

From: [Steven Luksic](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout Windfarm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:20:53 PM

Public Comment #0301
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

As a Tri City homeowner with a south-facing view, I was very moved by Chris Wiley's opinion piece in Tumblewied explaining his perspective on wind farms in the Horse Heaven Hills. It seems the community there would benefit from the selection of that location for a wind project, and I'd like to voice my support for it as well.

Yours,

Steven Luksic

From: [Stephen Potter](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: NO Wind Farm!!
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:27:42 PM

Public Comment #0302
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Worse idea yet. What a horrid landscape you would create!
No! No! No, thank you!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mike Bender](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse heaven wind farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:32:35 PM

Public Comment #0303
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

As a life long (56 year) resident of the TC, I am against this project. I believe this area would not see any energy benefits from this and our views, beautiful skyline and property values would be destroyed. I am against building on skylines in general and this would be affecting miles of skyline.

Mike Bender
Kennewick, WA

From: [Robin Holloman](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:35:34 PM

Public Comment #0304
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

There is not enough benefit to Washington State to endure such an eyesore on our beautiful landscape

Robin

From: [Susan Bruemmer](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout Energy Wind Farms
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:38:20 PM

Public Comment #0305
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

As a citizen of Benton County, I must **strongly disagree** with the project to build windfarms in my beautiful county. The energy would not be used here but rather on the west side of the state or other states. Let the wind turbines be built in their neighborhood, not mine. I also do not agree that houses have been built on these beautiful hilltops. I have always been proud to live in such a beautiful area. Do not let big corporations mar our beautiful landscape. Benton County already has hydroelectric and nuclear energy with little impact for the citizens except consistent energy sources!

Sincerely,

Susan Bruemmer
377 Westmoreland Dr.
Richland, WA 99354

From: [Adrian Montes](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 3:04:56 PM

Public Comment #0306
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

My name is Adrian I am a local resident and member of the laborers international union I am in support of this project because of my personal experience working on the recent Rattlesnake Ridge wind farm project. This project not only the provided a sense of pride to give back to the community and create renewable energy resources for generations to come but it provided me with great pay and benefits for myself and my family and to contribute back into the economy I would hope to do the same for my community.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Dave Sharp](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project-Public Comment General Info Section 1.10
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 3:05:36 PM
Attachments: [EFSEC Public Comment Section 1.10 Light and Glard Mitigation Summary.pdf](#)

Public Comment #0307
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Comment is provided on PDF Attached. Section 1.10 Mitigation Summary-Light and Glare.

March 29, 2020

Public Comment-Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project-General Information-Section 1.10

David Sharp #2-Resident of Benton County

General Information, Section 1.10. Mitigation Measures Summary-Light and Glare-Even though the applicant recognized the impact on residents close to the project, they state in this section, *“No mitigation measures are proposed because no significant light and glare impacts are anticipated.”*

Discussion: In Section 4.2.2 Nighttime View Pages 4-76 and 4-77 the applicant uses nearly an entire page to describe the impacts associated with aviation lighting invoking the word FAA 13 times with three estimates of how far the lights could be seen: 35, 25, and 36 miles. The excerpt below describes the impact in the applicants own words: *“Strong contrast is anticipated for residential viewers within the foreground/middleground distance zone who have unobstructed to Horse Heaven Wind Farm EFSEC Application for Site Certification Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC 4-77 partially screened views towards the Project where the synchronized flashing lights would draw attention and dominate the nighttime setting. The contrast is anticipated to be reduced for residential viewers located farther from the Project Lease Boundary. Regardless of the number of FAA lights visible, any lighting is more likely to be seen or noticeable from outside areas surrounding residences rather than within the residences, as lights within residential homes tend to reflect and mirror views in windows, or views outside are obscured by curtains or blinds.* This is not an insignificant impact. EFSEC is invited to drive between Boardman, OR and Arlington, OR at night to experience something that could otherwise be described as torture. It only takes 5-10 minutes to drive through but imagine the experience all night, every night.

Discussion, Mitigation: Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS)- Last fall the applicant’s project website discussed ADLS on their Frequently Asked Questions page: *“Our project team is evaluating the use of Aircraft Detection Lighting Systems (ADLS) which will enable Dark Skies operations.* Another comment from Scout in a later email: *“The posting on our website regarding ADLS technology was created in response to concerns we have heard similar to yours”*. Shortly after the initial query the Dark Skies and ADLS discussion quit appearing on their website. A troubling issue here is that the applicant knew it was of concern to residents, knew about this mitigation system, was considering it, but failed to disclose that in the ASC.

This technology is radar based and has been approved for use by the FAA. The system was developed specifically to mitigate aviation strobe lighting of wind projects and keeps the lights off unless there is an aircraft approach. There are four approved systems on the FAA website, and a checklist instruction of how to apply for FAA approval. There are also wind farms in operation that have these systems installed or are in progress. These Wind facilities are not as large and are in more rural areas than the Horse Heaven Hills Project. References will be provided if necessary.

Requested Action 1: Deny the request for expedited processing because the applicant failed to meet the requirement that *“the environmental impact of the proposed energy facility is not significant or will be mitigated to a nonsignificant level”*.

Requested Action 2: If the project is eventually approved, require that aviation mitigation be utilized for both wind and met towers. Any deviation from use of an ADLS system must provide equivalent mitigation; not fewer lights, or light dimming. The intent peace, quiet, and dark skies.

Requested Action 3: Remind the applicant of **Section 1.8 Full Disclosure By Applicant** and ask them to review the ASC, determine if anything else was inadvertently left out, and if so, disclose them.

From: [Stuart Fricke](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Project
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 3:07:35 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Public Comment #0308
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Dear EFSEC,

As a resident and business owner of Tri-Cities I am opposed to the Horse Heaven Wind Project. For the following reasons:

1. It will be a blight on our beautiful Horse Heaven Hills in the daylight with the towering monstrosities, like 244 giants descending upon our small metropolis. In the nighttime, there will be hundreds of blinking red lights to show us they are still there in the dark. And at sunset, our beautiful bright and colorful vista that we so love, will be raped by the ugly monsters on the horizon.
2. Our beautiful avian friends that populate the project area that include red tail hawk, Cooper's Hawk, the eagle, the falcon, the pheasant will be killed in the hundreds by these monster's blades that chop up the skyline.
3. The project is in the Pacific flyway exposing the migratory avian life to the dangerous blades. I am especially concerned for water fowl like the snow and Canada goose that will be susceptible to massive kills.
4. As a Native American, Arikara Tribe, I am appalled that the use of these beautiful hills would be used for greedy corporations to generate billions of dollars for their bank accounts. It will kill the resident bird and migratory birds, destroy our beautiful vista, and be a blight on our community.
5. We don't need the small amount of energy that these monsters generate, we are better served by investing in existing hydropower plants, and new generation nuclear that don't gobble up precious land resources. New technology in hydropower and nuclear which is green energy can supply our needs, at lower cost, many decades into the future.

