



Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

AGENDA

MONTHLY MEETING
Wednesday April 16, 2025
1:30 PM

HYBRID MEETING
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Conference number: 564-999-2000 ID: 141231937#

- 1. Call to OrderKurt Beckett, EFSEC Chair
- 2. Roll CallAndrea Grantham, EFSEC Staff
- 3. Proposed AgendaKurt Beckett, EFSEC Chair
- 4. Minutes **Meeting Minutes**.....Kurt Beckett, EFSEC Chair
 - March 19, 2025 Monthly Meeting Minutes
- 5. Projects
 - a. **Kittitas Valley Wind Project**
 - Operational Updates.....Jarred Caseday, EDP Renewables
 - b. **Wild Horse Wind Power Project**
 - Operational Updates.....Jennifer Galbraith, Puget Sound Energy
 - c. **Chehalis Generation Facility**
 - Operational Updates.....Jeremy Smith, Chehalis Generation
 - d. **Grays Harbor Energy Center**
 - Operational Updates.....Chris Sherin, Grays Harbor Energy
 - e. **Columbia Solar**
 - Operational Updates.....Thomas Cushing, Greenbacker Capital
 - f. **Columbia Generating Station**
 - Operational Updates.....Josh LaPorte, Energy Northwest
 - g. **WNP – 1/4**
 - Non-Operational Updates.....Josh LaPorte, Energy Northwest
 - h. **Goose Prairie Solar**
 - Project Updates.....Nelson Jia, Brookfield Renewable
 - i. **Ostrea Solar**
 - Project Updates.....Ryan Keeney, Cypress Creek Renewables
 - j. **Badger Mountain**
 - Extension Request.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff
The Council may take FINAL ACTION on the extension request for the Badger Mountain project.
 - k. **Carriger Solar**
 - Project Updates.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff
 - Extension Request.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff
The Council may take FINAL ACTION on the extension request for the Carriger Solar project.
 - l. **Horse Heaven Wind Farm**
 - Project Updates.....Amy Moon, EFSEC Staff
 - m. **Hop Hill Solar**
 - Project Updates.....John Barnes, EFSEC Staff
 - n. **Wallula Gap**
 - Project Updates.....John Barnes, EFSEC Staff
 - o. **Goldeneye BESS**
 - Project Updates.....Joanne Snarski, EFSEC Staff

Note: "FINAL ACTION" means a collective positive or negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of a governing body when sitting as a body or entity, upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance. RCW 42.30.020 This is not the final action on this application review, and there will be additional opportunities for public comment on this project.

p. Transmission PEIS

- Project Updates.....Sean Greene, EFSEC Staff

6. Other

- Cost Allocation.....Sonia Bumpus, EFSEC Staff
- Rulemaking Update.....Dave Walker, EFSEC Staff

7. Adjourn.....Kurt Beckett, EFSEC Chair

Note: "FINAL ACTION" means a collective positive or negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of a governing body when sitting as a body or entity, upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance. RCW 42.30.020 This is not the final action on this application review, and there will be additional opportunities for public comment on this project.

WASHINGTON STATE
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING
March 19, 2025
Lacey, Washington
Reporter: Christy Sheppard, CCR, RPR

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1	APPEARANCES	
2	STATE AGENCY MEMBERS:	
3	Kurt Beckett, Chair	
	Elizabeth Osborne, Commerce	
4	Eli Levitt, Ecology	
	Nate Pamplin, Fish and Wildlife	
5	Lenny Young, Natural Resources	
	Stacy Brewster, Utilities & Transportation	
6	Commission	
7	LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OPTIONAL STATE AGENCIES:	
8	Carriger Solar:	
	Matt Chile, Klickitat County	
9		
	Wallula Gap:	
10	Adam Fyall, Benton County	
11	Goldeneyer BESS:	
	Robby Eckroth, Skagit County	
12		
13	ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL:	
14	Jon Thompson	
	Zack Packer	
15	Talia Thuet	
16		
	COUNCIL STAFF:	
17		
	Sonia Bumpus Alex Shiley	
18	Ami Hafkemeyer Karl Holappa	
	Amy Moon Audra Allen	
19	Stew Henderson Maria Belkina	
	Joan Owens Lisa McLean	
20	Andrea Grantham Adrienne Barker	
	Sonja Skaland Catherine Taliaferro	
21	Sara Randolph Alondra Zalewski	
	Sean Greene Sairy Reyes	
22	Lance Caputo Trevin Taylor	
	John Barnes Patty Betts	
23	Joanne Snarski Dave Walker	
24		
25		

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1	APPEARANCES (Continued)	
2		
3	OPERATIONAL UPDATES:	
4	Jarred Caseday,	
	Kittitas Valley Wind, EDP Renewables	
5		
	Jennifer Galbraith,	
6	Wild Horse Wind Power Project, Puget Sound Energy	
7	Chris Sherin,	
	Grays Harbor Energy Center, Grays Harbor Energy	
8		
	Jeremy Smith,	
9	Chehalis Generation Facility, PacifiCorp	
10	Katie Hall,	
	Columbia Generating Station & WNP-1/4, Energy	
11	Northwest	
12	Thomas Cushing,	
	Columbia Solar, Tuusso Energy	
13		
	Nelson Jia,	
14	Goose Prairie Solar, Brookfield Renewable	
15	Ryan Keeney,	
	Ostrea Solar, Cypress Creek Renewables	
16		
17	COUNSEL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:	
18	Sarah Reyneveld	
	Yuriy Korol	
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

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1	BE IT REMEMBERED that on Wednesday,	
2	March 19, 2025, at 621 Woodland Square Loop Southeast,	
3	Lacey, Washington at 1:31 p.m., the following Monthly	
4	Meeting of the Washington State Energy Facility Site	
5	Evaluation Council was held, to wit:	
6		
7	<<<<<< >>>>>>	
8		
9	CHAIR BECKETT: Good afternoon. This	
10	is Kurt Beckett with the Energy Facility Site Evaluation	
11	Council calling this meeting to order. Ms. Grantham,	
12	would you call the roll, please.	
13	MS. GRANTHAM: Certainly, but first,	
14	Chair, I don't think your mic was on, was it?	
15	CHAIR BECKETT: It's good to know I	
16	can get my inevitable first mistake accomplished early.	
17	Good afternoon again. This is Kurt Beckett, Chair	
18	of the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council calling	
19	this meeting to order.	
20	Ms. Grantham, would you call the roll, please.	
21	MS. GRANTHAM: Certainly, Chair.	
22	Department of Commerce.	
23	MS. OSBORNE: Elizabeth Osborne,	
24	present.	
25	MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Ecology?	

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 MR. LEVITT: Eli Levitt, present. 2 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Fish and 3 Wildlife. 4 MR. PAMPLIN: Nate Pamplin, present. 5 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Natural 6 Resources. 7 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, present. 8 MS. GRANTHAM: Utilities & 9 Transportation Commission. 10 MS. BREWSTER: Stacy Brewster, 11 present. 12 MS. GRANTHAM: For Local Government 13 and Optional State Agencies, for Hop Hill Solar project 14 for Benton County, Paul Krupin. 15 For Carriger Solar, Klickitat County, Matt Chiles? 16 MR. CHILES: Matt Chiles, present. 17 MS. GRANTHAM: For Wallula Gap for 18 Benton County, Adam Fyall. 19 MR. FYALL: Adam Fyall is here. 20 MS. GRANTHAM: For Goldeneye BESS for 21 Skagit County, Robby Eckroth. 22 MR. ECKROTH: Robby Eckroth, here. 23 MS. GRANTHAM: For Assistant Attorney 24 General, Jon Thompson. 25 MR. THOMPSON: I'm here.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 MS. GRANTHAM: Wild Horse Wind Power 2 project. 3 MS. GALBRAITH: Jennifer Galbraith, 4 present. 5 MS. GRANTHAM: Grays Harbor Energy 6 Center. 7 MR. SHERIN: Chris Sherin, present. 8 MS. GRANTHAM: Chehalis Generation 9 Facility. 10 MR. SMITH: Jeremy Smith, present. 11 MS. GRANTHAM: Columbia Generating 12 Station. 13 I was told that Katie Hall would be present. Is 14 Katie Hall present? 15 Moving on to Columbia Solar. 16 MR. CUSHING: Cushing, present. 17 MS. GRANTHAM: Goose Prairie Solar. 18 MR. JIA: Nelson Jia, present. 19 MS. GRANTHAM: And Ostrea Solar. 20 MR. KEENEY: Ryan Keeney, present. 21 MS. GRANTHAM: And is there anyone 22 present for the Counsel for the Environment? 23 MR. KOROL: Yuriy Korol and Sarah 24 Reyneveld, present. 25 MS. GRANTHAM: Thank you. Chair,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 MS. GRANTHAM: Zack Packer. 2 MR. PACKER: Present. 3 MS. GRANTHAM: And Talia Thuet. 4 MS. THUET: Present. 5 MS. GRANTHAM: Do we have any 6 Administrative Law Judges present? 7 Hearing none, Council Staff, I will call those that 8 are anticipated to speak today. 9 Sonia Bumpus. 10 MS. BUMPUS: Present. 11 MS. GRANTHAM: Ami Hafkemeyer. 12 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Present. 13 MS. GRANTHAM: Amy Moon? 14 MS. MOON: Amy Moon, present. 15 MS. GRANTHAM: Sara Randolph. 16 MS. RANDOLPH: Present. 17 MS. GRANTHAM: Lance Caputo. 18 MR. CAPUTO: Present. 19 MS. GRANTHAM: John Barnes. 20 MR. BARNES: Present. 21 MS. GRANTHAM: Joanne Snarski. 22 MS. SNARSKI: Present. 23 MS. GRANTHAM: Moving on to 24 Operational Updates for Kittitas Valley Wind. 25 MR. CASEDAY: Jarred Caseday, present.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 there is a quorum for all councils. 2 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. We have 3 the proposed agenda in front of us. Is there a motion to 4 adopt the proposed agenda? 5 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, so moved. 6 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. Is there a 7 second? 8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second. 9 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you, Council. 10 All those in favor of adopting the agenda please say 11 "aye." 12 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye. 13 CHAIR BECKETT: Very well. The agenda 14 is adopted. 15 Moving on to meeting minutes we have the December -- 16 excuse me, the February 19 monthly meeting minutes in 17 front of us. Is there a motion to approve the monthly 18 meeting minutes? 19 MS. OSBORNE: Elizabeth Osborne, so 20 moved. 21 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. Is there a 22 second? 23 MS. BREWSTER: Stacy Brewster, second. 24 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. Were there 25 any corrections to the minutes before us? I did not have</p>

