

Heaven Hills), finches (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills), sparrows (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills), warblers, wood pecker (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills), quail (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills), various species of owls (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills), hawks (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills who fly high), bald eagles (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills who fly high), golden eagles, hummingbirds (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills), bats (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills), and various blackbirds (local bird population in Horse Heaven Hills).

Scout Clean Energy should not build the 500 foot windmills in the Horse Heaven Hills for energy production for Seattle/Portland/LA etc. because the windmill operation will be detrimental in many ways to the residents of the greater Tri-City area, where residents have more than given to their country by supporting various activities that support their country, state and community.

I would love to talk more. Please feel free to contact me.

Christina Caprio
Retired Environmental/NEPA Scientist/Manager
32604 Pico Drive
Kennewick, Wa 99338
509-967-0452
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Karen Brun](#)
To: [Brown, Sharon](#); [Klippert, Brad](#); [Shon.small@icloud.com](#); [Jim.Beaver@co.benton.wa.us](#); [Jerome.Delvin@co.benton.wa.us](#); [DOR Benton County Leg Authority](#); [WA04DNIMA@mail.house.gov](#)
Cc: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Project - Scout Clean Energy
Date: Friday, October 23, 2020 12:28:49 PM

Pre-application public comment #P0002
Horse Heaven Hills Project
Docket #210011

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

As a Benton County resident and taxpayer since 1979, I have a vested interest in what happens in the Tri-Cities community. Therefore, I am sending this email to inform you that I am **TOTALLY OPPOSED** to the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm project being pushed on us by Scout Clean Energy from Boulder, CO.

As you are aware, there are many studies, documents, and opinion pieces pointing out the lunacy of wind energy. To cite a few:

- [Conventional Wind Energy – A Design Deadly for Birds](#), American Eagle Foundation. This article refers to wind turbines 212' high with blades at 116'. Scout Clean Energy is proposing 500' towers with commensurate blades. I find it interesting that their website makes this statement: ***"From sponsoring local events to protecting wildlife, we've formed happy, win-win relationships with the communities that are home to our wind farms"***. They have done nothing to involve the community – in fact, it is in their best interest to keep this as quiet as possible to avoid public uproar when word gets out. I want to make sure this project will not be permitted. And as for protecting wildlife - the proposed site is in the migration path of thousands of geese and sand hill cranes, not to mention the plethora of hawks and other birds of prey that live in our area.
- [Category Archives: Wind Turbine Noise Issues](#), MasterResource, a free-market energy blog
- [The True Cost of Wind Turbine Fires and Protection](#), Windpower Energy Development, by Angela Krcmar, Global Sales Manager, Wind, Firetrace International, September 8, 2020
- [Wind Turbine Blades Can't Be Recycled, So They're Piling Up in Landfills](#), Bloomberg Green, February 5, 2020, and the Tri-Cities Area Journal of Business, October 2020, vol 19, issue 10.
- [Save Our Ridges](#), July 2020
- [Wind Power Development Questioned](#), Benton PUD, September 3, 2020. Our own public utility districts, PUD, Franklin, and Benton REA all say we do not need this power here and that all of it will be delivered to other parts of our beautiful state. Why would you allow our pristine skyline and landfills be polluted forever to send the power elsewhere?
- [What's Wrong with Wind and Solar?](#), Prager University, September 14, 2020

I don't think I'm alone in expressing my displeasure with this project. Once these are installed, they will be a blight on our landscape forever. They will result in very few permanent jobs and will become a major source of landfill pollution, not to mention the additional potential fire issues as noted in the third article – just what we need in our area. In addition, having these in our backyard will cause property values close to this "farm" to drop significantly.