Please stop this project.

Stuart Fricke, PMP
President
White Shield Inc.
320 N. 20th Avenue
Pasco, WA 99301
509.547.0100 Office
509.366.7230 Mobile
www.whiteshield.com



From: [Jim Arneson](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 3:20:51 PM

Public Comment #0309
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am strongly opposed to this project for these reasons:

1. Our region does not need this energy.
 - a. Wind energy in our region would only compete with another zero-carbon source - hydro, as both produce surplus energy generally during the same time of the year. The Tri-Cities area needs firm dispatchable generation capacity in the summertime when river flows are at their lowest and the wind is not blowing. Wind will do nothing to address this need.
 - b. The low availability of wind power requires utilities to continue paying for dispatchable generation capacity that may run infrequently but is still sized to meet most of the peak energy demand on the grid. This "double paying" is why electricity rates in countries and states with high wind penetrations are rising despite the declining costs of this popular renewable energy source. It is believed that further wind power development will unnecessarily contribute to increases in northwest utility retail electricity rates which could erode the economic development advantage low rates has given our region for many years.
 - c. Building more wind farms in our region will contribute to untimely energy supply gluts and low short-term market prices which reduces surplus hydro energy sales revenues, increases net hydro power costs and puts upward pressure on retail rates utilities charge their customers.
2. Windmills are UGLY and would turn a beautiful natural landscape into an industrialized mess.
 - a. Although residents of the West side of Washington often don't appreciate our landscape, we live here because we love it.
 - b. Wine related tourism is a significant portion of our economy. An industrial skyline will have a material negative impact to that tourism and the financial well-being of our area.
 - c. Already, because of this pending application people moving into our area are avoiding homes with southern facing views because of this project. It won't be long until these properties experience downward pressure on their values.

I urge you to not expedite the processing of this application, but take great care in your consideration. An overwhelming majority of Tri-City residents do not want this project here, and do not want it forced on them.

Jim Arneson

From: [Madisson Montes](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 3:23:39 PM

Public Comment #0310
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Good evening, my name is Madison Montes and I am a local resident and have been for 18 years. I am speaking this evening to let the community know about my support for the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm project. This is a great opportunity for local workers.

From: [Ted Lewis](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 3:30:42 PM

Public Comment #0311
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I strongly oppose Scout Clean Energy's proposal to install 24 miles of Wind Turbines along the Horse Heaven Hills in Benton County. They will be a visual blight on our arid landscape. The carbon footprint to construct these turbines is more expensive than the energy output. We currently and in the future have adequate power resources here. Why aren't they being installed where the greatest need exists, i.e. the western part of Washington State?

Ted Lewis
Kennewick WA 99336

From: [Shannon Spencer](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 3:34:03 PM

Public Comment #0312
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To whom it may concern,

The Windmill Farm is absolutely not something that our community should have foisted upon us. Whenever I travel to places that have these farms, I think how ugly they are and what a blight they put on the scenery. Fortunately, when I've seen these, they haven't been built where populations of people actually live. This particular wind farm will be highly visible and incompatible with the goals of our community. People choose to make the Tri-Cities their home because of the amazing natural lifestyle, and beautiful surroundings that our community is blessed with. And we are surrounded by all kinds of renewable energy.

My husband is in the energy business. We are highly educated about the realities of this type of energy. We are also educated on the negative consequences of this technology. During those 25 years there will be considerable harm done to our land, and when the contracts and the subsidies end, our community will be left with a big mess to clean up.

In addition to that, the property requested for this use is also in the direction our community needs to grow as we accommodate more and more people who want to live in our area. Those windmills are not conducive to the future neighborhoods and infrastructure our community will need. The few jobs it will offer do not compete with what will be available as our cities expand.

In addition, I do not think that it is right for this company to skip the community permitting process. This is something that should be determined at the local level. Not by the State. Nor should it be allowed to be built in close proximation to our residential areas. There are a lot of empty fields, further out, that will be less impactful.

Lastly, our understanding is that due to the amount of wind we have here, approximately 30% of the power will be able to be produced, rather than the numbers that have been submitted. That is far from enough to make this a good plan.

We demand that this project be rejected.

Sincerely,
Gary and Shannon Spencer
2342 Camas Ave
Richland, WA

Shannon Spencer
Business Coach
Shannon Spencer Consulting
Download your My Day My Way Success Road

Map <https://shannonspencerconsulting.ck.page/>

Have we connected on Social Media?

[linkedin.com/in/shannonspencersuccesscoach/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/shannonspencersuccesscoach/)

[facebook.com/pg/ShannonSpencer.SuccessCoach](https://www.facebook.com/pg/ShannonSpencer.SuccessCoach)



From: [Sue Gano](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout wind farm in TriCities
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:00:37 PM

Public Comment #0313
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Hello. Please **do not allow** Scout Clean Energy to arbitrarily stick wind farms in the Tri Cities, WA. This project is ill conceived and will not provide any benefits to the local area. Besides destroying the viewscape for residents and visitors alike, it will significantly impact migratory bat populations and lead to their extermination as well as impact migratory bird species and raptors.

Contrary to what snob-like residents of other areas might think, there is a diverse population here, several modes of education (including WSU), and a variety of opportunities to understand how nature works.

Thanks, Sue Gano
Educated Resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tom Blakney](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Cc: [Tom Blakney](#)
Subject: Comments for the EFSEC meeting on March 20, 2021
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:05:05 PM
Attachments: [EFSEC Comments.pdf](#)

Public Comment #0314
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Please see attached.

I have signed up to speak at the public meeting.

Tom Blakney
tomblakney@comcast.net
206-310-6296

COMMENTS FOR THE WASHINGTON ENERGY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL March 30, 2021

My name is Tom Blakney. Although retired now, I have long roots Benton County and also Sherman County, Oregon. My families are pioneers of both states; my great grandfather, John Golden, founded Goldendale which in 1980 became the site of three Boeing MOD-2 developmental wind turbines. I currently have farming interests in Benton County where Scout intends to build the Horse Heaven Wind Farm. A relative in Oregon was instrumental in building Oregon's first wind power site, the Klondike Wind Farm, which began generating electricity in 2001.

As a result, I am all for using the wind for power generation. Although, as a farming friend said, we have become so used to cussing the wind, it will be a great change to encourage it to blow!

The technical aspects of generating power from the wind are well understood. However, the social aspects are fuzzy because of a lot of bad intentions and mistaken assumptions. I believe the fears of towers falling, the flicker and noise of the blades as they turn and the flashing of required aircraft beacons are blown completely out of perspective as well as saying the turbines will ruin someone's "viewscape". The Horse Heaven Wind Project will be located on the south side of the Horse Heaven Hills and is miles away and barely viewable from the Kennewick and Prosser areas. Without a doubt, these fears are manufactured to support a presumed "right" of private individuals who wish to have their way and would like to micro-manage their neighbor's property use.

