



STATE OF WASHINGTON

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

PO Box 43172 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3172

February 17, 2021

Jerome Delvin, Chairman
Benton County Board of Commissioners
620 Market Street
Prosser, Washington 99350

Subject: EFSEC Member Appointment

Dear Chair Delvin:

On February 8, 2021, Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC., submitted an application to the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) to construct and operate a renewable energy generation facility located in unincorporated Benton County. This is a proposed maximum 1,150 megawatt (MW) renewable energy generation facility composed of wind turbine generators and solar array(s). It is located on 72,428 acres in unincorporated Benton County, Washington.

This application starts EFSEC's process for review as authorized under Title 80.50 RCW in accordance with its rules codified in Chapter 463 WAC. State law provides:

“The appropriate county legislative authority of every county wherein an application for a proposed site is filed shall appoint a member or designee as a voting member to the council. The member or designee so appointed shall sit with the council only at such times as the council considers the proposed site for the county which he or she represents, and such member or designee shall serve until there has been a final acceptance or rejection of the proposed site.” [RCW 80.50.030(4)].

The person the Board of Benton County Commissioners appoints as a voting member of EFSEC should be familiar with county issues to provide local insight to the EFSEC process. We respectfully request that the appointment of the Benton County EFSEC representative be made by March 17, 2021.

EFSEC may hold adjudicative proceedings for this project, so the person you appoint will need to become aware of ex parte rules and regulations that apply to each EFSEC Council member. In addition, the person must be able to participate fully in EFSEC's process. EFSEC expects the time commitment to initially be approximately one day per month starting in March 2021. The time commitment will increase if an adjudicative proceeding is held.

Mr. Jerome Devlin
Benton County Commissioners
2 of 2
February 17, 2021

RCW 80.50.090 requires EFSEC to hold a public information meeting within sixty days of receipt of an application. That meeting must be held in a location as close as practical to the proposed site, however, due to the restrictions in place for COVID-19, this meeting may be held virtually. We will schedule that meeting in late March or early April. Subsequent to the informational meeting EFSEC will conduct a land use hearing. Both meetings will likely be scheduled for late March or early April.

Please contact me at (360) 704-0196 if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,



Sonia Bumpus
EFSEC Manager