with

1 Order 879.

2 However, EFSEC stipulated it would hold a
3 hearing akin to the County's conditional use permit
4 hearing to receive comment on whether any additional
5 conditions should be required to meet the purposes of
6 Yakima County's conditional use criteria.

7 During EFSEC's staff's review of the
8 application for site certification, EFSEC contracted
9 with Yakima County to conduct a review of the ASC
10 materials, as they relate to Yakima County land use
11 plans and development ordinances.

12 The Yakima County Planning Division reviewed
13 OneEnergy's ASC, including the land use consistency
14 analysis mentioned earlier in regard to the land use
15 provided by OneEnergy, and their Attachment A to its
16 application for site certification. And provided EFSEC
17 with a review summary. That summary, which is dated
18 March 15th, 2021, and is posted on our website,
19 identified the additional requirements Yakima County
20 staff would recommend be imposed upon the project if the
21 project were to go through the County's conditional use
22 permit process.

23 These items were: One, a statement that the
24 project is within the agricultural zoning district; that
25 Yakima County is a right to farm county, codified in the

1 Yakima County Code 6.22, declaring that a farm or farm
2 operation shall not be found to be a public or private
3 nuisance if the farm operation existed before the change
4 in land use or occupancy by an adjacent land use, and
5 that the project may be subject to impacts, such as dust
6 from surrounding areas; and the second condition was the
7 source of water for Washington solar panels shall have a
8 legal and physical availability of water; and, three,
9 the habitat management and mitigation plans shall be
10 implemented prior to development of the site.

11 EFSEC staff are currently drafting a site
12 certification agreement that, if approved, would require
13 OneEnergy to adhere to all the commitments made in the
14 revised ASC and associated documents and to all
15 identified mitigation measures in the revised MDNS
16 mentioned previously.

17 The MDNS includes 19 mitigation measures to
18 address potential impacts related to wind erosion,
19 wildlife habitat, water needs, noise and visual impacts,
20 any cultural and archeological resources.

21 The additional recommendations recommended
22 by the County Planning Division in the review summary
23 will be implemented via commitments made in the revised
24 ASC, mitigation measures identified in the revised MDNS
25 or be incorporated in the draft SCA, if it's approved.

1 Specifically, areas where the County's recommendations
2 in their review summary are currently being addressed.

3 EFSEC staff plans to include an
4 acknowledgement of Item 1 in the draft SCA that we plan
5 to present to the Council for its consideration at
6 that -- potentially, yeah, present to the Council for
7 its consideration.

8 Item 2 is currently addressed in mitigation
9 Item 4 in the revised MDNS. This mitigation item calls
10 for a certification of water availability for the
11 construction operational needs by EFSEC prior to
12 approval for construction.

13 And Item 3 is currently addressed in
14 Sections 2.8.5, 2.8.6, and 4.9.D in the revised ASC.
15 These sections require the revised -- these sections of
16 the revised ASC require that the habitat management and
17 mitigation plans are approved by EFSEC prior to
18 authorizing the start of construction.

19 The County's review summary also recommends
20 in the body of the document the creation of a dust
21 control plan. Additionally, a recommendation is made
22 that consultation with the Department of Archeology and
23 Historic Preservation, or DAHP, and the Yakima Nation on
24 cultural resources plans and permits be required.

25 The applicant has committed to working with

1 EFSEC and Yakima County officials to ensure all
2 construction and grating activities meets standards for
3 sediment and erosion control. And part of this
4 commitment will entail the development of a sediment and
5 erosion control plan which will be -- which will require
6 approval by EFSEC prior to construction and that
7 commitment is made in their ASC.

8 Additionally, in the -- in their ASC,
9 the applications also commits to consulting with DAHP
10 and affected tribes regarding cultural resource
11 management, and there's further impositions on that
12 consultation in Mitigation Items 18 and 19.

13 So the public comment period, which started
14 September 13th and concludes today, September 27th, and
15 this meeting are being held to fulfill that requirement
16 in Order 879 to obtain public comment on conditional use
17 criteria.