Most property owners have mineral rights going deeply underground. I believe that property rights include using the air space above the property for almost anything including fruit trees, buildings and wind power. Further, persons objecting to the wind farm say they wish to "preserve" the property for development into businesses and housing for new residents. Where do the residents think they are going to get the additional power and water for such expansion?

The initial wind farm will primarily use turbines to generate power. As the technology continues to improve, the addition of batteries for energy storage for off-peak use is a great possibility. Further, since some land in the Horse Heaven Hills is not suitable for farming, it could reasonably be used for solar panels to increase the overall generated power.

I urge you to approve the Horse Heaven Wind Farm as presented.

Thank you!

Thomas L. Blakney
tomblakney@comcast.net
206-310-6296

From: [Ernesto Avelar](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Project
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:09:40 PM

Public Comment #0315
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Good afternoon I would like to submit my testimony via email.

Bob Abbott comment:

Thank you Chairwoman Drew and the entire commission for allowing me the opportunity to speak to you all this evening. My name is Bob Abbott. As the LIUNA Vice President and Northwest Regional manager, I felt it was important to speak to you today. I represent not only the state of Washington, but Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Alaska, Montana, along with four provinces in Western Canada, Northwest, Yukon and Nunavut territories. Representing a region that is geographically larger than the United States alone brings quite responsibility. This responsibility includes fighting for jobs and scopes of work for our members and their families on a national, regional and even local level. I am from the east side of Washington state and I am a native Washingtonian, so it also makes sense for me to be here today to speak in support of this project.

It is not often that you have a project, let alone a developer wanting to use union work, wanting to use local workers, or wanting to use local resources. It is not often that a developer or owner even mentions the words project labor agreement, or community workforce agreement, yet Scout Energy has published their goals with the community in their environment study and proposals. Scout proposes to construct the project under a community workforce or project labor agreement, with on-site salaries expected to range from \$65,000 to \$110,000 in 2020 dollars.

It is important for the commission to recognize the opportunity put forth. The opportunity for local jobs, union jobs, and economic development. We must recognize the developers on this project that are doing their due diligence in covering all the bases and making sure that the community is heard, monies will be given back to the community and therefore less taxes the community would pay. LIUNA stands with communities in support of not only a local workforce, but a union workforce and that includes an all of the above support for all energy jobs including nuclear.

Thank you for your time and consideration in allowing me the moment to speak today. I hope you will take these comments into consideration and look forward to your decision.

--

Respectfully,
Bob Abbott
Vice President and Regional Manager
Northwest Region
12201 Tukwila International Blvd. Ste14
Seattle, WA. 98168
206-441-6507

From: [John Mosley](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:28:01 PM

Public Comment #0316
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Good morning,

I am writing in opposition to the planned wind farm for Horse Heaven Hills. The economic impact to SE Washington is much greater than any benefit the wind farm creates. This area has been dependent on the Hanford project and its clean up for eighty years. The last few decades, due to the hard work of many Tri-Citians, our economy has begun to diversify.

The wine industry has achieved national and international recognition. Many of the winerys have a loyal base who enjoy picking up club bottles at the wineries, enjoy tasting wine while sitting on the balconies and patios taking in the vista. Wine tourism is a growing and vibrant part of diversifying the economy. The Red Mountain AVA is renowned for its reds and its views of the Yakima River valley. Which would be marred by the giant windmills planned for the Horse Heaven Hills. The synchronized flashing of 224 red lights during night hours is even worse than the grotesque giant turning arms.

There has been little to no local control in the permitting process for this project. We enjoy abundant and cost effective electricity generated by the Columbia and Snake river hydro projects and the Columbia Generating Station. Both of which are under attack by outside interests, both government and private parties, who believe they know what's best for our community. And this project is a continuation of outsider mentality.

This project does nothing to bring diversity to SE Washington farm land as claimed by a local farmer in a newspaper article. Diversity is growing lentils, peas, crops other than wheat. Not taking valuable farmland out of production for a windmill. Landowners (mostly farmers) will receive a windfall of cash for leasing their land for the windmills. They do no work for this money and of course are in favor of it. I have family that farm wheat outside of Hay in Whitman county. I mention this as their land is not suitable for windmills but neighboring land is. Those who have windmills on their land don't farm anymore, no need. They bought condos in Palm Springs for the winter and new wake boats and Chevy duallys to pull them with for summers on the Snake River boating. Paid for by ratepayers, massive benefit for a select few.

I have read 'Apollos Fire'. I know the governors opinion on green energy and his vision for Washingtons energy future. Governor Inslee was a one term congressman from SE Washingtons 4th District. His views of the future of this area were in direct conflict with the constituents then and now.

This wind power project is not needed, not wanted and will not be used for the benefit of those who live and work here. Outside investors will enrich themselves and the power generated will be sold to out of state and out of area consumers. This is a lose-lose-lose situation for the greater Tri-City community. There are substantial hard feelings between rural eastern Washington and the urban west side. Feelings that west side political power rams unpopular politicians and policies down eastsiders throats. This project will further divide this state down the crest of the cascade range. It is a bad idea and should not be permitted.

Respectfully, John Mosley

From: [Lori Hagadorn](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Windmills Horse Heaven Hills Windfarm Benton County WA
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:28:23 PM

Public Comment #0317
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

We are opposed to adding even one more windmill in Benton County WA. These are not effective and the dams must be powered down for windmills. These are also a hazard for birds and an eye sore for those of us who live here.

We do NOT want this land use approved.

Thank you,
Lori and Dave Hagadorn

From: [Colin Hastings](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Cc: [Pasco Chamber](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Project
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:32:06 PM
Attachments: [Horse Heavens Hills Wind Project letter 3-29-21..pdf](#)

Public Comment #0318
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Please see attached comments. Thank you!



Colin Hastings / Executive Director
chastings@pascochamber.org

Pasco Chamber of Commerce
509.547.9755
1110 Osprey Pointe Boulevard – Suite 101 Pasco, WA 99301
www.pascochamber.org



March 29, 2021

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
621 Woodland Square Loop P.O. Box 43172,
Olympia, WA, 98504-3172

RE: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project

The Tri-Cities Region is the home of Columbia Generating Station, the states only nuclear plant. It is also the home of Ice Harbor & McNary Dams, Nine Canyon Wind Farm, White Bluffs Solar Station, and Horn Rapids Solar, Storage and Training Project. These projects combined create enough energy to power the Puget Sound area.

The Horse Heaven Hills are some of the most beautiful and natural areas in our state. They are the home of Bald Eagles, Rattle Snakes, Burrowing Owls, Snow & Canada Geese, and the recently re-introduced Prong Horned Antelope. They are also located in the middle of the Pacific Flyway, which is one of the nation's largest bird migration flyways, most famously for the Sandhill Crane. These wide-open spaces and largely unobstructed ridgelines are iconic features of the ice-age flood formed landscape.