Karen Brun

From: kmburn@frontier.com
To: [Brown, Sharon](#); [Klippert, Brad](#); Shon.small@icloud.com; Jim.Beaver@co.benton.wa.us; Jerome.Delvin@co.benton.wa.us; [DOR Benton County Leg Authority](#); WA04DNIMA@mail.house.gov
Cc: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#) Pre-application public comment #P0003
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Project - Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Hills Project
Date: Friday, October 23, 2020 12:39:27 PM Docket #210011

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

As a Benton County resident and taxpayer since 1979, I have a vested interest in what happens in the Tri-Cities community. Therefore, I am sending this email to inform you that I am **TOTALLY OPPOSED** to the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm project being pushed on us by Scout Clean Energy from Boulder, CO.

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- [Wind Turbine Blades Can't Be Recycled, So They're Piling Up in Landfills](#), Bloomberg Green, February 5, 2020, and the Tri-Cities Area Journal of Business, October 2020, vol 19, issue 10.
- [Save Our Ridges](#), July 2020
- [Wind Power Development Questioned](#), Benton PUD, September 3, 2020. Our own public utility districts, PUD, Franklin, and Benton REA all say we do not need this power here and that all of it will be delivered to other parts of our beautiful state. Why would you allow our pristine skyline and landfills be polluted forever to send the power elsewhere?
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Karen Brun

From: tbrun@frontier.com
To: [Brown, Sharon](#); [Klippert, Brad](#); Shon.small@icloud.com; Jim.Beaver@co.benton.wa.us; Jerome.Delvin@co.benton.wa.us; [DOR Benton County Leg Authority](#); WA04DNIMA@mail.house.gov
Cc: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Project - Scout Clean Energy
Date: Saturday, October 24, 2020 12:57:13 PM

Pre-application public comment #P0004
Horse Heaven Hills Project
Docket #210011

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

As a Benton County resident and taxpayer since 1979, I have a vested interest in what happens in the Tri-Cities community. Therefore, I am sending this email to inform you that I am **TOTALLY OPPOSED** to the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm project being pushed on us by Scout Clean Energy from Boulder, CO.

As you are aware, there are many studies, documents, and opinion pieces pointing out the lunacy of wind energy. To cite a few:

- [Conventional Wind Energy](#) – A Design Deadly for Birds, American Eagle Foundation. This article refers to wind turbines 212' high with blades at 116'. Scout Clean Energy is proposing 500' towers with commensurate blades. I find it interesting that their website makes this statement: *“From sponsoring local events to protecting wildlife, we’ve formed happy, win-win relationships with the communities that are home to our wind farms”*. They have done nothing to involve the community – in fact, it is in their best interest to keep this as quiet as possible to avoid public uproar when word gets out. I want to make sure this project will not be permitted. And as for protecting wildlife - the proposed site is in the migration path of thousands of geese and sand hill cranes, not to mention the plethora of hawks and other birds of prey that live in our area.
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- [What's Wrong with Wind and Solar?](#), Prager University, September 14, 2020

I know that I'm not alone in expressing my displeasure with this project. Once these are installed, they will be a blight on our landscape forever. They will result in very few permanent jobs and will become a major source of landfill pollution, not to mention the additional potential fire issues as noted in the third article – just what we need in our area. In addition, having these in our backyard will cause property values close to this “farm” to drop significantly.

I trust that you will seriously examine this issue and make a strong decision to consider the concerns of your constituents.

Thomas Brun

From: [Brent Strecker](#) Pre-application public comment #P0005
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#); [Brown, Sharon](#); [Klippert, Brad](#); [Walsh, Maureen](#); [Jenkin, Bill](#); [Rude, Skyler](#) Horse Heaven Hills Project
Date: Sunday, October 25, 2020 6:23:31 PM Docket #210011

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

As a Benton County taxpayer since 1971 who loves this area I am **TOTALLY OPPOSED** to the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm being pushed on us by Scout Clean Energy from Boulder, CO. **The residents of Benton County do not need and cannot use the power from this project.**

As you are aware, there are many studies, documents, and opinion pieces pointing out the lunacy of wind energy. To cite a few:

- Conventional Wind Energy – A Design Deadly for Birds, American Eagle Foundation. This article refers to wind turbines 212' high with blades at 116'. Scout Clean Energy is proposing 500' towers with commensurate blades. I find it interesting that their website makes this statement: ***"From sponsoring local events to protecting wildlife, we've formed happy, win-win relationships with the communities that are home to our wind farms"***. They have done nothing to involve the community – in fact, it is in their best interest to keep this as quiet as possible to avoid public uproar when word gets out. I want to make sure this project will not be permitted. And as for protecting wildlife - the proposed site is in the migration path of thousands of geese and sand hill cranes, not to mention the plethora of hawks and other birds of prey that live in our area.
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- [What's Wrong with Wind and Solar?](#), Prager University, September 14, 202 Michael Shellenberger
- "Do We Have to Destroy the Earth to Save It? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rc5AlFo3zTk>
- Mark Mills, Senior Fellow at the Manhattan Institute "What's Wrong With Wind and Solar?" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RqppRC37Ogl>
- Alex Epstein of the Center for Industrial Progress "Can We Rely on Wind and Solar Energy?" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ObvdSmPbdLg>

I am not alone and have yet to find a person that doesn't see this wind project a colossal waist. The beautiful and defining view to the south of town, known as the Horse Heaven Hills, will now be called the "Wind Mills". I can tell you from living in these hills that every spring and fall hundreds of migratory birds fly over our home daily for around a month and will be headed right into the 100 mph blades of the wind mills. Please do not donate the Tri-cities quality of life to radical west side politics.

D. Brent and Karen Strecker

35401 S. Valley Vista PRSE

Kennewick Wa 99338

Ph 509 528-3000

WIND FARMS

as soon as next year, the PUD paper said.

The Northwest Power and Conservation council estimated that accelerated coal-plant retirements could increase the risk of blackouts to a 26% probability by 2026 if utilities are unable to replace the generating capacity of shuttered coal plants.

The best environmental-ly responsible strategy to meet the Clean Energy Transformation Act's end goal of 100% clean electricity in Washington state by 2045 is to transition from coal power to natural gas and then natural gas to nuclear, the PUD paper said.

All provide consistent power that is not dependent on the weather.

With existing hydro and nuclear power in the Pacific Northwest, meeting the 100% clean electricity goal in the region through additional wind and solar would require a land area 20 to 100 times the area of Seattle and Portland combined, the PUD paper said.

Wind power requires 30 to 45 as much land and 10 times as much concrete and steel to produce the equivalent power of nuclear, the paper said.

HYDRO, NUCLEAR POWER

Now Benton PUD, which relies mostly on hydro and nuclear for power, must purchase additional power during hot summer months and some of the worst winter cold snaps.

But those are typically times when the wind does not blow, which will not help Benton PUD when it is trying to purchase more power.

Energy production from wind farms in the region is often high at the same times that hydro generation peaks, limiting the value of surplus hydro sales.

Benton PUD is among the utilities that can sell their percentage of power purchased from the Bonneville Power Administration when they do not need all of it to help offset what they charge local customers.

"Building more wind farms in the PNW 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 Benton PUD and other utilities charge our customers," it said.

Utilities end up "double paying" because they have to have backup generation that is adequate to meet most of the peak energy demand on the grid when the wind is not blowing.

"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," the PUD paper said. "Benton PUD believes 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."

As more large wind farms contribute to surplus annual energy supplies at times in the region, the opportunities erode for new types of nuclear, such as small modular reactors, to become economically viable, it said.

CRITICISM OF WIND FARM POLICY PAPER

The Benton PUD policy paper represents the perspective of just one of Washington state's 28 public utility districts, and it appears to be an outlier, said Smith of Scout Clean Energy.

"Benton PUD's position appears to be based on little more than a personal preference not to see wind turbines," said Hughes in her statement for Renewable Northwest.

"There is not data out there to support a claim that the addition of wind in our portfolio in the Northwest will result in an increase in electricity rates," she said.

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council predicts that wind and solar costs will continue to drop, she said.

But advance nuclear options will be considerably more costly than electricity from wind farms, she said.