18 When considering conditional use criteria,
19 Yakima County Code 19.30.100(2) allows a hearings
20 examiner to impose additional requirements as conditions
21 of approval of a Type 3 conditional use to: (A) comply
22 with the development standard or criteria for approval
23 set forth in the Yakima County code; (B) mitigation
24 material impacts of the development; (C) ensure
25 capability of the development with existing neighboring

1 land uses and ensure consistency with the intent and
2 character of the zoning district involved; and (D)
3 ensure that the certificates -- the structures and areas
4 proposed are surfaced, arranged, and screened in such a
5 manner that they are compatible with and not detrimental
6 to existing or reasonable expected future development of
7 the neighborhood or resource uses consist with
8 the comprehensive plan; and (E) achieve and further the
9 intent, goals, objectives, and policies of the
10 comprehensive plan and this title, Title 19.

11 Any comments received during this period and
12 this meeting will be taken into consideration when
13 proceeding with EFSEC's review of the ASC and
14 development of the recommendation of the governor under
15 WAC 463-43, and at the end of this presentation -- the
16 presentations by myself and the applicant tonight, the
17 members of the public who wish to speak may make
18 comment.

19 Are there any questions? That was a lot of
20 info --

21 MS. DREW: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Overton.

22 The court reporter has asked if you can
23 provide your written comments as well.

24 And this I will say to the speakers
25 continuing on tonight, if we can speak just a little bit

1 more slowly so she can catch it for the transcripts,
2 that would be terrific.

3 MR. OVERTON: Yes, my apologies. I will get
4 that to her.

5 MS. DREW: Thank you.

6 Are there questions from Council members?

7 Okay. Thank you for that explanation of the
8 project and its review to date.

9 We will now move on to OneEnergy solar
10 presentation.

11 And Mr. Bjornsen, I would ask you to
12 introduce yourself and I think Mr. McMahan, who are the
13 speakers tonight.

14 MR. BJORNSEN: Yes. Thank you.

15 Can you see and hear me.

16 MS. DREW: I can.

17 MR. BJORNSEN: Great. And also can you see
18 my screen with the outline?

19 MS. DREW: Yes.

20 MR. BJORNSEN: Awesome. Okay. Good
21 evening, Chair Drew, EFSEC Council, and members of the
22 public. Glad to be here. My name is Blake Bjornsen.
23 I'm an Associate Director with OneEnergy. And as Chair
24 Drew mentioned, we have Tim McMahan here as well who is
25 from Stoel Rives and is representing the project.

1 So tonight I'm just going to do a very quick
2 background on OneEnergy and the project. As I know, you
3 know, many have learned about the project before. I'm
4 going to hand it over to Tim to discuss conditional use
5 consistency and then I'll wrap it up with a quick note
6 on project status.

7 So just a quick note about OneEnergy. We
8 are headquartered here in the state of Washington. We
9 have had success developing projects throughout the west
10 and throughout the country now. We're about -- we're
11 just over 10 years old as a company. And this project
12 that we're talking about today, Goose Prairie, being in
13 the state of Washington is one that we, as a team, are
14 very excited about being in our home state here.

15 I want to touch just two slides on why --
16 why solar is a great -- great for the state of
17 Washington and also for the local area.

18 Starting with the state of Washington, of
19 course, we all know about the Clean Energy
20 Transformation Act, CETA, 100 percent greenhouse gas
21 neutral electricity supply by 2030, 100 percent clean
22 energy by 2045. This project is -- is one that will
23 help the State achieve that goal.

24 And, you know, I just wanted to highlight in
25 the recent -- recently released 2021 Energy Strategy

1 document that was released by the Department of Commerce
2 states that significant quantities of new clean energy
3 generation be required to meet the future energy
4 requirements of Washington's businesses and households.

5 And, again, just want to highlight that this
6 is a project that will help the State meet those goals.

7 It's also great because it's compatible with
8 agriculture. This is going to provide supplemental
9 income to our land owners that are -- that desire this
10 project to be on their properties. There's no impact on
11 common local farming practices. It's a nonpermanent
12 use. We can restore the land at the end of the project
13 life so that it can be returned to agricultural use.

14 And just a last note, just, you know, solar
15 in general, not an intensive use of water; no fuel price
16 risk. Once we have the project built, the sun does the
17 rest for us for free.

18 Talking a little bit more specifically about
19 the area. We think about some of the benefits in these
20 four categories. Of course, we have property taxes --
21 taxes in general, property taxes being the main one
22 through the life of the project, there's also sales
23 taxes and -- and so throughout the life of the project
24 that funding will provide, you know, really important
25 funding for the county, for Yakima County.

