

Verbatim Transcript of Monthly Council Meeting

Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

July 19, 2022



206.287.9066 | 800.846.6989

1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 1840, Seattle, Washington 98101

www.buellrealtime.com

email: info@buellrealtime.com



WASHINGTON STATE
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
Lacey, Washington
Tuesday, July 19, 2022
1:30 p.m.

VIRTUAL MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
Verbatim Transcript of Proceedings

(All participants appeared via videoconference)

REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358

Buell Realtime Reporting, LLC
1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 1840
Seattle, Washington 98101
(206) 287-9066 | Seattle
(360) 534-9066 | Olympia
(800) 846-6989 | National

www.buellrealtime.com

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

2 KATHLEEN DREW, Chair
3 STACEY BREWSTER, UTC
4 KATE KELLY, Department of Commerce
5 ELI LEVITT, Department of Ecology
6 LENNY YOUNG, Department of Natural Resources
7 MIKE LIVINGSTON, Department of Fish and Wildlife

8
9 Local Government and Optional State Agency for the Horse
10 Heaven Project and Badger Mountain:

11 ED BROST, Benton County
12 JORDYN GIULIO, Douglas County

13 Assistant Attorney General:

14 JON THOMPSON

15 Administrative Law Judges:

16 ADAM TOREM
17 LAURA BRADLEY

18 EFSEC Staff:

19 SONIA BUMPUS
20 AMY MOON
21 AMI HAFKEMEYER
22 STEW HENDERSON
23 JOAN OWENS
24 ANDREA GRANTHAM
25 JOE WOOD
DAVE WALKER
CINDY SMITH

Guests:

21 JENNIFER GALBRAITH, Wild Horse
22 CHRIS SHERIN, Grays Harbor Energy
23 STEFANO SCHNITGER, Chehalis Generation
24 FELICIA NAJERA-PAXTON, Columbia Generating Station
25 SARAH REYNEVELD, Counsel for The Environment
OWEN HURD, TUUSSO Energy

1 LACEY, WASHINGTON; JULY 19, 2022

2 1:30 P.M.

3 --o0o--

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

5

6 CHAIR DREW: Good afternoon. This is
7 Kathleen Drew, Chair of the Washington State Energy
8 Facility Site Evaluation Council, calling today's
9 meeting to order.

10 Ms. Grantham, will you call the roll?

11 MS. GRANTHAM: Yes.

12 Department of Commerce?

13 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, present.

14 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Ecology?

15 Department of --

16 MR. LEVITT: Eli Levitt, present.

17 MS. GRANTHAM: Thank you.

18 Department of Fish and Wildlife?

19 MR. LIVINGSTON: Mike Livingston. I'm
20 present.

21 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Natural
22 Resources?

23 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, present.

24 MS. GRANTHAM: Utilities and Transportation
25 Commission?

1 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, present.

2 MS. GRANTHAM: Local Government and Optional
3 State Agencies, for the Horse Heaven Project, Department
4 of Agriculture?

5 CHAIR DREW: Excused.

6 MS. GRANTHAM: Benton County?

7 MR. BROST: Ed Brost, present.

8 MS. GRANTHAM: Thank you.

9 For the Badger Mountain Project, Douglas
10 County?

11 MS. GIULIO: Jordyn Giulio, present.

12 MS. GRANTHAM: The assistant attorney
13 general?

14 MR. THOMPSON: Jon Thompson, present.

15 MS. GRANTHAM: Administrative law judges,
16 Adam Torem?

17 JUDGE TOREM: This is Judge Torem.

18 MS. GRANTHAM: Laura Bradley?

19 JUDGE BRADLEY: This is Judge Bradley,
20 present.

21 MS. GRANTHAM: For the EFSEC Staff, Sonia
22 Bumpus?

23 MS. BUMPUS: Sonia Bumpus is present.

24 MS. GRANTHAM: Ami Hafkemeyer?

25 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Ami Hafkemeyer, present.