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1 any.
 2 MR. PAMPLIN: Mr. Chair, no edit. I
 3 will just be abstaining because I missed that meeting.
 4 CHAIR BECKETT: Very well.
 5 Okay. With no corrections then and a motion on the
 6 table to approve the minutes, all those in favor say
 7 "aye."
 8 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.
 9 CHAIR BECKETT: Opposed? Okay. The
 10 minutes are approved.
 11 Moving on to our Operational Updates, I believe
 12 Kittitas Valley Wind project is up first.
 13 MR. CASEDAY: Good afternoon, Chair
 14 Beckett and EFSEC Council staff, this is Jarred Caseday
 15 with EDP Renewables for the Kittitas Valley Wind Power
 16 project, we had nothing nonroutine to report for the
 17 period.
 18 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. Wild Horse
 19 Wind.
 20 MS. GALBRAITH: Thank you, Chair
 21 Beckett, Council members and staff, for the month of
 22 February, I do not have any nonroutine updates.
 23 However, I would like to update the Council on the
 24 recent plane crash that occurred at Wild Horse on March
 25 4th. On the evening of Tuesday, March 4th, a small

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1 private plane was reported missing to the Grant County
 2 and Kittitas County Sheriff Departments, who began
 3 searching for the plane along the Grant County side of
 4 the Columbia River.
 5 At 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 5th, the Kittitas
 6 County Sheriff and Search & Rescue arrived at Wild Horse
 7 to search for the missing plane in the area of the wind
 8 farm.
 9 PSE opened the Renewable Energy Center for the
 10 incident command staging area, and shortly after 9:00
 11 a.m. the Wild Horse plant manager located the crashed
 12 plane on PSE owned property on the north slope of Whiskey
 13 Dick mountain at about 3800 feet and approximately half a
 14 mile southwest of the Wild Horse substation, a quarter
 15 mile east of the Wild Horse solar facility.
 16 At around 9:00 a.m. a Life Flight helicopter landed
 17 at the crash site and found the pilot deceased, and for
 18 the remainder of the day the Kittitas County Sheriff, the
 19 Kittitas coroner, the FAA and the NTSB conducted their
 20 investigation.
 21 It appears the pilot encountered a fast moving storm
 22 that was traversing from west to east across Wild Horse.
 23 Wind gusts were documented at over 40 miles per hour, the
 24 sleet and snow reducing visibility to less than one mile.
 25 However, as the NTSB investigation is ongoing and we

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1 hope to learn about the cause when their investigation is
 2 complete. There were no impacts to wind farm
 3 infrastructure or facilities from either the storm or the
 4 plane crash.
 5 On Friday, March 7th, the NTSB dispatched Interstate
 6 Aviation to remove the plane wreckage from the crash
 7 site. PSE contacted the Department of Ecology, and
 8 following removal of the wreckage PSE dispatched a geo
 9 engineer to evaluate the site for any spilled fuel or
 10 fluids. And based on visual and field screening
 11 observations, the spill from the plane crash impacted an
 12 area of approximately 550 yards and was mostly contained
 13 onto the three feet of snow and ice.
 14 On Tuesday, March 11th, geo engineers, US Ecology,
 15 the spill cleanup contractor, and a cultural resource
 16 monitor from Puget Sound Energy arrived on site to
 17 further evaluate the extent of the spill and clean up
 18 what they could.
 19 **A total of 47 bags of contaminated snow and ice was**
 20 **removed for transport and off site disposal. Work**
 21 **efforts were conducted by hand to minimize the potential**
 22 **for ground disturbances. To further reduce the potential**
 23 **for soil disturbances, the soil was not excavated or**
 24 **removed from the site.**
 25 **Based on observations and field screening results,**

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1 **it appears the soil immediately below the plane wreckage**
 2 **is impacted and will require additional action. In**
 3 **coordination with the Department of Ecology, geo**
 4 **engineers will be on site again when weather conditions**
 5 **improve to complete sampling for the delineations of**
 6 **impacted soil. At that time, erosion and sediment**
 7 **control measures will be installed to prevent any soil**
 8 **migration via stormwater from the impacted area, and a**
 9 **bioremediation solution will be applied to the impacted**
 10 **soil to aid in the breakdown of the petroleum.**
 11 **Approximately, four to six months following the**
 12 **application of the solution performance soil samples will**
 13 **be obtained from the remediation area. These samples**
 14 **will be compared to state cleanup levels and the need for**
 15 **further action will be evaluated.**
 16 **The cleanup plan has been communicated with the**
 17 **Department of Ecology of an independent remedial action**
 18 **to treat the petroleum contaminated soil at the crash**
 19 **site. The plan verification sampling will evaluate the**
 20 **effectiveness of the actions to meet the cleanup**
 21 **standards under MTCA for unrestricted land use.**
 22 **Additionally, the plan takes into consideration the**
 23 **need to minimize disturbance to the local environment, as**
 24 **well as state requirements for mitigating threats to**
 25 **human health and the environment.**

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1 **And I would be happy to answer any questions that**
 2 **the Council may have.**
 3 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you, Ms.
 4 Galbraith, for the very thorough update, and under the
 5 terrible circumstances our condolences certainly to the
 6 family of the pilot and others involved. There's a list
 7 of details that go with any operating event of any kind,
 8 so we appreciate your thoroughness.
 9 Are there other questions or comments from the
 10 Council? Okay. Hearing none, thank you, Ms. Galbraith.
 11 MS. GALBRAITH: Thank you.
 12 CHAIR BECKETT: Moving on to Chehalis
 13 Generation.
 14 MR. SMITH: Good afternoon, Chair
 15 Beckett and Council members, EFSEC staff, this is Jeremy
 16 Smith, the operations manager representing the Chehalis
 17 Generation Facility. There are no nonroutine items to
 18 report to today.
 19 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. Moving on
 20 to Grays Harbor Energy Center.
 21 MR. SHERIN: Good afternoon, Chair
 22 Beckett, Council members, and EFSEC staff, Chris Sherin,
 23 plant manager of Grays Harbor Energy Center, I also have
 24 no nonroutine items to report for the month of February.
 25 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you, very much.

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1 Moving on to Columbia Solar.
 2 MR. CUSHING: Good afternoon, Chair
 3 Beckett, EFSEC staff, this is Thomas Cushing with
 4 Columbia Solar. There are no nonroutine updates to
 5 report.
 6 CHAIR BECKETT: Very well. Moving on
 7 to Columbia Generating station and WNP-1/4, not sure if
 8 our Energy Northwest representative is with us.
 9 MS. HALL: I am here. I apologize for
 10 any technical difficulties. Good afternoon, Chair
 11 Beckett and EFSEC Council, this is Katie Hall on behalf
 12 of Energy Northwest, Columiba Generating Station and
 13 Washington Nuclear Project 1/4 for March 2025.
 14 We are currently gearing up for our biannual -- our
 15 biannual outage to perform refueling and maintenance at
 16 Columbia Generating Station. The start date will be
 17 April 11th and our target end date is June 6th. If you
 18 would like some additional information the following
 19 slide has our fact sheet for the outage, very useful.
 20 That is all to report for the Columbia Generating
 21 Station.
 22 For WNP-1/4 the Industrial Development Complex
 23 Landfill closure bid is closed, and a contract has been
 24 awarded.
 25 CHAIR BECKETT: Excellent. Are there

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1 any questions? Hearing none, thank you, Ms. Hall.
 2 MS. HALL: Thank you.
 3 CHAIR BECKETT: Goose Prairie Solar.
 4 MR. JIA: Good afternoon everybody.
 5 For the month of February the site experienced
 6 approximately six and a half gigawatts of energy. In
 7 terms of other operation and maintenance activity, we did
 8 have four inverter units that we did a breaker swap on to
 9 get them back up and running.
 10 In addition to that, several of our inverter units
 11 are experiencing several faults requiring a power cycle
 12 to clear. It's unsure at this time what's causing the
 13 faults. We have expressed this concern with Sungrow and
 14 they have informed us it is likely due to our firmware
 15 issue, so we are waiting on them to provide an update on
 16 the firmware. Hopefully that solves our issues there.
 17 On top of that, the site completed a series of
 18 voltage tests, frequency tests, and reactive power tests
 19 at the site.
 20 From the environmental and safety compliance, no
 21 major items to report there. Thank you.
 22 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. For the
 23 record, I believe, again, that was Nelson Jia; is that
 24 correct, providing that --
 25 MR. JIA: Yes. That's correct.

