

## STATE OF WASHINGTON

## ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

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DATE: February 17, 2021

FROM:

## SUBJECT: Horse Heaven Wind Farm: Application for Site Certification

TO:

Honorable Tribal Chairs Washington Indian Tribes Page 2 of 2 February 17, 2021

Honorable Chairs:

On February 8, 2021 Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC, submitted an Application for Site Certification (ASC) to the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) to construct and operate the Horse Heaven Wind Farm (Project), in Benton County. The Project will be a wind turbine, solar array, and optional battery storage facility.

Under Washington State law, EFSEC is responsible for siting and licensing the construction and operation of major energy facilities in Washington State, including this project. EFSEC is beginning its review process as required by Chapter 80.50 Revised Code of Washington and Title 463 Washington Administrative Code (WAC). Under WAC 197-11-938, EFSEC is the lead State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) agency for this project. If a project is approved, EFSEC specifies the conditions of construction and operation; issues permits in lieu of any other individual state or local agency authority; and manages an environmental and safety oversight program of facility and site operations.

EFSEC staff is preparing for a first public information meeting and land use hearing to be held in late March or early April 2021. You and Tribal staff will be notified when the final meeting arrangements have been made.

Please contact me at (360) 704-0196 (<u>Sonia.Bumpus@utc.wa.gov</u>) if you have any questions concerning this matter.