1 MS. GRANTHAM: Amy Moon?

2 MS. MOON: Amy Moon, I'm here.

3 MS. GRANTHAM: Joe Wood?

4 MR. WOOD: Joe Wood, present.

5 MS. GRANTHAM: Patty Betts?

6 Stew Henderson?

7 MR. HENDERSON: Stewart Henderson, here.

8 MS. GRANTHAM: Joan Owens?

9 MS. OWENS: Present.

10 MS. GRANTHAM: Dave Walker?

11 MR. WALKER: Present.

12 MS. GRANTHAM: For the operational updates,
13 Kittitas Valley Wind Project?

14 CHAIR DREW: Excused.

15 MS. GRANTHAM: Wild Horse Wind Power
16 Project?

17 MS. GALBRAITH: Jennifer Galbraith, present.

18 MS. GRANTHAM: Grays Harbor Energy Center?

19 MR. SHERIN: This is Chris Sherin, for Grays
20 Harbor Energy Center.

21 MS. GRANTHAM: Chehalis Generation Facility?

22 MR. SCHNITGER: Stefano Schnitger, present.

23 MS. GRANTHAM: Columbia Generating Station?

24 MS. NAJERA-PAXTON: Felicia Najera-Paxton,
25 present.

1 MS. GRANTHAM: Columbia Solar?

2 Counsel for The Environment, Bill Sherman?

3 MS. REYNEVELD: Sarah Reyneveld is here for
4 counsel for The Environment.

5 MS. GRANTHAM: Okay. So Bill Sherman and
6 Megan Sallomi are not present?

7 MS. REYNEVELD: No. I am here representing
8 counsel for The Environment.

9 MS. GRANTHAM: Thank you.

10 Chair, there is a quorum for the regular
11 Council and for the Horse Heaven and Badger Mountain
12 Council.

13 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

14 Moving on to our proposed agenda. We have
15 sent that out, and you have that in your packets and
16 it's being displayed. Is there a motion to adopt that
17 as our agenda?

18 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, so moved.

19 MR. LIVINGSTON: Mike Livingston will second
20 that.

21 CHAIR DREW: Is there any discussion?

22 All those in favor of approving the
23 agenda -- adopting the agenda -- excuse me -- please say
24 "aye."

25 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

1 CHAIR DREW: All those opposed?

2 The agenda is adopted.

3 Moving on to the meeting minutes. We have
4 four sets of meeting minutes before us, so we'll take
5 them one at a time.

6 The first is the May 17th, 2022, monthly
7 meeting minutes that are there before you. And is there
8 a motion to approve the May meeting minutes?

9 MS. KELLY: This is Kate Kelly. I move to
10 approve the May 17th meeting minutes.

11 CHAIR DREW: Second?

12 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster, second.

13 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. I have a few
14 changes, minor changes.

15 On page 38, line 6, "BTA" should be "BPA."

16 On page 38, line 13, the two-word
17 combination blackout, space, line should be, quote,
18 black, space, outline.

19 On page 38, line 17, the word "land" should
20 be "line."

21 Are there any other changes?

22 Hearing none, the vote would be to approve
23 the minutes as amended. All those in favor, signify by
24 saying "aye."

25 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

1 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?

2 The minutes for the May 17th Council meeting
3 are approved.

4 Moving on to the -- what is next?
5 Informational public meeting, June 1st, for Cyprus Creek
6 Renewables. Is there a motion to approve those minutes?
7 Let me combine the informational public -- we'll do it
8 in one motion -- meeting and the land use consistency
9 hearing, both on June 1st, those two sets of minutes.
10 Is there a motion to approve those?

11 MS. KELLY: This is Kate --

12 [Simultaneous speaking.]

13 MS. BREWSTER: Go ahead, Kate.

14 MS. KELLY: Chair, I move to approve the
15 informational and land use -- I don't know if I said
16 that right. The two sets of meeting minutes from
17 June 1st.

18 CHAIR DREW: That's fine.

19 Ms. Brewster, second?

20 MS. BREWSTER: I'll second.

21 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

22 I do have changes for the public information
23 meeting on page 10, line 20. "F-site" should be
24 "EFSEC."

25 On page 12, line 9, "cited" spelled

1 c-i-t-e-d should be "sited" spelled s-i-t-e-d.

2 Those are my two changes for this set of
3 minutes. Are there any others? Any other amendments?

4 Hearing none --

5 Yes?

6 MR. LIVINGSTON: I have one. So page 25,
7 line 13, I believe that's supposed to be least path cost
8 analysis, as opposed to lease.