The proposed Horse Heave Hills Wind Project could drastically disrupt the unique and scenic vistas in the Tri-Cities area thereby degrading the quality of life and tourism and economic development opportunities in our region that is already doing their part to provide the region with clean energy. The local community would like to have some questions answered but may never get to ask.

Scout Clean Energy has chosen to file its application with the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council rather than seek local approval through Benton County. This potentially allows the developers to bypass proper environmental impact studies and local officials who have a larger stake in the outcomes.

By Scout Energy's determination, the Horse Heaven Hills wind project will only operate at 30% of the project's maximum capacity. Is that acceptable? Also, this proposed wind farm only displaces local hydropower, our baseload renewable power source, thus having ZERO effect on carbon emissions or climate change. Why are all the wind-energy projects in Washington State are being concentrated in the central and southeast portion of the state? Wind energy developed in Midwest states has capacity factors closer to 50% while replacing carbon-based energy such as coal power. Not here.... Again, there are questions.

The Greater Pasco Area Chamber of Commerce believes that the Scout Wind Energy Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project determination should belong to the residents who live and work in the region. The approval of a determination of non-significance (DNS) eliminates that as a possibility. At minimum this project should be thoroughly reviewed with an EIS based on the examples cited in this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Colin Hastings". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Colin Hastings
Pasco Chamber of Commerce

From: [Unity Yoga of Tri-Cities, LLC](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout Clean Energy wind farm project, Tri-Cities, WA
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:43:07 PM

Public Comment #0319
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

The proposed Scout Clean Energy wind farm proposal is both unnecessary and environmentally reckless. With the exception of financial gain by the landowner, this project is a detriment to our community - to the unique ecosystem in the Columbia Basin, the hallmark vista of the Horse Heaven Hills, and the energy needs of area residents.

What evidence is there that this project is necessary? Energy in our region is in surplus while energy storage is largely science fiction. The Tri-Cities and surrounding areas benefit from *existing* regional energy from wind, hydropower, and nuclear energy. Energy Northwest and Tucci energy are currently developing a 300-acre solar project north of Richland which will service more than 11,000 homes (source: Seattle Times, 30 Nov 2020). Solar energy is ten times more efficient than wind power, and the efficacy of both are frequently overestimated (source: SciTechDaily, 17 Oct 2018). Our available energy sources are sufficient for our area and their environmental impacts are accounted and offset to the extent practicable and required by law under State and Federal oversight. Regionally, hydroelectric dams, gas generated power, and wind farms have produced ample energy to power municipalities, research and development industry, health services, food processing, manufacturing, and technological growth.

Construction and operation of a 24-mile expanse of Scout Clean Energy windmills in the Horse Heaven hills is redundant at best, detrimental at worst. Beyond being visually unsightly, hundreds of acres of access and maintenance roads, maintenance pads, utilities installation ditches, communications infrastructure, increased construction and maintenance traffic load, noise pollution, light pollution, and increased risk of fire and erosion will be notable impacts to the area.

Regulatory compliance, ecological assessment, and conservation are facets of my 23-year career as a Senior Environmental Scientist. The way that Scout Clean Energy has circumvented regulation and detailed impact evaluation by directly addressing the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council rather than involving the Counties and state agencies in planning is appalling.

I have assessed proposed actions and alternatives under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) over the course of my profession. High density wind power has been shown to kill airborne animals, from bats to songbirds to

raptors, leaving lasting implications throughout the food chain, displacement of foraging and nesting habitat, and negative impacts on biodiversity.

My goal as a scientist is help decision-makers find solutions that create *no net loss of resources for humans and the environment*. In my public and professional opinion, I do not believe that the proposed Scout Clean Energy wind farm project is necessary, impact-neutral, or beneficial to the people and environment of the Columbia Basin region. We have adequate power with existing unsightly infrastructure that has marred our wildlife habitat and presented challenges to the growth, survival, and reproduction of sensitive and endangered populations. Scout Clean Energy is just one more threat to rush the hoary bat, silver haired bat, and ferruginous hawk to extirpation or extinction.

Without a clear plan for mitigation to offset environmental losses, transparent justification for the *need* of additional power supply for our region, evidence of economic benefit for the community, and qualified acceptance of the proposal and mitigation measures from the County, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, this project should be shut down.

Jenifer Linville • Senior Environmental Scientist
Tri-Cities, Washington

From: [SE Marks](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: NO to wind mills on Horse Heave Hills
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:46:07 PM

Public Comment #0320
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

This is such a travesty that you are even considering putting wind mills so near a heavily populated area. NO to the Horse Heaven Wind Mills !!

From: [Grama Son](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse "Heaven" Hills
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 5:15:45 PM

Public Comment #0321
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I oppose the construction of Windfarm.
So many reasons!!
No No No

From: [Eileen Kadesh](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 5:22:06 PM

Public Comment #0322
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am writing to support the Horse Heaven Wind Farm project.

We need to take bold action to address climate change. Increasing the amount of wind energy is one part of the solution.

Thank you,

Eileen Kadesh
1381 N Parkstone Ct.
Bellingham, WA 98229

From: [Kathie Megow](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 5:44:13 PM

Public Comment #0323
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

My husband and I are totally opposed to this wind farm project and agree with so many opinions voiced in the Tri-City Herald. This will kill birds, be a blot on the landscape, and cost Tri-Citians dearly.

If Governor Inslee and the rest of the people living on the west coast of this state want/need wind farms, they should build over there. Put them out in the Pacific Ocean as several enlightened Scandinavian countries have done.

This project will benefit very few people in the Tri-Cities, but it will surely put a feather in Inslee's and the environmentalists' caps. We don't need this. We don't want this. Invest in nuclear and hydro: much better and cost-effective ways of acquiring electricity.

Kathleen Megow & Louis Boliou
Pasco, Washington

Home owners since 1979

From: [Phyllis Baxter](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Cc: ["Phyllis Baxter"](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm comments
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 5:55:09 PM

Public Comment #0324
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Dear EFSEC people:

I am a resident of Richland, Washington in Benton County. I would like to voice my support for the proposed Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm, even though I also believe the land owners have the right to move forward with the use of their land as they see fit, abiding by other environmental regulations.

I am in full support of additional clean energy in all forms. The hydropower we rely on in this region is not a given. Weather patterns can, and will eventually, disrupt what many see as a sure thing in water flow from snow pack. Now is the time to diversify! Wind energy is a natural component in the clean energy mix.

The arguments in opposition are full on NIMBY. I've traveled in many parts of the country (Iowa, Oregon, California to name only a few) using wind turbines to diversify their energy sources. We think of them as being pro-active, forward thinking people. I highly doubt tourists visiting the wine region will avoid the area because the view shed includes wind turbines.