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1 CHAIR BECKETT: Okay.
 2 MR. JIA: Sorry.
 3 CHAIR BECKETT: No worries. All
 4 right. Moving on to Ostrea Solar, Mr. Keeney.
 5 MR. KEENEY: Good afternoon everybody.
 6 Quick update on construction status of the lines.
 7 February 24th started the installation for our storm
 8 maintenance and our BMPs and kicked off the dirt work.
 9 And then March 7th we discovered that a 55-gallon drum
 10 with roughly two gallons of liquid in it. We called a
 11 remediation company out to investigate and they have
 12 since remediated all the dirt impacted by that and then
 13 everything was reported to EFSEC.
 14 I had a kickoff meeting with EFSEC on February 19th,
 15 and have since had inspection performed by WSP. Other
 16 than that, we are on track to finish construction as
 17 planned.
 18 CHAIR BECKETT: Very well. Thank you.
 19 Moving on to Wautoma Solar, Mr. Caputo.
 20 MR. CAPUTO: Thank you, Chair Beckett
 21 and Council members. For the record, this is Lance
 22 Caputo, siting specialist assigned to the Wautoma Solar
 23 Energy project. Innergex Renewable Development USA, the
 24 certificate holder of the Wautoma Solar project, has
 25 completed its 30-day requirements stipulated under our

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1 site certification agreement. We do not anticipate any
 2 further activities until 90 days prior to construction.
 3 This project will be removed from the Council's agenda
 4 until activity resumes.
 5 May I answer any questions?
 6 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. Hearing
 7 none, moving on to Carriger Solar.
 8 MS. SNARSKI: Thank you, Chair Beckett
 9 and Council members. For the record, this is Joanne
 10 Snarski, the siting specialist for the proposed Carriger
 11 Solar facility in Klickitat County.
 12 Staff has been working with the applicant to develop
 13 potential mitigation strategies to minimize impact to
 14 traditional cultural properties, or TCPs, identified to
 15 us by the Yakama Nation Cultural Resources Program.
 16 As a reminder, in February 2024 Cypress Creek
 17 Renewables submitted an extension request where they
 18 acknowledged the need to allow for the additional time
 19 needed by the Yakama Nation to complete the TCP study and
 20 review outstanding SEPA threshold items.
 21 Now that the study has been completed, we are
 22 working through potential options for mitigation. Staff
 23 plans to discuss the SEPA threshold determination at the
 24 April Council meeting. The SEPA threshold determination,
 25 once made, will require a public comment period, and

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1 discussions with the Yakama Nation are also ongoing.
 2 Currently, the applicant has requested to extend the
 3 application review period from April 1st, 2025 to May
 4 21st, 2025. Staff do not believe all the necessary SEPA
 5 work can be completed within an additional month, and
 6 will continue to work with the applicant to develop a
 7 more appropriate extension timeline.
 8 However, currently, Staff requests the Council
 9 approve this extension for the Carriger Solar, LLC
 10 application for one additional month to May 1st, 2025, to
 11 allow Staff and the applicant to develop a schedule for
 12 the remaining work.
 13 Finally, for the record, we posted the extension
 14 request on our website to allow for public comment
 15 between March 12th and 16th, and received seven comments.
 16 All comments expressed their opposition to the project.
 17 Some expressed safety concerns with the proposed battery
 18 storage system, the loss of rural and agricultural nature
 19 of the area, and the use of unsustainable materials. May
 20 I answer any questions?
 21 CHAIR BECKETT: I thank you for the
 22 update. I would just make one comment just confirming
 23 that the public comments have been certainly distributed
 24 to the Council as part of our agenda packet. Are there
 25 further comments or questions by the Council?

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1 MR. CHILES: This is Matt Chiles from
 2 Klickitat County. Just a clarification, so we are
 3 expecting -- this is a one-month extension, but there
 4 will be another extension request coming up soon to
 5 better figure out the timetable of how much extension
 6 they are really going to need to figure things out; is
 7 that correct?
 8 MS. SNARSKI: Yes. That's correct.
 9 MR. CHILES: Okay. Thank you.
 10 CHAIR BECKETT: Other questions or
 11 comments? Okay, hearing none, may I ask then from our
 12 Council a motion to approve an extended processing time
 13 of the Carriger Solar, LLC application for site
 14 certification from April 1st to May 1st, 2025?
 15 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, so moved.
 16 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you.
 17 MR. PAMPLIN: Nate, second.
 18 CHAIR BECKETT: There's been a motion
 19 and a second to approve the site certification extension.
 20 All those in favor -- or any discussion? Hearing none,
 21 all those in favor please signify by saying "aye."
 22 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.
 23 CHAIR BECKETT: Opposed? Motion is
 24 approved.
 25 Moving on then to our other updates. Thank you, Ms.

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1 Snarski. For Horse Heaven Wind Farm, Amy Moon.
 2 MS. MOON: Good afternoon, Chair
 3 Beckett and EFSEC Council members. For the record, this
 4 is Amy Moon reporting on the Horse Heaven Wind project.
 5 The Preoperational Technical Advisory Group or PTAG, has
 6 been established and have begun meeting regularly to
 7 review and provide technical advice on wildlife, and
 8 wildlife habitat management, mitigation, and project
 9 design plans. The PTAG attended a site tour of the Horse
 10 Heaven Wind project to better understand the project,
 11 wildlife habitat, and the surrounding Horse Heaven Hill.
 12 The site tour was led by the certificate holder on March
 13 13th.
 14 The PTAG will continue to meet regularly to review
 15 and provide technical advice on the development and
 16 implementation of preconstruction compliance activities
 17 and documents produced by the certificate holder related
 18 to wildlife and habitat.
 19 Does the Council have any questions?
 20 CHAIR BECKETT: Hearing none. Thank
 21 you, Ms. Moon.
 22 Moving then on to the Hop Hill Solar project, John
 23 Barnes.
 24 MR. BARNES: Thank you Chair Beckett
 25 an Council members. For the record, this is John Barnes,

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1 EFSEC Staff for the Hop Hill application. We continue to
2 coordinate the review and application with our
3 contractor, contracted agencies, and Tribal governments.
4 There are no further updates at this time. Are there any
5 questions?
6 CHAIR BECKETT: Questions? Hearing
7 none. Thank you. Let's move then to the Wallula Gap
8 project also.
9 MR. BARNES: Thank you, Chair Beckett
10 and Council members. For the record, this is John
11 Barnes, EFSEC Staff for the Wallula Gap application.
12 EFSEC received on March 4th, 2025 a project review letter
13 from the Department of Ecology requesting access to the
14 site and further wetland review and determination. EFSEC
15 has coordinated with the applicant and Ecology to conduct
16 the site review scheduled for April 15, 2025.
17 We continue to coordinate and review the application
18 with our contractor, contract agencies, and Tribal
19 governments. Are there any questions?
20 CHAIR BECKETT: Questions? No
21 questions. Thank you, Mr. Barnes.
22 Moving on then to Goldeneye BESS project, Ms.
23 Snarski.
24 MS. SNARSKI: Yes. Thank you, Chair
25 Beckett. Is that me?

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1 CHAIR BECKETT: Evidently not. I
2 saved the day.
3 MS. SNARSKI: Okay. I will continue.
4 Again, this is Joanne Snarski, the siting specialist for
5 the proposed Goldeneye Battery Energy Storage facility in
6 Skagit County.
7 Staff are continuing to work with our partnering
8 agencies to review and seek further information on the
9 application for site certification. We held a meeting
10 with staff from WDFW and agreed to schedule in a site
11 visit. We are currently scheduled for April 9th for our
12 site visit. Also attending will be representatives from
13 Skagit River Cooperative and the Upper Skagit Indian
14 Tribe.
15 Finally, we are preparing a third data request for
16 the applicant. This information is necessary to support
17 our SEPA threshold determination. I have no further
18 updates.
19 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. Any
20 comments or questions from the Council on the Goldeneye
21 BESS project? Okay. Hearing none, we will move on to
22 our final action an most important I would say. We have
23 a very special person, as well as welcome today for Chair
24 Drew, and it's my pleasure to ask for a motion in a
25 moment to read a resolution into the record.

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1 Let me just first say I would like to personally
2 thank Chair Drew for her very dedicated and longstanding
3 service to the people of Washington, including while at
4 EFSEC, but certainly in many other capacities and I'm
5 confident will certainly only continue.
6 So with that may I have a motion from the Council to
7 put the resolution honoring Chair Drew and her service at
8 EFSEC into the record?
9 MS. BREWSTER: Stacy Brewster, so
10 moved.
11 MR. LEVITT: Eli Levitt, second.
12 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. We have a
13 motion and a second to act upon Resolution No. 355 that I
14 will read into the record, and so -- because that service
15 is so impressive it is a couple pages, but I am going to
16 be pleased to read that into the record.
17 And then if Council wishes to make other comments
18 after we have read this before we go we will take that
19 up, and with that I will begin.
20 "Commending Services of EFSEC Chair Kathleen Drew.
21 Whereas, Kathleen Drew was appointed by Governor Inslee
22 to serve on the Washington State Energy Facility Site
23 Evaluation Council, presiding as Chair effective January
24 16, 2018,
25 Whereas, Kathleen Drew served her term with great

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1 distinction a the first official EFSEC Chair until
2 January 16, 2025,
3 Whereas, Kathleen Drew brought her leadership and
4 political acumen to the development of HB 1812, which
5 established EFSEC as an independent agency,
6 Whereas, Kathleen Drew testified regarding EFSEC on
7 several occasions before the House and Senate over
8 multiple legislative sessions,
9 Whereas, Kathleen Drew expertly guided Council
10 members in gathering information and balancing the
11 various impacts and mitigation measures and arriving at
12 clear decisions and recommendations for the Governor on a
13 number of projects,
14 Whereas, Kathleen Drew led approximately 120 regular
15 and special council meetings as an active listener, and
16 thoughtfully and carefully reviewed thousands of pages of
17 documents related to SEPA environmental reviews and
18 associated public comments,
19 Whereas, Kathleen Drew ably and objectively
20 represented the interests of the people of the State of
21 Washington on the Council, providing clear and thoughtful
22 leadership to the Council and the EFSEC staff,
23 Whereas, Kathleen Drew demonstrated her expert
24 leadership skills during the review of applications and
25 preparation of Site Certification Agreements for six