9 CHAIR DREW: Oh, thank you.

10 MR. LIVINGSTON: Yep.

11 CHAIR DREW: Any other changes?

12 So we will be voting on the approval of the
13 minutes from June 1st, the informational meeting, and
14 the land use consistency hearing as amended. All those
15 in favor, please say "aye."

16 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

17 CHAIR DREW: All opposed?

18 Thank you. The motion carries.

19 And to our final set, the June 21st Council
20 meeting, motion to approve?

21 MS. BREWSTER: This is Stacey Brewster.
22 I'll move to approve the June 21st monthly meeting
23 minutes.

24 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

25 Second?

1 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, second.

2 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

3 I have a couple of changes here. First of
4 all, on page 10, line 23, delete the word "appointment"
5 and add the word "planting," p-l-a-n-t-i-n-g.

6 And on page 12, line 2, delete d-e, dash,
7 before the word "minimization."

8 Are there additional corrections to the July
9 monthly meeting -- no, that would be the June 21st
10 Council meeting minutes?

11 Okay. Hearing none, all those in favor of
12 approving the agenda -- or the -- excuse me, the minutes
13 from the June 21st Council meeting, please say "aye."

14 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

15 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?

16 The minutes are approved. Thank you.

17 Back to our agenda. We have now, moving on
18 to the projects, the Kittitas Valley Wind Project
19 operational update. Ms. Moon will be sharing that
20 today.

21 MS. MOON: Thank you, Chair Drew. Eric
22 Melbardis is not with us, so I will give his update.

23 There were no nonroutine items to report for
24 the month of June. And the power generated, as -- as
25 you can read, but the callers cannot see, was 27,975

1 milliwatt -- megawatt hours.

2 That was it. Thank you.

3 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you.

4 Moving on to the Wild Horse Wind Power
5 Project, Ms. Galbraith?

6 MS. GALBRAITH: Yes. Thank you, Chair Drew,
7 Councilmembers, and Staff. This is Jennifer Galbraith,
8 representing Puget Sound Energy for the Wild Horse Wind
9 Facility, and I have no nonroutine updates for the month
10 of June.

11 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

12 Chehalis Generation Facility, Mr. Schnitger?

13 MR. SCHNITGER: Good afternoon.

14 CHAIR DREW: We're having difficulty hearing
15 you. If you could speak up, please.

16 MR. SCHNITGER: I will move closer to the
17 microphone.

18 CHAIR DREW: That's better. Thank you.

19 MR. SCHNITGER: Stefano Schnitger, for the
20 Chehalis Generation Facility. I have nothing nonroutine
21 to report for the month of June.

22 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

23 Moving on to Grays Harbor Energy Center,
24 Mr. Sherin?

25 MR. SHERIN: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,

1 Councilmembers, Staff. This is Chris Sherin, the plant
2 manager from Grays Harbor Energy Center. I have nothing
3 nonroutine to report for the month of June. And I did
4 just send you corrections under "Operations and
5 Maintenance." It says 11.175 megawatt hours. That
6 should be 11,175. So correction has been sent.

7 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Thank you. Appreciate
8 that.

9 Moving on to the Columbia Generating Station
10 and WNP-1/4. Ms. Najera-Paxton.

11 MS. NAJERA-PAXTON: Thank you, Chair Drew
12 and Councilmembers and Staff. This is Felicia
13 Najera-Paxton, and I'm the principal environmental
14 scientist for CGS.

15 CGS had a net electrical generation in June
16 of 650,160 milliwatt hours, and we have no update on
17 environmental compliance.

18 We do have a safety compliance update. The
19 2022 World Association of Nuclear Operators, or WANO,
20 did a peer review of CGS's environmental response
21 organization preparedness drill.

22 They're completing this emergency management
23 performance evaluation, which reviews the ability of
24 station workers to prepare for and respond to emergency
25 conditions at the station.

1 This team's observations will be used as
2 input into an on-site evaluation that will commence
3 October 31st through November 11th.

4 Also the Washington State Fire Marshal
5 reinspected the IDC and CGS non-power block buildings on
6 June 15th.

7 And that completes my update.

8 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

9 MS. NAJERA-PAXTON: Thank you.

10 MS. MOON: Can I -- I'm going to interrupt.
11 I think that Felicia meant to say "megawatt" hours. We
12 had the same slip-up when we were reading with "milli."