Now is the time to move forward with more clean energy. Please don't let the vocal, backward thinking people in the Tri-Cities stop the licensing of the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm.

Sincerely,
Phyllis Baxter
509-205-5848
123 Sherman St, Richland, WA 99354

From: mikelahtinen@yahoo.com
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind turbines NO NO NO
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 6:07:20 PM

Public Comment #0325
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I live in Benton County and have for 40 years. Benton County has grown so much to be a beautiful place to live and visit.

Bringing in these 240 wind turbines and cover our rolling hills would bring on many unpleasant issues. Especially after what we have all gone through over the past year.

1. They would take habitat from all the local animals; I.e. deer, elk, geese, pheasants, etc.
2. The noise made by the turbines has far reaching effects; as well as the flashing red lights burning our beautiful skylines. Thus changing tourism that comes in for the many local wineries, where they come to take in the peaceful environment found here in the Tri-Cities.

If the West side of the state needs this type of an energy resource, have it installed in their back yard!

We need to make sure the local people opinions are considered in the research and decisions made on this subject.

Mike Lahtinen
26104 S 1005 PR SE
Kennewick, WA 99338
(509) 628-2075

Shelly Lahtinen
26104 S 1005 PR SE
Kennewick, WA 99338

From: [Marsha Wesley](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 6:14:06 PM

Public Comment #0326
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Horse Heaven Hills

I, disagree with setting a wind project on the horse heaven hills. It has gone too much transformation since the 1960's. We ve lost too much shrubb step area & animals/birds because of economics. Economic impact is high.

From: [Jan Hanson](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse heaven wind project
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 6:29:06 PM

Public Comment #0327
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am asking about the alternative locations that were evaluated for this project. I think that ocean sites and Hurricane Ridge are two that off the top of my head are locations that are equal or better than Horse Heaven site. I am mentioning these because there are 4500+ wind machines east of the Cascade mountains. How many are on the west side? I count none. How did that happen? NIMBY I guess. I know that all your decisions are free from politics and based on sound Engineering principles.

Yours

John Hanson
jhanson2b@charter.net

Sent from my iPhone

From: rehardng@aol.com
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 6:30:37 PM

Public Comment #0328
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

The purpose of this correspondence is to state, to the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, my opposition to the proposed Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm.

As a resident of the Tri Cities, I do not want such an eyesore near my community; the beauty of the Columbia Gorge has already been ruined with the surrounding hills and land scarred unnaturally with wind turbines. While arguably clean, wind turbines are disgustingly aesthetically displeasingly! Their cost effectiveness is also questionable. Production of electricity is intermittent, depending on the weather, and both installation and maintenance costs are high. Wind turbine blades kill birds and wind turbines disturb local animal habitats. The wind turbines also produce noise pollution as well as visual pollution.

I can't believe that such a proposal is being considered while, at the same time, there are efforts to remove existing dams that efficiently produce low cost electricity for the state.

Please DO NOT let the proposed Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm go forward.

Ronald E. Harding
4804 W 8th Avenue
Kennewick, WA 99336

(509) 366-9443

From: [Eileen Plucinak](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: proposed wind farm Benton County
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 6:31:21 PM

Public Comment #0329
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

We are against the proposed wind farm on the Horse Heaven Hills in Benton County, WA. They would be a horrible eyesore for all the Tri-Cities area, while only producing 27% of advertised output.

None of the wind farm projects would be possible without massive subsidies from the Federal Government

and raising electric rates for everybody in the area. We already have the most efficient and ecologically clean

energy producers in the dams and nuclear power plant. The dams are forced to stop production to accommodate

the erratic windmills in Washington and Oregon. In a cynical political move by crooked politicians, the dams

are not classified as renewable energy, thereby not counting towards their arbitrary goals of green energy production.

If they were, the state would already be very close to Inslee's unrealistic goal of green energy reliability.

In another blatantly cynical political move, Scout Energy has opted to bypass the Benton County permitting process

and go straight to Inslee's lap dog commission for permits. We feel that these letters and comments you receive are

meaningless drivel to west side politicians who have nothing to lose from green lighting these projects against

the will of the local Benton County residents. They didn't get any votes over here anyway and they know they never will,

so who cares what Benton County residents think?

Larry and Eileen Plucinak

Benton City, WA

From: [Brandon Thayer](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 6:55:27 PM

Public Comment #0330
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Hello,

My name is Brandon Thayer and I live in Richland, WA. I am in favor of wind farm development in our area, and support the Horse Heaven Hills project, assuming it will adhere to all appropriate regulations.

Thanks,

Brandon Thayer

From: [Jeremy Belsher](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Oppose Scout Wind Farm in Tri-Cities
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 7:05:49 PM

Public Comment #0331
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I grew up in Eastern Washington. Life took me to Westetn Washington, California, Texas, Oregon and back to Eastern Washington. When I lived elsewhere, the thing I remembered most about back home was the golden hills outside of town. When I moved back, those hills are what made me feel at home. Now most weekends I take my family hiking in Horse Heaven Hills south of Benton City.

This is the very area that will damaged by the excessively long wind farm proposed by Scout Energy. For a temporary gain of a few jobs and the long term enrichment of a few families, the resource that I enjoy, my family enjoys and countless families enjoy, will be destroyed.

I strongly encourage you to reject the application or accept a reduced that is more consistent with the needs of the nearby communities.

From: [Rosemary Giacci](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Proposed Wind farm on Horse Heaven Hills
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 7:10:57 PM

Public Comment #0332
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Please accept this email opposing the proposed wind farm which would virtually ruin our beautiful Horse Heaven Hills. It is so inappropriate for any company to go straight to the governor (or his or her representatives) of any state attempting to circumvent both local government and residents with such a plan as we are reading about! The state has no right to attempt to ruin our beautiful environment for the benefit of those who live elsewhere! I oppose the plan and pray that those who can stop this sad attempt to go around us will do what is fair and right!
Rosemary Giacci

Sent from my iPad

From: [John Baker](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout energy wind project in TriCities
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 7:34:02 PM

Public Comment #0333
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I live in Benton City and will see the wind project from my home. I object to the project for the following reasons

- 1 the project will destroy the view and vistas from my community and home
- 2 the project should be permitted by Benton County and EFSEC should not bypass local permitting. The existing Nine Canyon Wind Project was done with local Benton County permitting where local citizen voices were heard
- 3 unlike Nine Canyon our local utilities will not take or need any on the output of the project
4. The output of the wind and solar represent electrical energy and not electrical capacity. The battery storage is something but the size of the battery storage proposed is not significant. All the wind farms in the NW and the shutdown of thermal base load plants have led to a regional capacity issue and a significant decrease in system reliability. Very similar to recent Texas system problems
- 5 if Scout Energy and ESFEC wants to improve the NW energy system they should build more capacity and not more energy projects

I have built and operated many energy projects and would be glad to expand on any of these comments

Jack Baker
jwbaker03@gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jen Lefler](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Save our ridges
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 7:44:30 PM

Public Comment #0334
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To whom it may concern:

The data has shown that wind power, with our current generators, is highly inefficient, expensive, ugly, prevents us from continuing to enjoy and build on the land or keep it open as preserves, and this area currently enjoys access to clean power options. I am a resident of Kennewick and am against having more wind powered turbines in my backyard until they are more cost effective.