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1 clean energy projects, including Columbia Solar, Goose
2 Prairie Solar, High Top Solar, Ostrea Solar, Horse Heaven
3 Wind, and Wautoma Solar,
4 Whereas, Kathleen Drew's service as chair marked
5 several significant Council milestones, including EFSEC's
6 separation from the Utilities and Transportation
7 Commission and establishment as an independent agency,
8 the first expedited processing of an application for the
9 Columbia Solar project, and consideration of the largest
10 clean energy project, wind, solar, and battery storage,
11 in the Council's history and within the State of
12 Washington with the Horse Heaven Wind project,
13 Whereas, Kathleen Drew's leadership was always
14 characterized by outstanding preparation, thoughtful
15 questions and attention to detail in adjudicative
16 processes and Council deliberations,
17 Whereas, Kathleen Drew provided exemplary service on
18 the Council and meaningfully engaged with EFSEC staff and
19 fellow Council members on all Council decision making
20 processes,
21 Whereas, Kathleen Drew provided leadership through
22 the Transmission Corridor Workgroup resulting in the
23 passage of SB 5165 that will help lead to expanding
24 transmission capacity in the state helping to meet urgent
25 clean energy goals,

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1 Whereas, Kathleen Drew presided over the Council's
2 first adjudication limited to Land Use consistency and
3 preemption,
4 Whereas, Kathleen Drew engaged in EFSEC's first
5 formal Government-to-Government consultation meetings
6 with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama
7 Nation and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville
8 Reservation,
9 Whereas, Kathleen Drew able represented the Council
10 as a member of the Governor's Natural Resources, Climate
11 & Energy Subcabinet,
12 Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Energy
13 Facility Site Evaluation Council hereby recognizes
14 Kathleen Drew's outstanding, unwavering, and faithful
15 contribution to the Council's siting and regulatory
16 activities, and gratefully expresses its sincere
17 gratitude for the commitment, dedication, and effort she
18 has shown over the past seven years.
19 Dated this 19th day of March 2025." Signed by the
20 Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council.
21 So, again, it's my honor to read this into the
22 record on behalf of the EFSEC Council and the Staff.
23 With that, let me turn this to my fellow Council
24 members and see if there is further comments before we
25 act upon this resolution.

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1 MS. GRANTHAM: Chair, Lenny Young has
2 his hand raised.
3 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. Mr. Young.
4 MR. YOUNG: Yeah, Kathleen, I just
5 want to express how much I have appreciated over the
6 years your wise, considerate and always positive approach
7 to the Council's deliberations and decision making. I
8 have learned a lot from you, and I wish you many
9 successes and much enjoyment going forward, both with
10 your career and in life. Thank you.
11 CHAIR BECKETT: Very well said. Thank
12 you, Mr. Young. Are there any other comments? I don't
13 think there's any questions for you, Chair Drew,
14 considering your solid record.
15 MS. BREWSTER: Ms. Young's comments
16 were exactly what I would also like to add. Thank you so
17 much for all that you have shared with me during my time
18 on the Council and the services you provided.
19 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you, Ms.
20 Brewster. Any others?
21 MS. OSBORNE: This is Elizabeth
22 Osborne. I just want to say thank you, Chair Drew, for
23 your leadership.
24 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. All right.
25 The last call, but getting there. Any other comments?

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1 They are most welcome. Take as much time as needed.
2 MR. PAMPLIN: Mr. Chair, I don't know
3 the formality of this, but I'm wondering if we don't do
4 our approval through a round of applause.
5 CHAIR BECKETT: I believe that voting
6 is applause.
7 MR. PAMPLIN: Yeah, that's what I
8 meant.
9 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you. Well,
10 hearing no further comments and discussion, with all
11 those in favor please say -- Resolution No. 355 as read
12 into the record, please signify by saying "aye."
13 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.
14 CHAIR BECKETT: I don't think I'm
15 calling opposed but I have to, opposed?
16 Hearing none, okay the resolution is approved and
17 let's signify by celebrating.
18 Thank you all, and thank you, Chair Drew, for
19 honoring us with your presence today. It's our honor to
20 have you here, and, of course, most importantly honor
21 your distinguished service. Thanks again.
22 Are there any other comments before the Council.
23 Ms. Bumpus.
24 MS. BUMPUS: Chair Beckett and Council
25 members. Thank you. For the record, this is Sonia

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1 Bumpus. I echo all the Council member comments of
2 wishing Kathleen Drew well and lots of joy and success in
3 her future endeavors. And she will be greatly missed.
4 She is greatly missed.
5 The other announcement I wanted to make is that
6 among the EFSEC staff Stewart Henderson is retiring this
7 month, so we wanted to let Council members know if you
8 would like to wish him well. He's here today in the
9 office, and Staff celebrated his retirement from the
10 State earlier today. So Stewart has been with us for
11 many years, and one of the things I wanted to acknowledge
12 is that Stew was here and really was a leading character
13 in the development of the preapplication process that we
14 utilize now. And while it's still evolving and we are
15 still realizing all of the things that come with it in
16 finalizing it, Stew was really key in leading the
17 development of that and helping us find ways to
18 streamline the application review process. So I know I'm
19 not alone in that I will miss Stew and all of the
20 contributions that he brings to EFSEC. Thank you.
21 CHAIR BECKETT: Thank you, Director
22 Bumpus. And on behalf of the Council, Stew thank you as
23 she said and I just want to acknowledge that.
24 Are there other comments from the Council? Okay.
25 Well, thank you, again, Stew, very much for your

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1 dedicated service.
2 Thank you all for participating in today's meeting,
3 and at 2:03 I will gavel this meeting to conclusion.
4 Thank you.
5 (Meeting adjourned at
6 2:03 p.m.)
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1 STATE OF WASHINGTON) I, Christy Sheppard, CCR, RPR,
2) ss a certified court reporter
3 County of Pierce) in the State of Washington, do
4 hereby certify:
5
6 That the foregoing Monthly Meeting of the Washington
7 State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council was
8 conducted in my presence and adjourned on March 19, 2025,
9 and thereafter was transcribed under my direction; that
10 the transcript is a full, true and complete transcript of
11 the said meeting, transcribed to the best of my ability;
12 That I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or
13 counsel of any party to this matter or relative or
14 employee of any such attorney or counsel, and that I am
15 not financially interested in the said matter or the
16 outcome thereof;
17
18 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my signature
19 on April 2nd, 2025.
20
21
22
23
24
25

/s/Christy Sheppard, CCR, RPR
Certified Court Reporter No. 1932
(Certification expires 05/06/25.)

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update Format

Facility Name: Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project

Operator: EDP Renewables

Report Date: April 07, 2025

Reporting Period: March 2025

Site Contact: Jarred Caseday, Operations Manager

Facility SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance (only applicable for operating facilities)

- Power generated: 19,489.28 MWH.
 - Wind speed: 6.16 m/s.
 - Capacity Factor: 24.74%.
-

Environmental Compliance

- No incidents

Safety Compliance

- Nothing to report

Current or Upcoming Projects

- Nothing to report

Other

- No sound complaints
- No shadow flicker complaints

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Wild Horse Wind Facility
Operator: Puget Sound Energy
Report Date: April 4, 2025
Report Period: March 2025
Site Contact: Jennifer Galbraith
SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance

March generation totaled 62,699 MWh for an average capacity factor of 30.91%.

Environmental Compliance

Nothing to report.

Safety Compliance

Nothing to report.

Current or Upcoming Projects

Nothing to report.

Other

Nothing to report.

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Chehalis Generation Facility
Operator: PacifiCorp
Report Date: April 2, 2025
Reporting Period: March 2025
Site Contact: Jeremy Smith, Operations Manager
Facility SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance

-Relevant energy generation information, such as wind speed, number of windy or sunny days, gas line supply updates, etc.

- 193,469 net MWhrs generated in the reporting period for a capacity factor of 52.06%
-

The following information must be reported to the Council if applicable to the facility:

Environmental Compliance

-Monthly Water Usage: 1,895,432 gallons

- No changes

-Monthly Wastewater Returned: 892,978 gallons

-Permit status if any changes.

- No changes.

-Update on progress or completion of any mitigation measures identified.

- Nothing to report

-Any EFSEC-related inspections that occurred.

- Nothing to report.

-Any EFSEC-related complaints or violations that occurred.

- Nothing to report

-Brief list of reports submitted to EFSEC during the monthly reporting period.

- Nothing to report

Safety Compliance

-Safety training or improvements that relate to SCA conditions.

- Zero injuries this reporting period for a total of 3,531 days without a Lost Time Accident.

Current or Upcoming Projects

- Planned site improvements.
 - No planned changes.
- Upcoming permit renewals.
 - Nothing to report.
- Additional mitigation improvements or milestones.
 - Nothing to report.

Other

- Current events of note (e.g., Covid response updates, seasonal concerns due to inclement weather, etc.).
 - Nothing to report.
- Personnel changes as they may relate to EFSEC facility contacts (e.g., introducing a new staff member who may provide facility updates to the Council).
 - Nothing to report.
- Public outreach of interest (e.g., schools, public, facility outreach).
 - Nothing to report.