13 MS. NAJERA-PAXTON: Oh, my goodness. Thank
14 you.

15 CHAIR DREW: I think it's today. There
16 is -- there is something.

17 MS. NAJERA-PAXTON: That's hilarious. It's
18 the scientist in me. I'll go with that.

19 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

20 MS. NAJERA-PAXTON: Sorry. Thank you.

21 CHAIR DREW: No worries.

22 Okay. Moving on to the Columbia Solar
23 Project, Mr. Hurd?

24 MR. HURD: Good afternoon, Chair Drew,
25 Councilmembers, and EFSEC Staff. This is Owen Hurd,

1 from TUUSSO Energy, reporting on Columbia Solar Project.

2 Penstemon is and remains online and
3 operational.

4 Camas, we're in the process of issuing
5 substantial completion. So it should be any day.
6 Mechanical completion is also expected shortly on
7 Urtica, and then substantial completion will be in late
8 August.

9 We've been discussing with EFSEC Staff on
10 our planting plans, and we're expecting to have an
11 ~~undated~~ updated plan submitted later by the end of this week.
12 We had some delays with initial weed spraying, but
13 that's all been kind of handled now on all three
14 projects. And we'll be scheduling a second ~~pack~~ ^{TAC} meeting
15 next month.

16 That's all I've got.

17 MS. GRANTHAM: Chair Drew, you are on mute.

18 CHAIR DREW: Oh, thank you.

19 Our next agenda item is the Horse Heaven
20 Wind Farm SEPA update, Ms. Moon?

21 MS. MOON: Thank you. Good afternoon,
22 Council Chair Drew and Councilmembers. For the record,
23 this is Amy Moon, an EFSEC Staff member. I am providing
24 the State Environmental Policy Act, or SEPA, update on
25 the Horse Heaven Wind Project.

1 In June, EFSEC Staff continued to work
2 closely with our contractor, Golder, on the preparation
3 of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, otherwise
4 known as a draft EIS.

5 All resource sections of the draft EIS have
6 been through at least a first review, and our focus is
7 on completing second and final draft reviews, refinement
8 of EIS chapters, and further development of proposed
9 minimization and mitigation opportunities.

10 Does the Council have any questions?

11 CHAIR DREW: Are there any questions for
12 Ms. Moon?

13 Thank you.

14 The questions at this point in time are for
15 Councilmembers only. Thank you. If you have a question
16 and a member of the public, feel free to email us at
17 EFSEC.wa.gov.

18 Moving on to our next item on the agenda.
19 Goose Prairie Solar Project, Mr. Wood?

20 MR. WOOD: Good afternoon, Chair Drew, EFSEC
21 Council, and Staff. This is Joe Wood, providing the
22 monthly update for the Goose Prairie Solar Project in
23 Yakima County, Washington.

24 EFSEC Staff continues to work with
25 Brookfield, the new owner of Goose Prairie, LLC, on

1 preconstruction surveys and plans. Most recently
2 Brookfield has been working on finalizing a habitat
3 conservation mitigation plan along with EFSEC and
4 Department of Fish and Wildlife.

5 EFSEC will continue to work with Brookfield
6 to obtain the required preconstruction and construction
7 plans and will continue to update the Council at future
8 meetings.

9 And that's it.

10 CHAIR DREW: There I go again.

11 Are there any questions for Mr. Wood from
12 the Council?

13 Okay. Moving on, then. Badger Mountain
14 Solar Energy Project, and that's Ms. Hafkemeyer.

15 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you, Chair Drew.
16 Good afternoon, Council and Staff. For the record, this
17 is Ami Hafkemeyer.

18 EFSEC Staff are continuing to coordinate
19 with the applicant and our contracted agencies for
20 review.

21 Staff also attended a site visit with the
22 applicant and Department of Natural Resources on
23 July 12th to review areas of interest as identified
24 throughout our review. This will inform the scope for
25 the draft Environmental Impact Statement.

1 Are there any questions?

2 CHAIR DREW: Hearing none, thank you for
3 your report.

4 Moving on to Whistling Ridge Project update,
5 Ms. Hafkemeyer.

6 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you. EFSEC Staff are
7 waiting for the certificate holder to submit the
8 remaining materials for the SCA amendment request.
9 There are no further updates at this time. We will keep
10 the Council up to date as we receive more information.