1 Recurring annual expenditures in the form of
2 lease payments to the land owners each year and also the
3 operations and maintenance that goes on through the
4 project.

5 Local spending -- start with jobs and labor.
6 We -- we estimate that there will be up to 300 jobs
7 during the construction phase of the project and some --
8 some of the local spending, both direct and indirect,
9 that will happen with that construction in terms of, you
10 know, any purchasing of -- of products whether that
11 be -- sorry, gas -- gas stations and equipment rentals
12 and hardware stores, building suppliers, all those type
13 of things that see some indirect spending.

14 Okay. Just to talk a little bit about
15 project in particular. This is a photo of the site.
16 You can actually see the Bonneville Power Administration
17 line on the right there that we'll be connecting to. So
18 this is a panorama from one of the corners of the
19 project site.

20 Some of you saw this slide before. This is
21 some of the stakeholders that we've engaged with through
22 the development of this project since 2017. Kyle just
23 mentioned a lot of the information that relates to some
24 of these groups that we've developed over the last four
25 years, and we look forward to continuing to work with

1 them as we get into construction and operation.

2 I'm not going to spend a lot of time on
3 this. This is the preliminary site plan just to kind
4 of -- just as a reminder for folks. And this layout
5 does incorporate all of the applicable elements of the
6 Yakima County plan; some of which we're discussing
7 tonight in terms of land use consistency and things like
8 that. So offsets from property boundaries, distance
9 from the streams, all those types of things have been
10 incorporated. And as we get into a little bit more, we
11 provided an attachment that goes line by line through
12 that Yakima County code to show how we're complying with
13 that.

14 So with that, I'm going to hand it over to
15 Tim to talk about Yakima County CUP code consistency.

16 MR. MCMAHAN: Thank you, Blake.

17 Chair Drew, Members of the Council, thank
18 you for being here this evening. Blake and I are really
19 excited about the stage of this project and kind of
20 getting to this point.

21 Can you hear me and see me okay?

22 All right. I'm going to go through a few
23 slides. I'm going to do them relatively quickly. And
24 the reason that I think we can do this relatively
25 quickly is, as Kyle indicated and Blake also punctuated,

1 we have filed a very detained analysis of compliance
2 with the local condition of use permit code for Yakima
3 County. And the County as a contractor to EFSEC and
4 EFSEC staff walked through that submittal, our
5 application for site certification -- I better slow
6 down. Okay. I'm going to slow down. I looked at that
7 frown from the Chair.

8 We walked through the code quite -- quite
9 deeply, and the County took our evaluation and --
10 and did a review to ensure that we had addressed the
11 code as concisely and appropriately as we could, and the
12 County did make that recommendation to the Council as a
13 contractor to EFSEC. So I hope that's clear.

14 I do want to punctuate something that Blake
15 said. And that is really the importance of EFSEC's
16 involvement in these proceedings and the implementation
17 of CETA.

18 In the Tesoro Savage Vancouver Energy
19 Terminal Project, this is language that you have in
20 front of you that we lifted from the report to the
21 governor recommending denial of that project for its
22 failure to implement some very key goals and policies
23 and objectives here, which EFSEC has adopted in order to
24 implement state policy and laws. And so I think it is
25 important really at every turn to remember that this is

1 a very important guiding objective of the siting Council
2 as we consider these projects, which are of great
3 importance to the state of Washington in our view.

4 Next slide, Blake.

5 As I indicated, the application for site
6 certification and the Yakima County March 11th
7 submittal, the reports to the Council does walk through
8 these criteria in great detail. And so we've submitted
9 Attachment A, which is in the large notebooks, and
10 again, you have in front of you, hopefully, or Council
11 staff can provide you Yakima County's review of our
12 Attachment A land use in that March 15th letter.

13 Next slide.

14 All right. Just, really, a few of the key
15 criteria here that is evaluated through the conditional
16 use permit process and would be evaluated if we were
17 planning locally for these permits.

18 Conditional use permits are intended to
19 allow the approval of permissible uses through the
20 implementation of conditions that mitigate the impacts
21 of those uses. That's fundamentally what CUPs are about
22 and how they are generally implemented at the local
23 level.