Respectfully,



Jeremy Smith
Gas Plant Operations Manager
Chehalis Generation Facility

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Grays Harbor Energy Center

Operator: Grays Harbor Energy LLC

Report Date April 16, 2025

Reporting Period: March 2025

Site Contact: Chris Sherin

Facility SCA Status: Operational

Operations & Maintenance

-GHEC generated 248,363MWh during the month and 968,076MWh YTD.

The following information must be reported to the Council if applicable to the facility:

Environmental Compliance

-There were no emissions, outfall, or storm water deviations, during the month.

-Routine monthly, quarterly, and annual reporting submissions to EFSEC Staff.

- Monthly Discharge Monitor Report (DMR).
- Quarterly Discharge Monitor Report (DMR).

Safety Compliance

- None.

Current or Upcoming Projects

- Submitting the application to renew the Air Operating Permit (AOP) for Grays Harbor Energy Center (GHEC) that is currently authorized to operate under PSD Permit EFSEC/2001-01, Amendment 5 and Federal Operating Permit EFSEC/94-1 AOP Modification 1.

-Submitted the Acid Rain Permit Application for permit renewal in accordance with Permit Requirements 1(i) of Acid Rain Permit No. EFSEC/10-01-AR.

-NPDES permit renewal application submitted to EFSEC in December 2023 in accordance with Section S6.A of NPDES Permit No. WA0024961.

Other

-None.

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting Facility Update

Facility Name: Columbia Solar Projects (Penstemon, Camas and Urtica)

Operator: Tuusso Energy, LLC

Report Date: April 4, 2025

Reporting Period: 31 Days ending March 31, 2025

Site Contact: Kelsey Wood

Facility SCA Status: Operation

Construction Status

- Penstemon
 - Currently operational
 - Total Generation during the month of March was 770 Megawatt hours

 - Camas
 - Currently operational
 - Total Generation during the month of March was 762 Megawatt hours

 - Urtica
 - Currently operational
 - Total Generation during the month of March was 862 Megawatt hours
-

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting

Facility Name: **Columbia Generating Station and Washington Nuclear Project 1 and 4 (WNP-1/4)**

Operator: **Energy Northwest**

Report Date: **April 8th, 2025**

Reporting Period: **March 2025**

Site Contact: **Josh LaPorte**

Facility SCA Status: **Operational**

CGS Net Electrical Generation for January 2025: **765,214.80 Mega Watt-Hours.**

The following information must be reported to the Council if applicable to the facility:

Environmental Compliance:

No update.

Safety Compliance

No update.

Current or Upcoming Projects

Industrial Development Complex Landfill Closure construction is underway.

Other

Columbia Generating Station enters Refueling Outage 27 on 4/11/2025. Per EFSEC's direction, EN continues to follow Washington Administrative Code 173-400-035 requirements and submitted a notice of intent to operate nonroad engines for the Columbia Generating Station R-27 refueling and maintenance outage. EN received approval to operate nonroad engines up to 3,314 horsepower cumulative engine size.

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update Format

Facility Name: Goose Prairie Solar
Operator: Brookfield Renewable US
Report Date: 4/10/2025
Reporting Period: 3/1/2025 to 3/31/2025
Asset Manager: Nelson Jia
Facility SCA Status: [Operational](#)

Construction Status

- N/A

Operations & Maintenance

- Total generation for the month of March-2025 was 12,504 MWh
 - AC-Breaker swaps took place for two inverter units
 - Many inverter-units faulting requiring a power cycle to clear. Sungrow suspects a firmware issue, waiting for Sungrow to develop a patch and install
 - Rack system holding modules failed, allowing modules to detach and break through post. Has been resolved since
 - Completed follow-up voltage drop testing at site
 - Substation inspection completed
-

The following information must be reported to the Council if applicable to the facility:

Environmental Compliance

Permit status if any changes.

- None

Update on progress or completion of any mitigation measures identified.

- No Discharge on the site reported in March

Any EFSEC-related inspections that occurred.

- WSP inspections are re-occurring on behalf of EFSEC

Any EFSEC-related complaints or violations that occurred.

- None

Brief list of reports submitted to EFSEC during the monthly reporting period.

- None

Safety Compliance

- There were no non-routine events to report during this period.

Current or Upcoming Projects

- None

Other

Current events of note (e.g., Covid response updates, seasonal concerns due to inclement weather, etc.).

- None

Personnel changes as they may relate to EFSEC facility contacts (e.g., introducing a new staff member who may provide facility updates to the Council).

- Carson Stewart new Operations Manager of Goose Prairie Solar
carson.stewart@brookfieldrenewable.com

Public outreach of interest (e.g., schools, public, facility outreach).

- None

EFSEC Monthly Council Meeting – Facility Update

Facility Name: Ostrea Solar
Operator: Cypress Creek Renewables
Report Date: 4/8/2025
Reporting Period: 3/1/2025-3/31/2025
Site Contact: Fred Hageman
Facility SCA Status: Construction

Construction Status (only applicable for projects under construction)

- On schedule.
- Road construction over 50% complete
- Laydown yards installed
- Site entrance complete

Operations & Maintenance (only applicable for operating facilities)

- Not yet operational.

The following information must be reported to the Council if applicable to the facility:

Environmental Compliance

-Permit status if any changes.

- N/A

-Update on progress or completion of any mitigation measures identified.

- Bump lines and straw waddles installed at cultural area and ephemeral streams throughout site.
- Silt fence, straw blankets installed throughout the site
- WSP weekly SWPPP inspections performed.
- BMP installations per Exhibits continuing.
- On 3/7 a buried 55-gallon drum containing an unknown substance was uncovered.
 - The immediate area around the spill has been vacated and has been roped off for no access.
 - Only 2 gallons of liquid were in the drum.
 - Patriot Environmental (remediation company) has been contacted and is working on dispatching a crew to investigate.
 - No work will continue in the area until proper remediation efforts are completed.
 - Update 3/10 –
 - Patriot Environmental remediated the material and cleared the site. (tracking #25-0841)
 - WA Military Department, EPA, DOE and Ecology Spill Response were notified.
 - Site is currently roped off awaiting sign off from Ecology.
- Two unlabeled wells were discovered. The current plan is to cap and abandon these wells. The landowner will coordinate with the state to insure proper compliance.

-Any EFSEC-related inspections that occurred.

- Site inspection performed by Lynn Bell on a weekly basis without any non-compliant elements being discovered

-Any EFSEC-related complaints or violations that occurred.

- On 3/7 a buried 55-gallon drum containing an unknown substance was uncovered as mentioned above

-Brief list of reports submitted to EFSEC during the monthly reporting period.

1. Revised IFC drawings incorporating module change
2. Seed mix in line with previously approved vegetation management plan

Safety Compliance

- Safety training or improvements that relate to SCA conditions.
- No issues to note for March.
- EFSEC has access to the safety orientation from the site kick-off meeting.

Current or Upcoming Projects

-Planned site improvements.

- Begin fence installation
- Begin pile deliveries
- Begin pile installation
- Begin cable installation

-Upcoming permit renewals.

- None.

-Additional mitigation improvements or milestones.

- Completion of the road installation

Other

-Current events of note.

- N/A

-Personnel changes as they may relate to EFSEC facility contacts:

- Fred Hageman is the site manager for CCR for the remainder of the project, with Edi Garza supporting as Assistant Site Manager

-Public outreach of interest

- Nothing to note

Badger Mountain Solar

General Description:

The project is a proposed 200-megawatt solar photovoltaic generation facility with an optional 200.MW battery energy storage system. The solar array area is approximately 2,274 acres and would include a gen-tie corridor.

Location:

Douglas County, approximately 3.5 miles east of East Wenatchee.

Applicant:

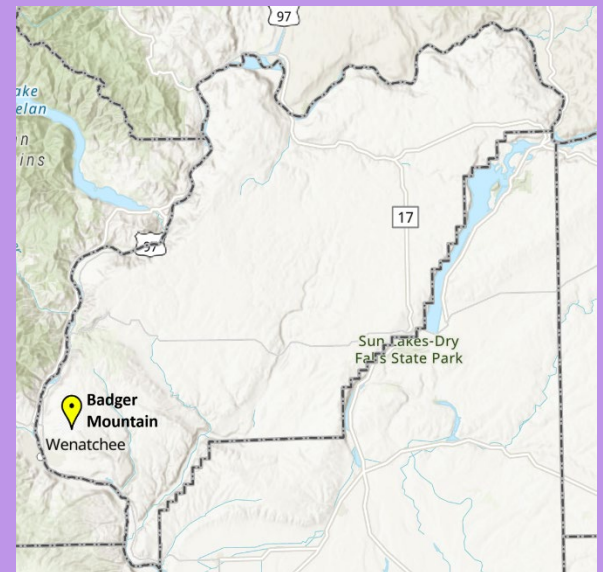
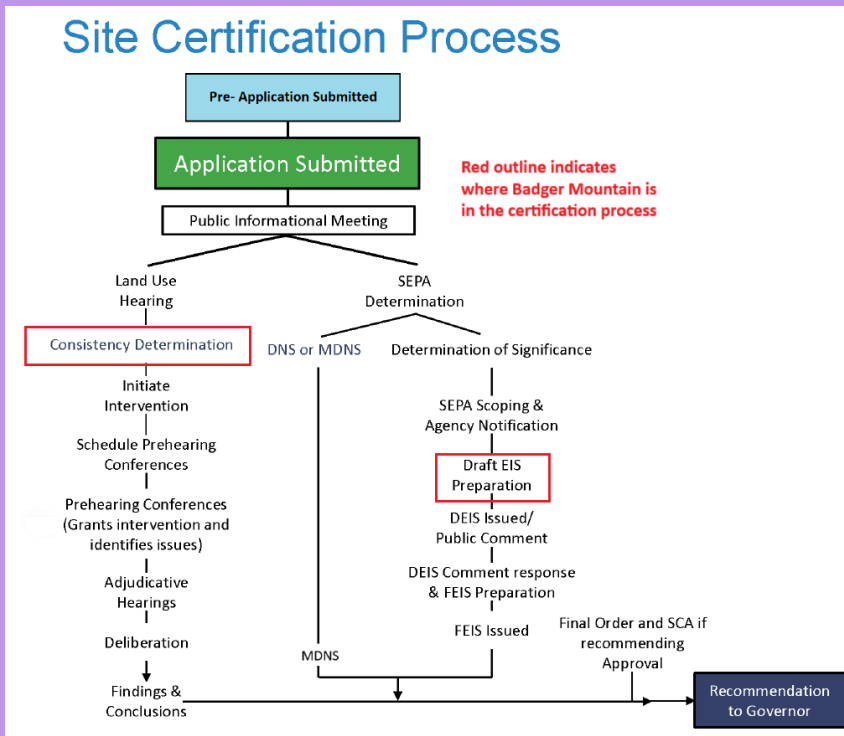
Aurora Solar, LLC.