11 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

12 Moving on to High Top and Ostrea, the
13 project update. Ms. Hafkemeyer.

14 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you. EFSEC Staff
15 continue to work with the applicant and contracted
16 agencies for our review as we work towards a SEPA
17 determination.

18 On July 12th, EFSEC received a letter from
19 the applicant, requesting an extension of the expedited
20 process determination, which you will see in your
21 Council packets.

22 Are there any questions before I give a
23 little bit of background on this extension request?

24 CHAIR DREW: Go ahead.

25 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you. Per our rules

1 in Washington Administrative Code, or WAC, 463-43-050,
2 this decision is made within 120 days of receipt of an
3 application or such later time as is mutually agreed by
4 the applicant and the Council. The application was
5 received on April 7th, 2022, and the 120 days would be
6 up on August 6th.

7 EFSEC Staff have discussed this timeline
8 with the applicant in light of the ongoing review with
9 our contracted agencies, as well as other
10 considerations.

11 This letter requests an extension of the
12 expedited process decision for ten weeks to be made by
13 October 20th.

14 Staff recommend that the Council approve
15 this request to extend the expedited process decision to
16 that time.

17 Are there any questions?

18 CHAIR DREW: Are there any questions from
19 Councilmembers?

20 Okay. Hearing none, it's at this point in
21 the process -- I was talking with our Staff, before the
22 meeting went live, about new procedures that are going
23 into place because of amendments to the Open Public
24 Meetings Act, which went into effect last month, which
25 require governing bodies, like the Council, to take

1 public comments at any public meeting where the
2 governing body is taking final action. In our case, the
3 OPMA defines final action broadly to include any vote on
4 a motion.

5 So we will have a motion -- a motion on this
6 extension. The Council will open it up for anyone who
7 wishes to comment on the matter coming before the
8 Council for final action on the agenda. And I'm going
9 to ask all those who comment to limit their comments to
10 one minute.

11 I do want to read you the specific RCW, or
12 parts of it, 42.30.240. It says, Except in an emergency
13 situation, the governing body of a public agency shall
14 provide an opportunity at or before every regular
15 meeting at which final action is taken for public
16 comment.

17 The public comment required under the
18 section may be taken orally at a public meeting or by
19 providing an opportunity for written testimony to be
20 submitted before or at the meeting.

21 If the governing body accepts written
22 testimony, this testimony must be distributed to the
23 governing body. The governing body may set a reasonable
24 deadline for the submission of written testimony before
25 the meeting.

1 In this case, the Council will be taking
2 comment orally. And I'd like to ask if there's -- and
3 this is specifically and only on the extension of the
4 deadline for the High Top and Ostrea projects. It is
5 not on any other subject.

6 So if you would like to comment on the topic
7 of the extension, I would ask you to raise your hand, if
8 you are using the Microsoft Teams application, or to put
9 a message in the chat. And after we see if anyone would
10 like to comment in that manner, I will then open it up
11 for anybody who has called in.

12 So at this point in time, is there anyone
13 who would like to comment specifically on the vote
14 before us today, which is to extend the...

15 MS. BUMPUS: Expedited processing decision.

16 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

17 The expedited processing decision until our
18 October meeting?

19 I don't see any hands and don't see any
20 messages in the chat. So I will ask those who have
21 called in, if you would like to comment on the expedited
22 processing decision being extended, you may unmute now
23 and introduce yourself. We will give you a minute for
24 your comment.

25 I do not hear anyone who wishes to comment,

1 so we will close the comment period now.

2 MR. YOUNG: Chair Drew, this is Lenny Young.
3 I'm seeing a hand up for an attendee whose number ends
4 in 5-2.

5 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

6 Would that person like to begin their
7 comment now and introduce yourself?

8 MS. OWENS: Chair Drew, this is Joan Owens.
9 I'm not seeing the same hands up that Councilmember
10 Young is seeing.

11 What are the last four digits of the number
12 that you're seeing, Councilmember Young?

13 MR. YOUNG: Most of the digits are blanked
14 out with little star symbols. It starts with 1-3 and
15 ends in 5-2 and it's under "attendees."