Jennifer Lefler
3230 S. Wilson Pl.
Kennewick, WA 99338
909-767-8801

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ira Johnson](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Proposed wind farm in horse heaven hills.
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 7:45:50 PM

Public Comment #0335
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

You asked for opinions so here it is. First you are going to do what you want to do. You have already made up your mind. Word got out so you have to play the political game. So it doesn't matter how much or how many people object you are going to put it in.

Now here are my reasons against it.

- 1) We don't need or want it. Period!!
- 2) We have dependable cheap electricity with our nuclear and hydro plants. They are already paid for.
- 3) We do not have dependable wind for them. Lots of times we only have 2 to 4 mph or no wind. We also have winds above 45 which is not good for windmills. In the winter no wind, they will just freeze up like they did in Texas.
- 4) We have lots of migrating birds. This will decimate them. Who is going to pick them up?
- 5) Most of the material is made in China, enough said.
- 6) They have almost 8,000 moving parts and a lot of things can go wrong with them.
- 7) At 500 plus feet they are a safety hazard to planes.
- 8) They stir up the dust, causing health issues.
- 9) The noise is going to be terrible.
- 10) Farmers get paid for the use of their land. No reason to farm, reduction of crops and labor.

I have read all the pros the other side has stated. They are full of bull and are lying.

Sincerely
Ira Johnson - Kennewick

From: [Duane R Naught](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:06:49 PM

Public Comment #0336
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Attention: Washington state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

As a resident of Kennewick, WA, I support the construction of this Wind Farm. The experience gained in the use of battery storage technology could be invaluable. And, of course, the demand for electricity is not going to decline which is why our focus should be on upgrading the resiliency of the electrical grid.

I have been a Tri-City resident for 77 years and have no skin in this matter, but I am puzzled by the local opposition to this project.

The idea that the possible negative impact on the scenic view is so important is odd. Local developers have already started building on this ridge-line and they have said they will continue to do so. We do have some nice Sunrises and Sunsets, but these windmills will not interfere with those.

The most common and universal complaint by Tri-Citians is about the high winds and dust storms that come from the direction of the Horse Heaven Hills! But no one has suggested the windmills will make them worse.

And lastly, why are the local, elected representatives (almost all Republicans) suddenly against owners of private property doing what they are legally entitled to do?

Sincerely,
Duane R Naught

From: [Eric Otheim](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Benton County Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:15:48 PM

Public Comment #0337
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am writing to voice my opinion against the wind farm. It would have an enormous visual impact on the area causing aesthetic pollution. The golden hills are the signature element of beauty for barren eastern Washington. A large wind farm will dramatically encroach on the beauty of our natural landscape. I also wonder about the impact on wildlife; particularly for birds. The wind farm is redundant as the majority of our energy already comes from renewable resources without having to scar ridge after ridge of our countryside with windmills.

Kathy and Eric Otheim

Sent from my iPad

From: [jacqueline bender](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind Farms
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:20:18 PM

Public Comment #0338
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

NO MORE WIND FARMS IN TRI-CITY AREA. THIS IS NOT INSLEE'S DECISION!

From: [Judy and Roberto Huelga](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Haven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:23:24 PM

Public Comment #0339
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Roberto and Judy Huelga vote NO on the proposed project!! It will be a blight on the area and is of no value to any of us living on the eastern side of the state. They are ugly to see when traveling throughout Washington and Oregon.

NO NO NO...and NO

Roberto and Judy Huelga
Richland, WA

From: [Richard Yrjanson](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout application for Wind, Solar, Battery Storage Application in Benton Co. WA I am against.
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:57:32 PM

Public Comment #0340
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

When the fog clears and the need for additional Wind, Solar, and Battery Storage is finally found to be as one of the more expensive, unreliable source of electricity production and the need for the state to look forward to future electrical production along with dams, nuclear power (smaller footprint and strategically located). Scout and their overseas owners will profit extensively along with the farmers who's land it located on. It will use state land to place the wind generators, 30 year life and each site with 700 ft wind machines and tons of cement anchors in the ground releasing CO2 gas. The rate payers being individuals corporations, farmers, (except the ones with wind machine who could care less about cost,) every user of electricity will pay extra on their bills.

The state has to get out of the fog and into reliable energy production by other methods of producing energy which can meet peak electrical production when needed and quit putting these eyesores of 700 towers which the electrical produced is sold to other states or ? by being part of our grid.

Sincerely

Richard Yrjanson
5207 W. 14th Ave.
Kennewick WA 99338

509-783-2994 dyrjanson@hotmail.com

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



From: [Phil Starkey](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:02:51 PM

Public Comment #0341
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

I wish to make a short comment on the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Farm.

I am opposed to either proposal more shorter turbines or fewer taller ones. We have lived in the area for nearly 30 years and we see enough of the wind turbines. It spoils our vast views that intrigue citizens and those visiting. Turbines have a devastating on bird life. I won't go into the research on this topic but suffice it to say birds don't fare well with turbines. Thank you for the opportunity to comment in opposition to this proposed project.

Phil Starkey
starkeype@gmail.com

From: [Nancy Baxter](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:07:18 PM

Public Comment #0342
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I'd like to express my support for the Wind Farm project.

I believe it is a clean, environmentally friendly form of power production that we should take advantage of in this frequently windy environment.

I do not think the appearance of these turbines are objectionable, in fact I think they are rather majestic looking and add to the vastness of the open landscapes.

Their appearance is unique and I believe will be a positive draw for potential tourism.

Having driven quite near them, I've never experienced any loud or otherwise obtrusive noises.

I do not believe they have contributed significantly to the demise of birds or other wild life.

Furthermore, people actually living where these turbines are proposed being erected, see this project as filled with potential opportunity.

I believe these wind turbines will have a much less harmful impact on the environment and its wild life while producing clean energy then any other form of energy.

Thank you
Nancy Baxter
West Richland

From: [Lora Rathbone](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Comment on the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project, Benton Co.
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:21:01 PM

Public Comment #0343
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Comment regarding the construction and operation of the Horse Heaven Wind Farm project in Benton County:

There is questionable need for additional wind power due to the abundance of other sources of clean energy in the region: the power will not displace any fossil fuels but will only displace hydro.