24 One of the key questions and issues that
25 are -- that is asked in the -- in the conditional use

1 permit processes at the local level is whether there is
2 any impact to or would require the need for extension of
3 utility services or other urban services of the kind
4 that one -- one would usually expect with a significant
5 amount of development of rural residential or just
6 residential areas outside of -- of urban growth areas.

7 Solar facilities do not and this project in
8 particular does not require the extension of urban
9 utility or other urban services. Does not require the
10 extension of water, wastewater, and it is, therefore,
11 benign in terms of fiscal impacts on the county to
12 implement a use that has, again, a very high value in
13 implementing state policy.

14 So that is really a key concern in the CUP
15 process that is not a problem for this facility as a
16 solar facility.

17 Touching on what Blake indicated, this
18 project will provide a new clean renewable energy source
19 supporting Washington policy. The project supports the
20 community's present and future needs for sustainable
21 energy generation and allows for short- and long-term
22 economic impacts, including a peak level of around 300
23 or so workers during the construction process. Those
24 are family-wage jobs that this project provides during
25 the construction phase.

1 Next slide, Blake.

2 This is really, I think, the key thing I
3 want to expand a bit on. The key requirement in a local
4 conditional use permit review and local hearing is to
5 demonstrate whether or not a project is compatible with
6 or would any way undermine existing here agricultural
7 uses.

8 So compatibility. The compatibility test is
9 a very fundamental requirement for the issuance of
10 conditional use permits. And when we talk about
11 compatibility, it is with the existing active
12 agricultural activities in the rural area. This project
13 would not in any way impair or be incompatible with
14 ongoing farming on the surrounding properties and
15 surrounding sites; in fact, it provides some additional
16 financial incentives and abilities for agricultural land
17 owners to continue agricultural operations with a new,
18 fresh steady stream of income provided by this project.

19 So the use is consistent with the
20 agricultural zoning district. That is the most
21 important factor. There will not be disruption of those
22 uses.

23 The County has -- as Blake indicated and as
24 Kyle indicated, the County has chosen to allow renewable
25 energy generation as a conditional use. The lands here

1 generally meet the criteria, particularly the County
2 code does allow for pockets, quote/unquote, of
3 nonagricultural land uses. And we consider this use to
4 be pursuant to that code provision -- or excuse me, the
5 comprehensive plan provision. And the application
6 evaluates in detail compatibility and analyzes any
7 disruption of existing agricultural uses. And really, I
8 think what that boils down to is at least several key
9 things, which is this project will not increase any
10 costs of farming activities.

11 The project will not interfere with any
12 agricultural practices, things like impairing
13 farm-to-market transportation. Especially during
14 harvest season, this project will not interfere with
15 those uses. This project will not force conversions of
16 agricultural uses to other uses. We find conversion,
17 you know, as a land use matter when, for example, a
18 significant amount of residential development shows up
19 in agricultural areas and starts pressuring agricultural
20 uses to abandon those uses because it is just too
21 difficult to continue farming sometimes. So that's kind
22 of a key concept involved in that factor.

23 Thank you, Blake. Yeah, you were right to
24 hit that one.

25 Again, we have concurrence with the County.

1 This -- this provision -- 19.30.100 -- is kind of the
2 end of the County's conditional use code and authorizes
3 and directs conditions of approval for Type 3
4 applications. And we -- OneEnergy, I should say, does
5 concur with conditions that have been recommended by
6 Yakima County. And we're certainly interested in making
7 sure this project does in -- you know, any other way
8 reasonable provide for conditioning so that there are no
9 detrimental or deleterious consequences of the project
10 that would undermine existing rural land uses.

11 So just walking through these very quickly,
12 the project that the counsel has authorized to provide
13 mitigation measures under the code. And I've got kind
14 of A through E here, as they are set up by the code.

15 Compliance with any development standard or
16 criteria set forth in the development code.

17 Again, all the development standards are
18 specifically addressed in the application for site
19 certification with concurrence of Yakima County.

20 Secondly, mitigating material impacts of the
21 development, whether environmental or otherwise.

22 The development standards are specifically
23 addressed in the ASC. And as the Council is well aware,
24 and as Kyle mentioned, the Council has issued a SEPA
25 determination of nonsignificance responding with

1 mitigation measures that are, again, very much echoing
2 Yakima County's concerns and requests to the siting
3 council.