16 CHAIR DREW: If the person with the hand
17 raised would like to comment, please unmute yourself and
18 we will take your comment.

19 MR. YOUNG: Another -- another indication
20 from that same number just appeared with the full
21 number, and it looks like the hand is taken down.

22 MS. OWENS: I see them. They might be
23 having some connection issues.

24 CHAIR DREW: If you are -- yes, thank you,
25 Mr. Levitt. If you are on the phone and wish to unmute,

1 it is star 6. So if you would like to unmute to make a
2 comment, you need to dial -- no, I'm sorry. I said that
3 wrong. It's pound 6. Pound 6.

4 MS. RAPAR: Sorry. I don't have a comment.
5 This is Mary Rapar. Your numbers are so weird compared
6 to Zoom numbers, so I've been pressing star 6 and
7 star 5.

8 CHAIR DREW: Pound. It's pound 6.

9 MS. RAPAR: Okay. I don't have public
10 comment. Thank you so much.

11 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. Okay.

12 At this point, we -- I will close the public
13 comment and move on to the motion.

14 Is there a motion to accept the
15 recommendation to extend the expedited processing
16 decision to October 20th, 2022, for the High Top and
17 Ostrea projects?

18 MS. KELLY: Kate Kelly, so moved.

19 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

20 Second?

21 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, second.

22 CHAIR DREW: Is there any discussion?

23 Okay. Thank you. All those in favor,
24 please say "aye."

25 COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

1 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?

2 The motion is adopted.

3 Thank you. We'll continue to improve on our
4 new process. So if Councilmembers or others wish to let
5 us know how we can improve, we appreciate it.

6 Moving on to the next item on our agenda,
7 Wautoma Solar Project. And that is Ms. Hafkemeyer.

8 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you. EFSEC Staff are
9 currently working on our review of the application with
10 our contracted agencies. We have also scheduled the
11 public informational meeting and land use consistency
12 hearing for Monday evening, August 8th.

13 Staff are still finalizing the details for
14 the venue, and we will update the Council when this
15 information is available. The public may attend either
16 virtually or in person.

17 Are there any questions?

18 CHAIR DREW: Councilmembers, it is also your
19 option to attend either in person or virtually. I will
20 be there in person, as will some of our Staff. So
21 please let Ms. Grantham know if you are able to attend,
22 and if so, if that will be virtually or in person.

23 Any further -- go ahead, Ms. Kelly.

24 MS. KELLY: Thank you, Madam Chair. Under
25 the Wautoma, I had thought we got an application back in

1 May, but then we recently got a notice that the
2 application was submitted in either June or July. Is --
3 am I --

4 MS. HAFKEMEYER: So yeah, I can clarify
5 that. We received the application materials, like the
6 actual information about the project, earlier back in
7 May.

8 Per our rules, the application isn't
9 considered received until we receive the deposit, and
10 there was some delay in the mail, I believe it was,
11 actually receiving the deposit.

12 So we received the deposit in June, and
13 that's when our application is considered received.
14 Does that answer your question?

15 MS. KELLY: Yes, it does. Thank you for
16 that clarification. Appreciate it.

17 CHAIR DREW: Yes. And -- and all the -- the
18 dates moving forward are subject to that June date
19 rather than the day when we received some of the -- the
20 materials.

21 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Correct.

22 CHAIR DREW: Yes. Okay. Thank you.

23 Okay. Let's move on to the cost allocation,
24 Ms. Bumpus.

25 MS. BUMPUS: Thank you. Good afternoon,

1 Chair Drew and Councilmembers. This is a presentation
2 on the nondirect cost allocation for first quarter
3 fiscal year 2023. This covers July 1, 2022, to
4 September 30, 2022. I'm going to read off the
5 percentages for the nondirect cost allocations by
6 project. This also adds the Wautoma Solar Project, you
7 will notice.

8 For Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project,
9 4 percent; Wild Horse is 4 percent; Columbia Generating
10 Station, 22 percent; Columbia Solar, 5 percent; WNP 1,
11 3 percent; Whistling Ridge, 3 percent; Grays Harbor 1&2,
12 8 percent; Chehalis Generation Project is 8 percent;
13 Desert Claim, 5 percent -- or sorry, excuse me,
14 3 percent; Goose Prairie Solar, 5 percent; Horse Heaven
15 Wind Power Project is 15 percent; Badger Mountain,
16 7 percent; Cyprus Creek Renewables, the High Top Ostrea
17 Project, 7 percent; Wautoma Solar Project, 6 percent.