Scout Clean Energy is relying on the analysis of Randy Hardy, head of the Bonneville Power Administration in the 1990s, to discount the Benton PUD's concerns that wind production would add to the regional hydro surplus and depress prices for sales during the spring runoff.

The Horse Heaven Wind Farm's production would be dwarfed by hydro generation, according to Hardy.

But more importantly, the generation of the proposed Benton County wind farm during the winter will be especially valuable as Pacific Northwest coal plants retire through 2030, creating a need for more electricity.

"This winter capacity benefit in my view, far outweighs any marginal April market price impact from HH (Horse Heaven) — both for Benton PUD and the PNW generally," he said.

"While there is a small, yet vocal, number of people who oppose this project, it's important to also note that there are many others who support the Horse Heaven Wind Farm because of the significant economic benefits that will be generated, as well as the environmental benefits of developing renewable energy in this region," Smith said.



BOB BRADY/Tri-City Herald

Scout Clean Energy is planning a 60,000-acre wind farm on Benton County farmland south of the Tri-Cities along the Horse Heaven Hills ridgeline south of Badger Road. It has announced plans to expand the project to include solar and battery storage.

OPPOSITION TO WIND FARM

Two Tri-Cities residents who share some of the PUD's concerns have started the website save-our-ridges.org to raise awareness of the risk to the Columbia Basin's panoramic views.

"The hills and ridges rising behind the Tri-Cities are visible from far in the Columbia Basin. They need to be protected from massive development as they are the signature of our region," says the website developed by Rich Gerlitz of Richland and Markus Stauffer of Pasco.

Stauffer is a retired geochemist and Gerlitz is retired from the financial industry.

"A Hike on Badger Mountain Will Never Be the Same" says one post on the website, showing a view of a ridgeline topped with wind turbines to illustrate the possible view from the top of Badger Mountain.

More will be known about exactly where in the Horse Heaven Hills the proposed turbines could be sited once Scout Clean Energy submits a site certification application to the Washington state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council.

Gerlitz has fond memories of driving a combine for 12-hour overnight shifts in the Horse Heaven Hills as a young man.

He remembers gazing at

the night sky and full moon, not the blinking red lights of wind farms, he said.

Such a project would not be allowed if it was mar- rying the view of Seattle residents, such as in Elliott Bay, he said.

Stauffer said he is concerned that the massive turbines proposed for wind farms last only 15 to 25 years, and are difficult to recycle.

If new, more efficient or less costly technology were to make wind turbines obsolete, driving wind farm and companies into bankruptcy, its unclear who would be responsible for the defunct wind turbines that create visual pollution, he said.

But Smith counters the opposition from Stauffer and Gerlitz saying that Scout Clean Energy can only build projects in places where numerous land- owners want to partici- pate.

"We currently have substantial acreage under wind energy lease and easement agreements, and because these are voluntary, we simply would be not at this point without the support of many local residents," she said.

The project has the potential to stimulate the local economy by creating hundreds of construction jobs, full-time operational jobs, as well as millions of dollars in property tax revenue for the host com-

munity, according to Scout Clean Energy.

WASHINGTON STATE APPLICATION

Scout Clean Energy had initially announced plans to seek a permit from Benton County, but announced on Friday it would use the alternate method of applying through the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC), the state board charged with the siting of major energy facilities.

It expects to file an application with the state in the coming months.

"In recent months the project size and scope have expanded, adding to the environmental review complexity," said Dave Kobus, Scout's lead project manager for the Horse Heaven Wind Farm. Initial plans did not include solar energy and battery energy storage.

"EFSEC provides a 'one-stop' siting process for major energy facilities and will ensure robust public involvement opportunities that match or exceed the local permitting process," he said.

The EFSEC board includes a representative from the state's Departments of Ecology, Commerce, Fish and Wildlife, and Natural Resources, plus the Utilities and Transportation Commission.

Because the proposed wind farm is in Benton County, the county is expected to be allowed to add a voting member to the siting council.

Benton County also will review the application for consistency with local land use and zoning laws.

At the end of the EFSEC review — which includes public meetings, independent experts, environmental studies and formal hearings — EFSEC will forward a recommendation to Gov. Jay Inslee for a final decision.