Milestone Dates:

- September 2021 Application Submitted
- November 17, 2021 Informational public meeting and Land Use Consistency Hearing
- March 13, 2022 Land Use Inconsistency Determination
- March 14, 2022 SEPA Determination of Significance
- June 2024 Applicant requested all work to pause until further notice.
- Remaining application work includes: Cultural Resource Survey and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

Status:

Location Map:





April 2, 2025

Ms. Ami Hafkemeyer, Siting Manager
Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
PO BOX 43172
Olympia, WA, 98504-3172

Dear Ms. Hafkemeyer,

Avangrid requests another extension of our permit application review, currently set to expire on April 7, 2025. We request EFSEC to please continue to pause all project activities and expenditures until further notice from Avangrid.

Yours Sincerely,

Michael DeRuyter
Senior Permitting Manager

Carriger Solar Project

General Description:

A proposed 160 megawatts (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) electric generating facility. Includes a proposed 63 MW of battery energy storage system (BESS). Project area: 2,108- acres of privately owned land.

Location:

Unincorporated Klickitat County. Approximately 2 miles west of Goldendale.

Applicant:

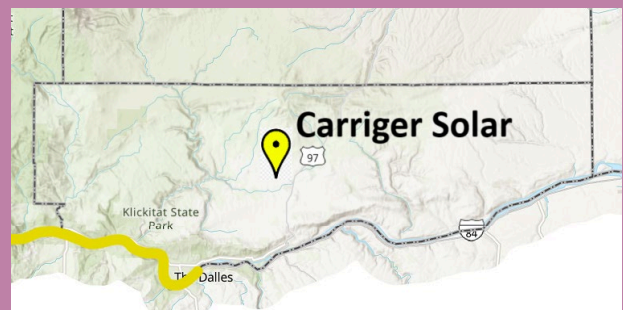
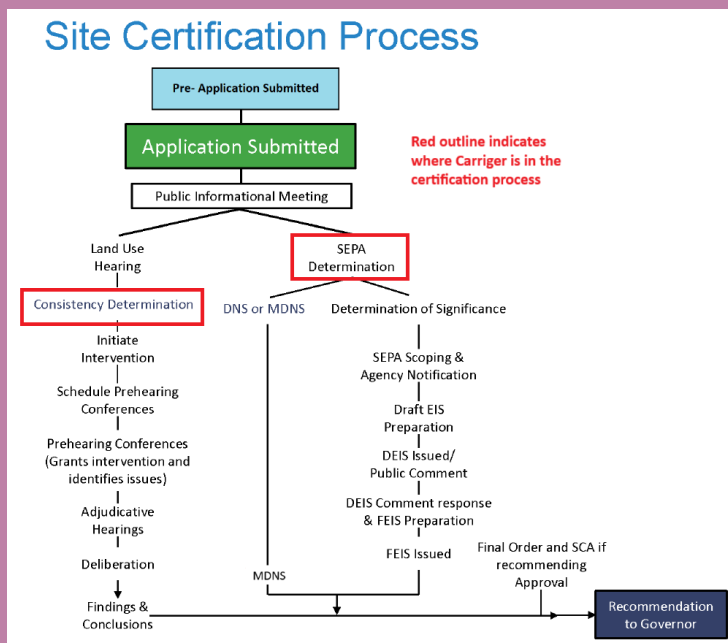
Cypress Creek Renewables, LLC.

Milestone Dates:

- February 10, 2023, Original ASC Submitted
- September 25, 2023, Council issues Order No. 889 Granting a Finding of Land Use Consistency.

Status:

Location Map:





April 9, 2025

Joanne Snarski, Energy Facility Site Specialist
Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
P.O. Box 43172
Olympia, Washington 98504

Subject: Extension Request for Carriger Solar, LLC Application for Site Certification

Dear Ms. Snarski,

Cypress Creek Renewables, LLC (CCR), on behalf of Carriger Solar, LLC hereby requests that the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC or the Council) further extend the processing time of the Carriger Solar, LLC Application for Site Certification (ASC) from May 1 to June 25, 2025.

The Carriger Solar Project Application for Site Certification (ASC) was filed with EFSEC on February 10, 2023. The ASC included a request that EFSEC conduct its review using the expedited process authorized by RCW 80.50.075 and WAC Chapter 463-43. WAC 463-43-050 provides for expedited processing to occur within 120 days of receipt of an application "or such later time as is mutually agreed by the applicant and the council." RCW 80.50.100 requires EFSEC to report its recommendations for approval or rejection of an application for certification "within twelve months of receipt by the council of an application deemed complete by the director, or such later time as is mutually agreed by the council and the applicant."

Pursuant to my letter request of April 9, 2025, the due date for completing processing of the ASC most recently was extended by EFSEC to May 1, 2025 to allow time for EFSEC to complete SEPA review and issue its threshold determination for the project, and to act on our pending request for expedited processing. On April 4, 2025, EFSEC issued its SEPA threshold determination in the form of a Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS), and invited public comment on that determination through April 20, 2025. EFSEC staff is now seeking a further extension until June 25 in order to allow time for the comment period on the SEPA threshold determination, as well as the comment period regarding our request for expedited processing.

Accordingly, CCR requests a further extension of the statutory ASC processing timeframe in order to allow adequate time for completion of these steps in the application process. CCR appreciates the importance of a thorough review and the continued work of EFSEC throughout this process. We believe the requested extension will facilitate the timely completion of the processing of the Carriger application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hanks", written over a light blue horizontal line.

John Hanks
Director, Development
Cypress Creek Renewables, LLC

cc: Peter Moritzburke, VP of Development

Horse Heaven Wind Project

General Description:

Proposed construction of a renewable energy facility that would have a nameplate energy generating capacity of up to 1,150 megawatts (MWs) for a combination of wind and solar facilities as well as battery energy storage systems (BESS). Meteorological Towers (MET), overhead transmission lines, and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Facilities are also proposed.

Project area: 72,428 acres, privately owned land in which five DNR parcels are located within.

Location:

Unincorporated Central Benton County south of the Tri-Cities.

Applicant:

Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC.

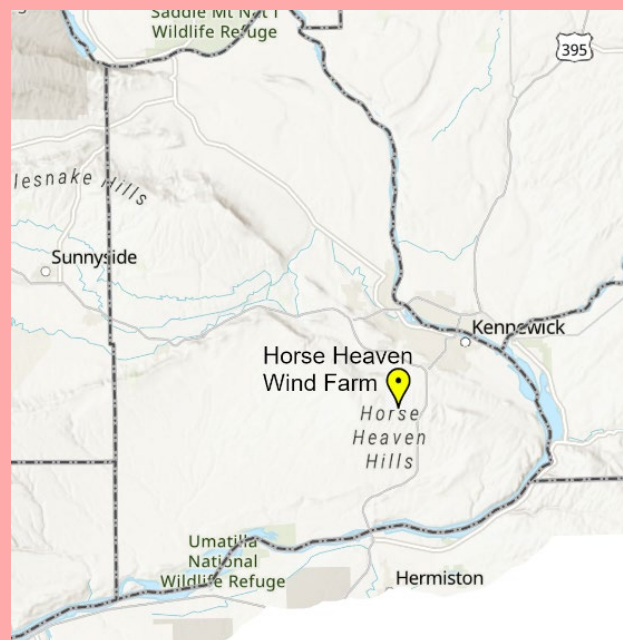
Milestone Dates:

- February 8, 2021, Original ASC Submitted
- May 17, 2022, Council issues Order No. 883 of Land Use Consistency – Finding Proposed Site Consistent with Land Use Regulations.
- October 31, 2023, Final Environmental Impact Statement Issued.
- April 17, 2024, Adjudicative Order Resolving Contested Issues.
- April 29, 2024, Recommendation to the Governor Submitted.
- May 25, 2024, Governor Remanded the Council’s Recommendation.
- September 17, 2024, Final Recommendation to the Governor Submitted.
- October 18, 2024, Received Signed SCA and Final Decision from the Governor.
- November 21, 2024, Applicant Signed the SCA.

Status:

Application Approved
SCA Signed
Pre-Construction
Construction
Prior to Commercial Operations
Operations
Termination, Decommissioning, and Site Restoration

Location Map:



Hop Hill Solar Energy Project

General Description:

HOHI bn, LLC (Applicant), a subsidiary of BNC DEVCO, LLC, which is a joint venture between BrightNight, LLC and Cordelio Power. Hop Hill Solar project is an up to 500-megawatt² (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) generation facility coupled with an up to 500-MW battery energy storage system (BESS). The Solar Array Siting Area encompasses approximately 11,179 buildable acres and the overhead 230-kV gen-tie line will be developed within a 150-foot-wide corridor and microsited within the approximately 10,841-acre Transmission Line Corridor Siting Area). The final solar array area anticipated to be approximately 6,000 acres.