18 And that concludes my update on the
19 nondirect cost allocations. Are there any questions?

20 CHAIR DREW: Questions from Councilmembers?
21 Thank you.

22 MS. BUMPUS: Thank you.

23 CHAIR DREW: Next, we have an update on our
24 transition. As many of you know, as all the
25 Councilmembers know, EFSEC became an independent agency

1 rather than being supported through the UTC for
2 administrative services on June 30th.

3 So with us is our administrative services
4 director, Dave Walker.

5 Mr. Walker?

6 MR. WALKER: Chair Drew, thank you. Sorry;
7 I was having problems with my mute button.

8 For the record, this is Dave Walker, interim
9 director of administrative services for EFSEC. Thank
10 you for the opportunity today to speak to our progress
11 on the transition and our short- and medium-term goals
12 as we move through the transition process.

13 As Chair Drew mentioned, EFSEC became an
14 independent agency on June 30th of this year, and
15 obviously there are a lot of things that come along with
16 that when you are an independent agency, and we're going
17 to talk at a very high level as we go through that.
18 Next slide, please.

19 So first and foremost, I -- I do want to
20 apologize. Not all of the boxes transferred correctly
21 as we were trying to put this slide together, but I
22 think it gives you the information as to where we are
23 headed as an agency with the new organizational
24 structure.

25 Prior to EFSEC becoming an independent

1 agency, the structure was fairly flat. In other words,
2 there weren't levels of supervision within the agency.
3 As we stand up to become an independent agency, we are
4 going to not only create those levels of supervision
5 within the agency, but we also want to make sure that we
6 are developing career paths for our employees as we're
7 moving forward.

8 This is just the very beginning that -- that
9 you are seeing here. I anticipate that we're going to
10 have some additional changes as we move forward, but
11 this is where we're at right now.

12 So as you can see, we have taken the agency
13 and essentially split it into two separate functions.
14 One of those functions is what we call front office,
15 which is the operational end of siting and compliance.
16 And all of that falls under Ami Hafkemeyer, the director
17 of siting and compliance.

18 On the left side, you'll notice that we have
19 split out our administrative services. I have taken the
20 position of director on an interim basis as we move
21 forward through the transition, and you see below me,
22 there we have Stewart Henderson, senior policy advisor,
23 and you'll notice that we have a couple of new
24 positions, as well as one current position that we are
25 going to be recruiting for or are currently recruiting

1 for now. And the next slide will give us a better look
2 at what we have done thus far. Thank you.

3 So what's changed? Sonia Bumpus is now the
4 director of EFSEC as of June 30th this year. Joan Owens
5 has moved into the executive assistant to the director
6 position, which not only supports the director, but also
7 the chair. Andrea Grantham has stepped into the
8 administrative assistant 3 position.

9 As we had talked about just moments ago, Ami
10 Hafkemeyer is now the director of siting and compliance.
11 I've taken the interim director of administration. Amy
12 Moon has stepped into the senior siting and compliance
13 specialist, which is a lead position.

14 Amy has tremendous experience with siting
15 and compliance, and we wanted to capitalize on that
16 through her leadership skills and knowledge of the
17 process. And then Cindy Smith is currently our interim
18 contractor for media relations. Next slide, please.

19 So we had talked about current positions
20 that we're recruiting for, but also new ones that we had
21 created. So I wanted to put this in a format that was
22 very easy to read.

23 As you can see, we're currently recruiting
24 for the environmental planner. Patty Betts wishes to
25 retire very soon and it's going to be very, very

1 difficult to replace her. We're sorry to see her go,
2 but completely understand.

3 We have two siting and compliance
4 specialists positions that we are currently recruiting
5 for now. We have the Commerce specialist position,
6 which falls within my division, and will be helping us
7 with all of the back-end functionality, recordkeeping,
8 and so forth.

9 And then we have a forms and records analyst
10 that we want to bring in. This position is going to be
11 specifically for helping us with public records
12 requests, sending records to the archive with Secretary
13 of State, monitoring all of our forms, making sure that
14 we're in compliance.