4 Next, as a conditionally allowed use, the
5 County allows solar energy facilities in agricultural
6 areas. Compatibility measures are, again, addressed in
7 detail in the ASC. And the Council does, of course,
8 retain and possess authority under these provisions and
9 under its own statute to address impacts on surrounding
10 agricultural land uses to the extent those impacts
11 exist.

12 The neighborhood in the context of
13 subsection D is dominated by agricultural land uses and
14 future development is limited by the uses allowed in the
15 zoning code. So this project is not expected, again, to
16 interfere with existing or future agricultural
17 practices. And, again -- I'll say it again, Yakima
18 County does concur with that finding.

19 And finally the project achieves and
20 furthers intents, goals, objectives and policies of the
21 plan, the comprehensive plan in the UDC, and we've
22 chosen not to spend many, many, many minutes summarizing
23 all those provisions because they are found in the
24 document itself, in the ASC document itself.

25 So I will be very happy to answer any

1 questions that you might have at the end of the
2 presentation. And I'm going to hand this back to Blake.

3 MR. BJORNSEN: Yeah. Thank you, Tim.

4 Okay. Yeah. I'm going to close up with one
5 final note on the project status and just focus on the
6 final two here.

7 I think when we spoke last to the EFSEC
8 Council in March, at that time we were in negotiations
9 on -- on energy sales and just wanted to -- cannot speak
10 to any of the specifics, but we are moving closer and
11 closer to finalizing that and also look forward to this
12 EFSEC process wrapping up, hopefully, by the end of the
13 year is what I think we're looking at here based on -- I
14 know we discussed during the last EFSEC meeting the
15 extension of the recommendation to the Governor to
16 October 31st; so looking forward to the next month and a
17 half of working through that and then finalizing that at
18 the end of the year.

19 So with that, I think I have on here
20 questions and discussion, but I think we're actually
21 going to turn back to Kyle and then go from there after
22 that. So thank you for listening.

23 MS. DREW: Thank you.

24 Mr. Overton, you have something further?

25 MR. OVERTON: This is Kyle Overton, Counsel

1 Specialist. I do not. I believe the agenda got changed
2 a little bit, so I had the one presentation.

3 MS. DREW: Okay. Thank you.

4 Are there any questions from Council
5 Members?

6 Hearing none, we'll proceed to the comment
7 period.

8 I had an echo. There.

9 Okay. Ms. Owens, will you call the first
10 couple of speakers' names so they know that they are up
11 next.

12 MS. OWENS: Yes. So apologies in advance if
13 I mispronounce anything.

14 We currently have five speakers, and I will
15 call the first three so that they know who they are.
16 Kayne Segura, Gunther Liddell, and Jessica Bosse
17 Wadsworth.

18 So if we could please start with Kayne
19 Segura.

20 MS. DREW: You have three minutes as soon as
21 you begin.

22 MR. SEGURA: I am here.

23 Thank you, Chair Drew and the entire
24 Council.

25 Can everybody hear me okay? All right.

1 MS. DREW: Yes, I can.

2 MR. SEGURA: Thank you for allowing me the
3 opportunity to speak to you all this evening. My name
4 is Kayne Segura and I am the business manager of Labor
5 Local 348 in Richland. I represent over a thousand
6 hardworking men and women in the Central Washington
7 area, including Yakima County.

8 I am here this evening on behalf of the
9 membership, their families, and the potential jobs
10 available for this project. I can't discuss this
11 project without discussing the importance of local hire
12 and ability trades. We look forward to seeing how
13 OneEnergy and whoever constructs the project plans to
14 utilize local hire and the requirements under CETA
15 standards for the Goose Prairie Solar Project.

16 Our members are trained and skilled not only
17 in heavy highway construction and building construction,
18 but also in all renewable energy construction as well.
19 And we have worked on numerous projects throughout the
20 Central Washington area where we have provided skilled,
21 trained, and reliable workers to do the job from start
22 to finish, and we look forward to the opportunity to
23 continue building these projects for the community. For
24 these reasons and more, we thank you for your time.

25 Thank you.

1 MS. DREW: Thank you very much.

2 Gunther Liddell.

3 MR. LIDDELL: Good evening, Councilmen or
4 women. I would just like to say I support this project
5 a hundred percent. I've been a laborer with the
6 Local 348 for 25 years. And I've worked in -- I believe
7 in all the above energy policies that rely on a mix of
8 fuel to create good jobs and to ensure that our nation
9 has abundant, affordable energy now and in the future.