I am very much in favor of producing as much clean, renewable energy as possible and to stop the use of all fossil fuel, but it seems this project would better meet that goal in a region that still relies on fossil fuels for electricity generation, not here. Because of the concern of large wind turbines disrupting the lives of people living near by, killing birds, and of an objectionable view for many, I would like to suggest a compromise.

My compromise would be to keep the part of the project that includes the solar facilities and batter energy storage systems, and at most, build smaller and fewer wind turbines.

This would meet the goal of making available additional clean energy which will be needed in the future as the population grows and transitions to electric vehicles, as well as selling to meet more distant demand, while alleviating most of the concerns stated earlier.

If this would not be enough to help meet the state's goal of 100% non-fossil fuel by 2045, then I would suggest building modular nuclear reactors instead. There is support for that technology in this area , and they have the ability to meet base load demand, especially in the winter, that is currently being met by natural gas.

Lora Rathbone
538 Fuller St
Richland, WA 99354
509-375-1954

Owens, Joan (UTC)

From: Karen Richardson <zimbaz2910@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:22 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Wind farm will harm Tri-City tourism, devalue hydro | Wind Energy News

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

External Email

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wind-watch.org%2Fnews%2F2021%2F03%2F29%2Fwind-farm-will-harm-tri-city-tourism-devalue-hydro%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cefsec%40utc.wa.gov%7Cdabea403dd804fc84f9008d8f333709d%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637526749997271182%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C2000&sdata=T5La%2B%2BvVPWJBDD0n%2Fw6xWr7SYI%2BGu0XIRu8xs5jmkQo%3D&reserved=0>

I AM EMPHATICALLY AGAINST THIS WIND FARM!!! It's in my backyard and I don't appreciate you devaluating my home and property value!! Especially because there is NO BENEFIT TO MY COMMUNITY!!

Karen R.

Owens, Joan (UTC)

From: Christina Caprio <caprio_lv@pocketinet.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:31 PM
To: EFSEC (UTC)
Subject: Ferruginous Hawk Classification Moving Towards Endangered & there are active nests on the proposed Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Hills Proposed Windfarm

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

External Email

>> Scout's permit said there are two occupied Ferruginous Hawk nests in the proposed turbine farm area, and one hawk was sitting on the nest during the surveys (appendix K: Biological Reports). There is an active bald eagle nest in the Triple Vista neighborhood which borders the potential turbine farm.

>>> I am sure you are more than aware of the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife looking at moving the Ferruginous Hawk to Endangered (see the two article links below). I see these large, majestic birds flying over our home every day, plus a few other beautiful hawks such as sparrow hawks and maybe falcons. I have noticed two of the hawks have been hunting together for the past few years. Last year, they added one more to their hunting crew, for a total of three that work together in a group. I previously lived by the Horn Rapids Dam in West Richland and have observed a lot of hawk, eagle, crane, heron, etc. activity, but have never seen the hawks hunt together! I enjoy this sight daily!

>>>

Please save our birds!

The proposed energy creator will take up a huge footprint for solar and wind right next to the upper end homes in Kennewick. Flicker, noise, vibration and view impacts not only those homes but the beautiful vistas for the entire greater Columbia Basin region. Wind definitely impacts human health as can be seen by a simple google search. My mom lives by some turbines in the Blue Mountains near Dayton, Washington and they impact her health in a negative way. The value of her property has gone down as well as the demand for the property. No one wants to live next to huge noisy and flickering turbines. The HHH turbines will flicker in a huge way as the sun sets on the homes below the vistas. I can't imagine the enormous negative impact.

The Pacific Northwest migratory birds will hugely be impacted. All of our 1000s and 1000s of geese, ducks, cranes, etc will be chopped up. They fly right over my roofline on a regular basis.

This energy will be sold out of our area and we are to absorb these negative impacts? That is not right. We don't want this ugly killing and human health impacting machines ruining our views. We have wine tourism for our beautiful views. We are wine country. Our rolling vistas and vineyards are a breathe of fresh air that can be seen from one horizon to another. The views and freedom feelings are priceless.

We give to clean energy. We support our nuclear and dam energy.

We all reject the windmill and solar farm proposal.

>>> Thank you for your time,

>>>

>>> Christina Caprio
Environmental Scientist

>>>

>>>

>>>

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.columbian.com%2Fnews%2F2021%2Ffeb%2F07%2Fwashington-department-of-fish-and-wildlife-recommends-endangered-status-for-ferruginous-hawk%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cefsec%40utc.wa.gov%7C9bd7cb6a71b54d335d8e08d8f334a120%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637526754849350922%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=FHAzvujywUAdNlvK97mEGINu8y9ONKGgdk6xvFw7ZDQ%3D&reserved=0>

>>>

>>> https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.fsa.usda.gov%2FAssets%2FUSDA-FSA-Public%2Fusdafiles%2FState-Offices%2FWashington%2Fprograms%2Ffs_fhawk_safe_updated_may2017.pdf&data=04%7C01%7Cefsec%40utc.wa.gov%7C9bd7cb6a71b54d335d8e08d8f334a120%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637526754849350922%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=NHUFBD8JvvoNYJ5Asiv5ANLkVi0bPC%2F2OY6NaLW%2FY8g%3D&reserved=0

>>>

>>>

From: [Gary Finn](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven wind farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:37:26 PM

Public Comment #0346
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am opposed to the proposed wind farm on the Horse Heaven hills in Benton county. This project should be decided locally. The majority of Benton county citizens are against this proposal that will desecrate our natural habitat. I have a scenic view of the ridge of the Horse Heaven Hills. I do not want to see a bunch of turbines ruining our view of the natural landscape. We have plenty of electrical power from our local dams. The wind farms should be built away from our cities in rural areas and where there is a need for more electricity. Thank you for accepting my input.

Gary Finn
Benton City, WA

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Smartphone

From: [Mary Meyer](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:56:36 PM

Public Comment #0347
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

We are writing to strongly oppose the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm project . Putting a wind farm on the hills surrounding our cities will have no effect on climate change or carbon emission. We have more than adequate energy produced by hydropower and nuclear power plant. The unsightly large wind turbines will significantly mar our beautiful vistas of our wine and agricultural region.

Scout Clean Energy circumvented our local government and went straight to the State authorities in a effort to pass this through more easily. They are putting a wind farm in the wrong state . If wind energy production is their goal, they should look elsewhere for an optimal place to put the turbines. The states located in Tornado Alley would all be better choice. And their own state of Colorado had plenty of wind with lots of wide open spaces.

This project would have a very negative effect on our fast growing desirable place for people and business. It will have no positive effect on our community, our local economy or our local energy sources .