Location:

Benton County, Washington.

Applicant:

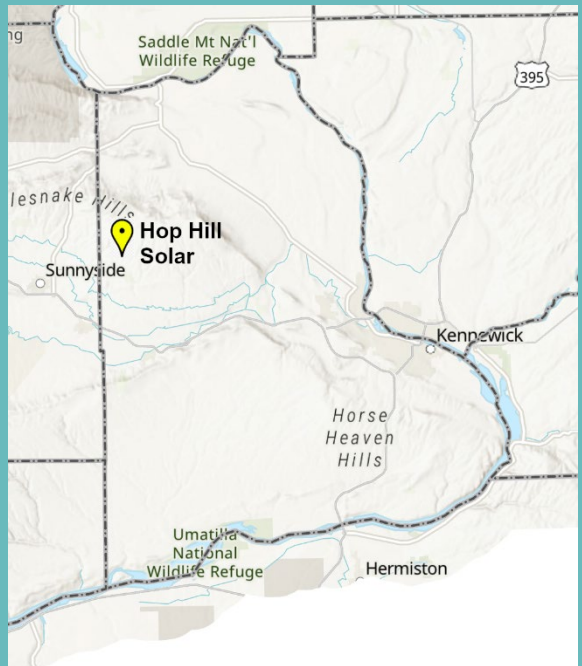
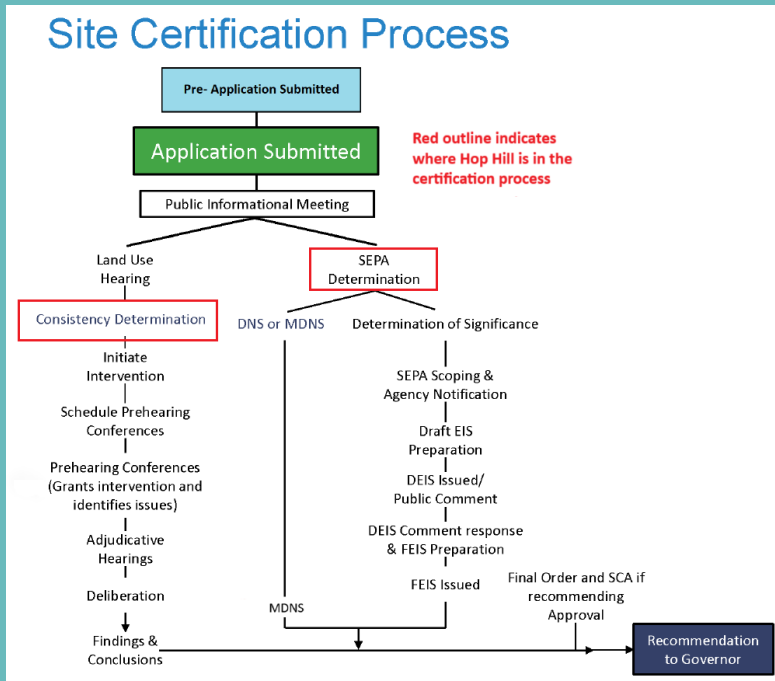
BrightNight, LLC.

Milestone Dates:

- December 22, 2022, Original ASC Submitted
- February 23, 2023, Public Comment Hearing, Land Use Consistency Hearing
- November 3, 2023, Brightnight requests application review extension (original date:12/22/23 to 12/22/24)
- November 15, 2023, Order finding Project Inconsistent with Land Use (Benton County) Regulations, setting the matter for adjudication.

Status:

Location Map:



Wallula Gap Solar Energy Project

General Description:

Wallula Gap Solar, a 60-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) project with an optional battery energy storage system (BESS). The Facility would be located across a portion (approximately 437 acres) of three parcels. The optional BESS would not exceed the nominal 60-MW capacity of the Facility. Facility would interconnect through a line tap to Benton Public Utility District's (PUD) 115-kV line near the Prior #2 substation. The generation would then be connected to the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) facilities at the Plymouth tap (aka Paterson Tap), where Benton PUD and BPA facilities connect at BPA's McNary substation.

Location:

Unincorporated community of Plymouth, Benton County, Washington.

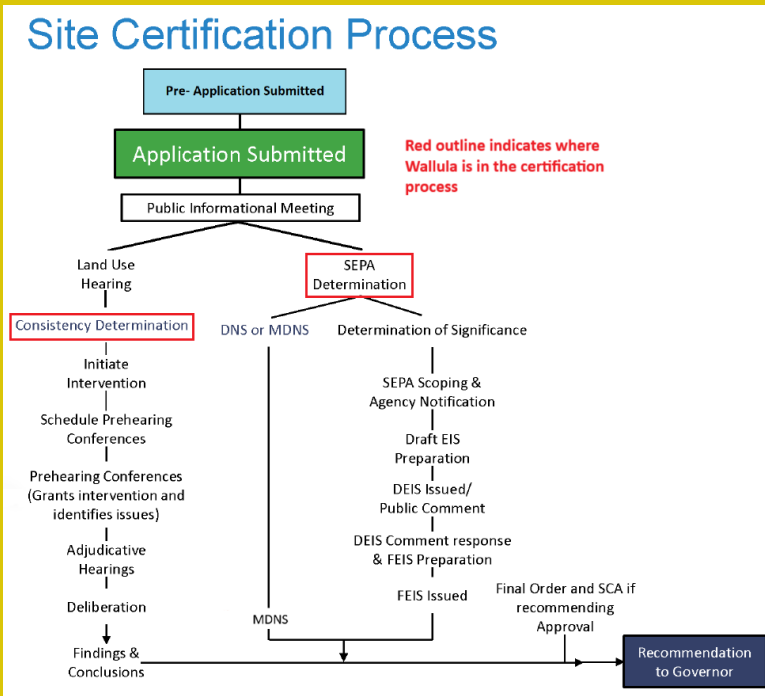
Applicant:

OneEnergy Development LLC

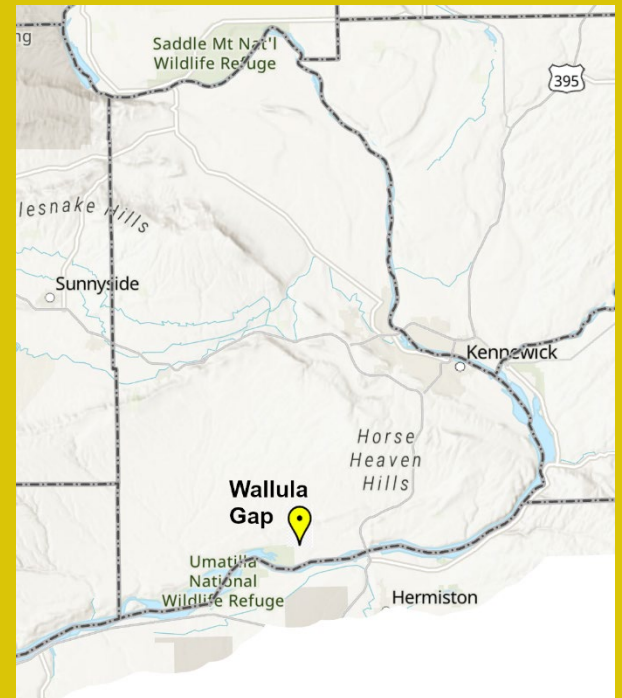
Milestone Dates:

- February 23, 2024, Original ASC Submitted
- April 23, 2024, Public Comment Hearing, Land Use Consistency Hearing

Status:



Location Map:



Goldeneye Battery Energy Storage Project

General Description:

A 200-megawatt (MW)/800-megawatt hour (MWh) battery energy storage system (BESS) project. The Project will not generate electricity, but instead provide a buffer for Skagit County's (County) electrical grid. The Project will accomplish this by receiving energy (charging) from the Puget Sound Energy (PSE) electric transmission system, storing energy on site, and then later delivering energy (discharging) back to the point of interconnection Project area: approximately 16 acres, privately owned land.

Location:

Unincorporated Skagit County, Washington.

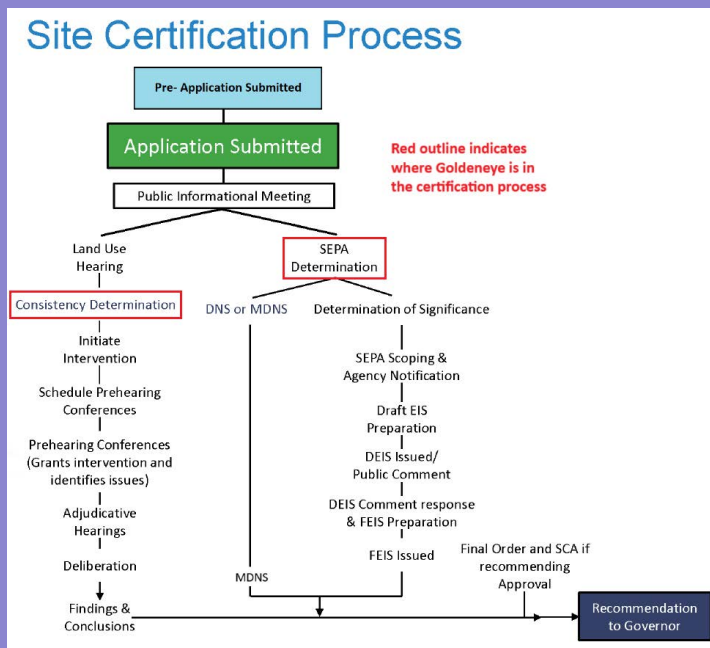
Applicant:

GOLDFINCH ENERGY STORAGE, LLC, 412 West 15th Street, 15th Floor. New York, New York 10011

Milestone Dates:

- June 27, 2024, Original ASC Submitted
- August 13, 2024, Public Information Meeting and Land Use Consistency Hearing

Status:



Location Map:



Transmission Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

General Description:

A Programmatic EIS to assess probable significant adverse environmental impacts from electrical transmission facilities with a nominal voltage of 230 kilovolts (kV) or greater at a broad level and identify avoidance, minimization, and other mitigation measures. EFSEC was directed to conduct this nonproject environmental review under RCW Chapter 43.21C.405.