10 I would just like to say I think this is a
11 great project for the community, for all the jobs and
12 for the money going back into the community from these
13 jobs. Thank you very much. Have a great night.

14 MS. DREW: Thank you.

15 Jessica Bosse Wadsworth.

16 MS. BOSSE WADSWORTH: Thank you so much for
17 this opportunity to speak to you. My name is Jessica
18 Bosse Wadsworth, and I live in Benton City. I joined
19 the Laborers Union Leadership Program in 2007. This has
20 given me a lifelong career making family-wage income. I
21 know brothers and sisters that have personally
22 benefitted from green energy construction projects. We
23 are experienced construction craft laborers. We build
24 roads, bridges, tunnels, transit, water, and energy
25 systems. Our members rely on a diverse set of skills

1 performed on a variety of different jobs. I fully
2 support this project. Thank you so much.

3 MS. DREW: Thank you.

4 Ms. Owens.

5 MS. OWENS: We have two left on the list at
6 this point, they are Rich Stetler and Aubrey Newton.

7 So Rich Stetler.

8 MR. STETLER: Can you hear me?

9 MS. DREW: Yes, I can.

10 MR. STETLER: Hi. My name is Richard
11 Stetler, and I'm also a member of LIUNA and resident of
12 Yakima. I just wanted to say that -- excuse me. I just
13 wanted to say that the members valued good energy jobs
14 because they offer family-supporting careers and
15 straighten our country. Thank you.

16 MS. DREW: Thank you.

17 Our last speaker, Aubrey Newton.

18 MS. NEWTON: Good afternoon. And thank you,
19 Chair Drew.

20 Can everybody hear me okay.

21 MS. DREW: We can. Thank you.

22 MS. NEWTON: As reference, my name is Aubrey
23 Newton. I work with the Laborers out of the regional
24 office. And I am from the Central Washington area, born
25 and raised. I am here this evening to speak on behalf

1 of the OneEnergy Solar Project and the Goose Prairie
2 Solar Project for the record.

3 As a few of my former colleagues have
4 referenced, the Laborers' International Union of North
5 America performs on renewable energy projects throughout
6 not only our northwest region but right here in the
7 Central Washington area.

8 These scopes that we work from start to
9 finish on these projects can be referenced on any letter
10 of assignment, any project labor agreement, community
11 benefits agreement, memorandum of understanding, or
12 similar agreements with the local laborers' union and
13 the general contractor that would be working on this
14 project.

15 I'm here speaking on behalf of the members,
16 as my colleagues also mentioned. And again just wanting
17 to reference and appreciate the time that OneEnergy has
18 taken to speak with us at this moment in time, and we
19 look forward to the continued work that they will be
20 doing to put forth this project in front of the
21 community.

22 The members, as referenced, that we work
23 with are trained, skilled, and qualified workers ready
24 to work on these projects. We have a robust recruitment
25 system that reaches statewide and focuses on good-paying

1 jobs for our members. LIUNA works with its employers to
2 make sure that the workers on the job are
3 skilled/trained/reliable; we get the job done ahead of
4 schedule and go home safely at the end of the day. It
5 is for these reasons and many more that we support this
6 project. Thank you for your time this evening.

7 MS. DREW: Thank you.

8 Is there anyone else who would like to speak
9 during this public comment period?

10 Again, is there anyone else who would like
11 to speak during this public comment meeting? It looks
12 like someone is trying to speak. I see -- can you see
13 that, Ms. Owens?

14 MS. OWENS: Somebody just might have their
15 microphone on.

16 MS. DREW: Okay. And I will ask for a final
17 time. Is there anyone else who would like to speak at
18 this public comment meeting?

19 If you would like to submit a written
20 comment -- is our comment database going to remain open,
21 Ms. Owens?

22 MS. OWENS: I believe it closes at
23 seven o'clock tonight.

24 MS. DREW: Okay. So you have until
25 seven o'clock tonight to submit a written comment to

1 <https://comments.efsec.wa.gov>.

2 Final call. Is there anyone else who would
3 like to make a verbal comment at this meeting?

4 Okay. Thank you all for joining us this
5 evening. Thank you for your comments and presentations.
6 And this meeting and public comment meeting is now
7 adjourned. Good night.

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9 (Hearing adjourned at 5:41 p.m.)

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