Mary and John Meyer

Sent from my iPad

From: [Vanessa Burge](#)
To: [DOR Benton County Leg Authority](#)
Subject: HHH Wind Turbine Project - Opposed
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 10:13:32 PM

Public Comment #0348
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

I am against the windmill project in HHH. I reside in Benton City and my property will be right under the windmills. I have many concerns of what this project will produce! A few of them are: 1. The financial burden to the local tax payers of Benton County. The windmills have to run continually for 50 years just to pay for the cost to manufacture and install the turbines. It is approximately 2 million dollars per turbine to manufacture. Which are made in China. The lifespan of a turbine is about 20-25 years. 2. Environmental and health impacts. There is scientific data proving since 1971 along with peer reviews proven tinnitus, sleep apnea, nausea, dizziness and psychosis comes from living under the turbines. The blades are made with highly toxic composite that are not recyclable and are banned in other countries. The turbines require 60 gallons of oil to lubricate the turbine. Where would the oil leak when the seals burst? Onto the ground along with the diesel fuel. Which will increase fires. 3. Property devaluation! The windmills are proposed in excess of 500 ft tall and will create considerable operating distractions with the 30 plus windmills that will reach across the skyline from Kennewick to Benton City. The eyesore they create from construction and operations in the name of "green energy" is not worth compromising the appeal to live in this area.

Thank you,
Vanessa Burge

From: [Dean N.](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Cc: [Dean N.](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 10:19:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Public Comment #0349
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council Board;

I would like to submit the following comment/concern with respect to the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Project.

- I have a concern regarding the proposed location of several of the wind turbines located in the northwestern portion of the project's boundary just south of Benton City - Kiona (see Figure 1 below). These specific wind turbines are sited at the top of the ridge just off the BLM land boundary in that area. There are multiple hiking trails in that area that begin at the McBee Trail Head and terminate at the top of the Horse Heaven hill crest. From the top of crest, there are unobstructed vistas of Mt. Rainier, Mt. Adams, Mt. Hood and other natural beauties. On any given weekend, there are 10 - 20 vehicles parked at the McBee Trail Head with many Tri-Citians enjoying this superb hiking area (see Figure 2 below).

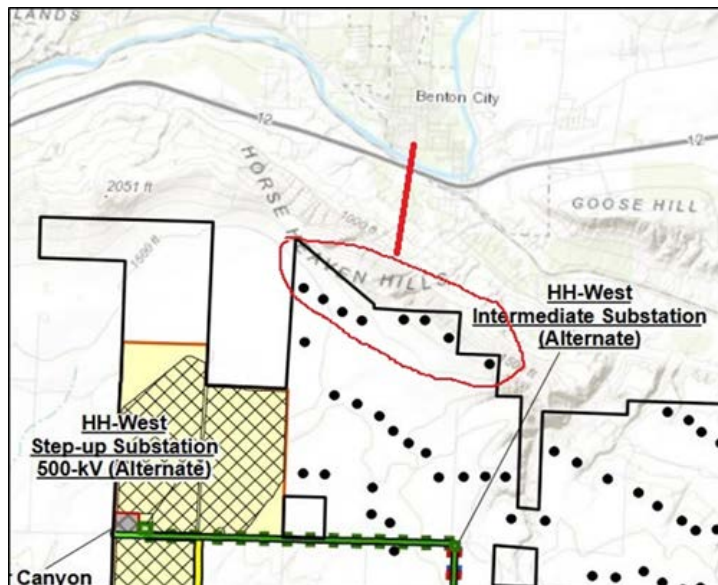


Figure 1

Figure

2

Unfortunately, if these turbines were to be installed at their current proposed location, they would obstruct the fantastic vistas that awards these hikers at the top. They even have one of the turbines sited right at the very tip of one of the summit nobs (see Figure 3 below). This turbine would be fully observable from the trail head, and it would tower over the towns of Benton City – Kiona. Scout Energy needs to better address the aesthetics impacts of these turbines (reference; Section 4.2.3 of their application). My recommendation is that Scout Energy site these turbines further south in their project boundary so they are not visible from Benton City – Kiona and do not obstruct the vistas from the top of the Horse Heaven Hills in this area.

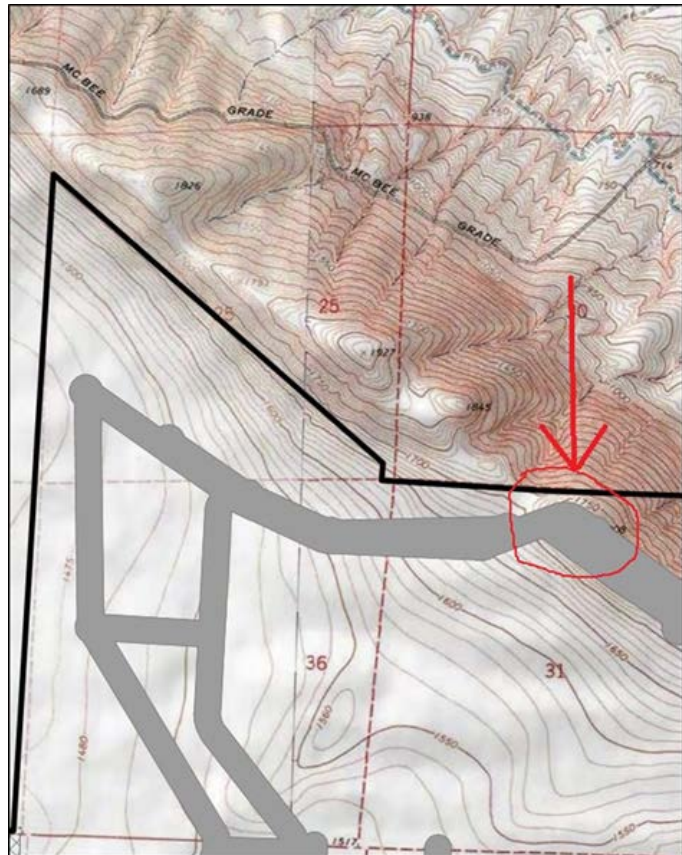


Figure 2

Thank you for your time and the consideration of my comment.

Respectfully,

Dean Nester
West Richland, WA
509-521-0871

From: [Max & Diana Burns](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 10:21:48 PM

Public Comment #0350
Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Docket #210011

External Email

To Whom It May Concern,

As a life long resident of the Tri-Cities I am opposed to the building of the Horse Heaven Wind Farm for several reasons. First and foremost is the unsightly structures ruining the vistas and views we love about our region. During the day these structures look like something from outer space and do not blend in with our shrub steppe environment. Buy night they look like a massive gang of red blinking lights. Secondly is what is not being done with these structures once they are no longer in use. Will Scout Clean Energy dismantle and remove each turbine and return the land as it was prior to building the wind farm? I have driven in other states where these aged wind farms are basically abandoned and left as a scab on the land.

I realize there are people living on the west side of the state who do not see the beauty of eastern Washington but those of us who do live here know the beauty, experience the beauty and want to preserve this beauty. Would any member of the committee want a wind farm built in their back yard?

Respectfully,

Diana Burns
Pasco, WA