15 But one of the larger pieces that I really
16 want this position to focus on is creating more of an
17 open data concept on our external website so that we can
18 reduce the number of hours that our staff are putting
19 into fulfilling records requests that come from the
20 public.

21 So new positions that we're not yet
22 recruiting, the director of administration, and I
23 suspect we'll probably be recruiting that early next
24 year.

25 Legislation policy and rules manager. As

1 you all know, once you become an agency, you have many
2 things that you have to pay attention to, and
3 legislation is a big one. We need an individual that
4 can be on the hill, advocating for EFSEC and making sure
5 that members understand exactly what EFSEC is about and
6 what we do.

7 We're also going to be recruiting for a
8 second administrative assistant position. We right now
9 believe that one AA will be supporting each of the
10 divisions within the agency.

11 Andrea Grantham obviously took one of those.
12 We'll be hiring for the other one shortly. And then the
13 siting and compliance specialist position that we had
14 created dependent upon the amount of work that's going
15 to be coming at us over the next, say, one to two years
16 and even beyond. Next slide, please.

17 So our short- and medium-term priorities as
18 we continue through standing up EFSEC as an independent
19 agency. Obviously, we want to recruit our new and
20 vacant positions as quickly as possible so that we can
21 continue to provide a level of service, but we also need
22 to establish additional contracts. Media,
23 communications, records management as just an example,
24 and that's the tip of the iceberg as we look for longer
25 term.

1 We need to update external website and we
2 need to develop an intranet for our staff so that they
3 have resources at their fingertips, they're not spending
4 a lot of time searching for things that should be right
5 there in front of them.

6 We want to begin to develop a larger
7 presence for the open data, as I had talked about a
8 little bit earlier.

9 We need to finish establishing our agency
10 policies, and these are not only administrative
11 policies, but we need to look at operational policies as
12 we're moving forward.

13 And then finally, now that we're a new
14 agency, we need to take a step back and just take a look
15 at our cost recovery model and make sure that it really
16 is addressing all of the potentially additional costs,
17 being an independent agency, that we're going to be
18 taking on as we move forward.

19 And then finally, we need to develop
20 internal administrative processes for our public records
21 requests, public comment forum, applications for green
22 hydrogen, clean energy manufacturing, and so forth.

23 So we've got a lot of work ahead of us.
24 This really is going to be identifying the short-term,
25 which will probably be within the next six to 12 months.

1 We'll be working on long-term strategies as a leadership
2 team as we move forward. Next slide.

3 And does the Council have any questions at
4 this point?

5 CHAIR DREW: Thank you, Mr. Walker.

6 Are there any questions from Councilmembers?

7 MS. BREWSTER: This is Stacey Brewster. Not
8 a question, but just a comment. Thanks for all the work
9 you guys have been doing on this transition and
10 congratulations to the Staff who have moved into some
11 promotions.

12 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

13 One other item I would like to mention is in
14 terms of our location. It is -- I guess we haven't made
15 the final decision, but it's likely we will be
16 continuing to lease space from the UTC in our current
17 location, physical location.

18 So that means we won't be strangers to you,
19 Ms. Brewster, in your location there so...

20 CHAIR DREW: So thank you.

21 Any other questions?

22 Okay. Thank you.

23 One more item I would like to bring up for
24 the good of the order is, as Dave mentioned, Cindy Smith
25 has joined us as our interim media and contractor. So

1 Cindy Smith has many years of experience working with
2 State agencies and working through the public processes
3 and how we do our work internally, as well as outreach
4 to media and communications.

5 And so she has joined us for a short period
6 of time to help us establish our own communications
7 program, which will also be taking a look at our
8 website, hoping to improve and to put into place
9 actually some social media presence and some other items
10 that are on our to-do list as we move forward.

11 So, Ms. Smith, would you say hello to the
12 Councilmembers?

13 MS. SMITH: Absolutely. Thanks very much,
14 Kathleen, for the introduction, and I'm really happy to
15 have this opportunity to work with EFSEC and Staff and
16 the Council. It's truly an honor, and I thank you.

17 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

18 So if there is no further business, the
19 monthly meeting for EFSEC is adjourned. Thank you all
20 for your participation.

21 (Adjourned at 2:15 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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