Location:

Statewide

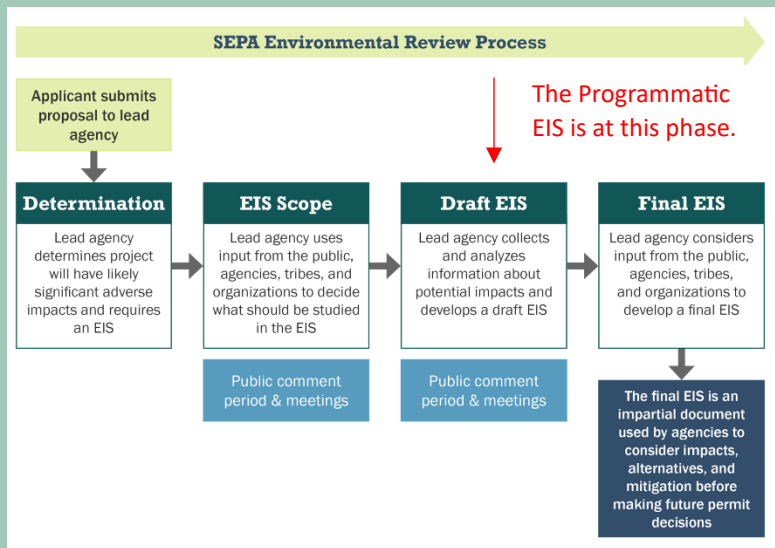
Originating Legislation:

Senate Bill 5165, Chapter 229, Laws of 2023

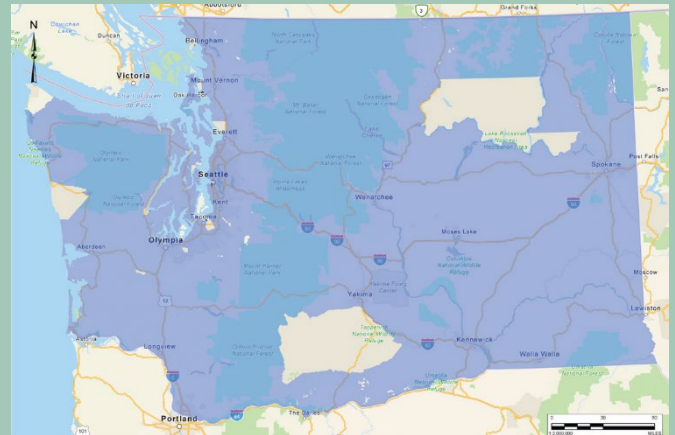
Milestone Dates:

- July 23, 2023, Effective Date of Originating Legislation
- June 28, 2024, EIS Scoping Memo Issued
- March 31, 2025, Draft EIS Issued

Status:



Location Map:



Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council


Non-Direct Cost Allocation for 4th Quarter FY 2025

April 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025

The EFSEC Cost Allocation Plan (Plan) was approved by the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council in September 2004. The Plan directed review of the past quarter's percentage of EFSEC technical staff's average FTE's, charged to EFSEC projects. This along with anticipated work for the quarter is used as the basis for determining the non-direct cost percentage charge, for each EFSEC project.

Using the procedures for developing cost allocation, and allowance for new projects, the following percentages shall be used to allocate EFSEC's non direct costs for the 4th quarter of FY 2025.

Columbia Generating Station	20%
Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project	13%
Chehalis Generation Project	6%
Grays Harbor 1&2	6%
Carriger Solar	5%
Goldeneye	5%
Hop Hill	5%
Wallula Gap	5%
Wautoma Solar Project	5%
Columbia Solar	4%
CCR Ostrea	4%
Desert Claim Wind Power Project	4%
Goose Prairie Solar Project	4%
Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project	4%
Wild Horse Wind Power Project	4%
Badger Mountain	2%
CCR High Top	2%
WNP-1	2%



Sonia E. Bumpus, EFSEC Manager

Date: 4/15/2025



STATE OF WASHINGTON

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

PO Box 43172 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3172

Staff Proposed Rulemaking

WAC 463-06 Agency operations & public records.
WAC 463-10 Definitions.
WAC 463-14 Policy and interpretation.
WAC 463-18 Council meetings and proceedings.
WAC 463-22 Potential site studies.
WAC 463-26 Public informational meeting & land use hearing.
WAC 463-28 State preemption.
WAC 463-30 Adjudicative proceedings.
WAC 463-34 Petitions for rule making & declaratory orders.
WAC 463-43 Expedited processing.
WAC 463-47 SEPA rules.
WAC 463-58 Charges for independent consultant study, regular & expedited application processing, electrical transmission preapplications, determining compliance potential site study.
WAC 463-60 Applications for site certification.

WAC 463-61 Electrical transmission facilities.
WAC 463-62 Construction & operation standards for energy facilities.
WAC 463-64 Issuance of a site certification agreement.
WAC 463-68 Site certification agreement—Start of construction, expiration, and reporting.
WAC 463-70 Certification compliance and monitoring & enforcement.
WAC 463-72 Site restoration & preservation.
WAC 463-74 Dangerous wastes.
WAC 463-76 Regulations for compliance with NPDES permit program.
WAC 463-78 General & operating permit regulations for air pollution sources.
WAC 463-80 Carbon dioxide mitigation program for thermal electric generating facilities.
WAC 463-85 Greenhouse gases emissions performance standard & sequestration plans & programs for baseload generating facilities.

See all amended chapters at <https://www.efsec.wa.gov/council-information/rulemaking> under the Current Rulemaking tab.

Rulemaking Activities through April 16, 2025

- July 23, 2024 – Initial Notice of Expedited Rule Making (CR-105) Filed
- August-September 2024 – Public Comment Period
- September 12, 2024 – Formal objection filed by Benton County
- October 2, 2024 – Notice of Proposed Rule Making (CR-102) Filed
- October-November 2024 – Public Comment Period
- November 7, 2024 – Virtual Public Hearing

Background

These rule changes introduce **non-substantive amendments only**.

EFSEC became an independent agency on June 30, 2022, when the Act modernizing the energy facility site evaluation council to meet the state’s clean energy goals (E2SHB 1812) went into effect.

The 2022 law made changes to Chapter 80.50 RCW (the Energy Facility—Site Location Act), necessitating updates to a number of references in the EFSEC WAC (Chapter 463) to align provisions and terms with the revised law.

Examples include: (1) the position of “director” was created to lead staff and replaced the term “council manager”; and, (2) a new paragraph was inserted into RCW 80.50.090 Public hearings—Opportunity for public comment, such that details on holding “a public hearing, conducted as an adjudicative proceeding under chapter 34.05 RCW” was changed from being subsection 3 to being subsection 4.

Similarly, when the Environmental Health Law Reorganization Act (SHB 2246) went into effect in 2020, many legal references in the EFSEC WAC (Chapter 463) needed to be updated to reflect references to the law as revised.

Additionally, a number of the chapters within Title 463 WAC had not been updated in many years to reflect the agency’s correct address and contact information; the changes and updates to the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56) since 2004; updates to the current technological practices (e.g., introducing email and website to communication processes); or, updates to the Office of the Code Reviser’s style guide.

All proposed changes either:

- 1) only affect internal agency operations not subject to violation by a person;
- 2) adopt or incorporate Washington state statutes or rules of other state agencies;
- 3) correct typographical errors, make address or name changes, or clarify language without changing its effect; or,
- 4) are content explicitly or specifically dictated by statute.

Stakeholder Feedback

The one oral comment and five written comments that EFSEC received as part of this three-month process of soliciting public input, for the most part, related to objections to pursuing rule changes through expedited rulemaking, which was perceived as not sufficiently seeking meaningful public input. One commentator also believed, without specifying any proposed rule change, that the public records process was being changed to make transparency more difficult; and another comment opposed any rule changes that would reduce public participation in EFSEC’s application process.

EFSEC response: As per the provisions in the Administrative Procedures Act ([Chapter 34.05 RCW](#)), EFSEC originally tried to adopt these basic housekeeping changes to the rules using an expedited process allowed by the APA, lasting 45 days from publication in the Washington State Register. Once EFSEC received an objection to the expedited process, it returned to adoption of the rules via the normal process provided in the APA. The public had a full three months to review and comment on the rule changes, which were posted on its website from August 5 until November 7, 2024. The public was also informed twice through email and through publications in the Washington State Register of the proposed rules changes beginning on August 5, 2024. As a result, the public had 95 days to review and submit their comments. The public also had the opportunity to attend the public hearing held on November 7, 2024.

The only changes made to the public records process were updates to the EFSEC rules to bring them into conformity with the requirements of the current Public Records Act (RCW 42.56). No changes to any of the EFSEC rules were proposed that would reduce the ability of the public to participate in the EFSEC application process.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Council authorize filing of the final rulemaking order (CR-103P) to make the rule changes permanent 31 days after date of filing.