Annette Cary:
509-582-1533,
@HanfordNews

Benton PUD says wind farms not a good idea for Tri-Cities

BY ANNETTE CARY
acary@tricityherald.com

Adding more wind turbines in the Northwest is a bad idea, says the biggest public utility district in the Tri-Cities region.

The drawbacks of adding more wind farms outweigh the possible small environmental benefit and could raise electric prices locally, says the Benton Public Utility District.

The Benton PUD, with 54,000 customers in the Tri-Cities area, issued a formal declaration that it does not support further development of wind power in the Pacific Northwest.

It is concerned that increases in Northwest retail electricity rates could harm the economy by eroding the "economic development advantage low rates has given our region."

Although the PUD does not call out any specific projects in the policy paper, its wind farm opposition comes as Scout Clean Energy of Colorado is preparing to apply for a permit

from Washington state for the new Horse Heaven Wind Farm in Benton County.

The project along 24 miles of the ridgeline of the Horse Heaven Hills south of Kennewick to near Benton City would include up to 235 wind turbines, plus solar panels and battery storage.

Scout Clean Energy believes Benton PUD policy paper is "out of step with current technology" and "inconsistent with state policy, most importantly the Clean Energy Technology Act," said Javon Smith, who is in charge of community relations for the new wind farm.

Renewable Northwest, a renewable energy advocacy organization based in Portland, agrees.

"The paper relies on false and outdated claims over current scientific data and economics," Nicole Hughes, executive director of Renewable Northwest, said in a statement.

Benton PUD concerns about potential new wind farms include quality of life in Benton County, the cost of electricity and the need to develop power

projects that can operate consistently no matter the weather to reduce the risk of power grid blackouts as coal plants are shut down under the Clean Energy Technology Act.

NORTHWEST WINDPOWER

"Existing wind farm development in Washington state and along the norther Oregon border has already resulted in the industrialization of previously scenic hillsides, canyons and desert vistas in the region in and around Benton County," said the 15-page PUD policy paper.

"Before PUD customers and citizens throughout our region accept further sacrifice of the natural beauty and open spaces that are part of our way of life, we want them to know there are other options we should be asking our legislators and utility industry leaders to urgently and seriously consider," the PUD paper said.

Reasonable questions have been raised about the ability of wind power to cost-effectively contribute to the nation's power needs and the full environ-

mental and ecological impacts of wind power compared to other energy technologies, the paper said.

Wind power in the Pacific Northwest will not result in consequential reductions in national or global greenhouse gas emissions for Washington state utilities, the paper said.

Because of hydroelectric generation, Washington state has a reliable energy source that has historically contributed no more than 0.5% to the national's annual total greenhouse gas emissions from electricity production.

ELECTRICITY BLACKOUT RISK

The Benton PUD is concerned that the continued push for more wind projects by developers and many elected officials will do nothing to alleviate the looming risk of power grid blackouts in the Pacific Northwest.

Washington state's 2019 Clean Energy Transformation Act sets a deadline in five years for eliminating coal-fired energy. But the politically preferred technologies, including wind and solar power along with batteries, are not ready to provide solutions at the scale needed to prevent possible blackouts

From: [Drew, Kathleen \(UTC\)](#)

To: [Owens, Joan \(UTC\)](#)

Cc: [Bumpus, Sonia \(UTC\)](#)

Subject: Fwd: Scout Clean Energy announcement of changing permit in Benton County to EFSEC.

Date: Monday, November 9, 2020 8:50:13 AM

Pre-application public comment #P0006

Horse Heaven Hills Project

Docket #210011

I am forwarding this to you to determine action.

Thanks,
Kathleen

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Richard Yrjanson <dyrjanson@hotmail.com>

Date: November 8, 2020 at 9:36:01 PM PST

Subject: Scout Clean Energy announcement of changing permit in Benton County to EFSEC.

To: Drew, Kathleen (UTC) <kathleen.drew@utc.wa.gov>

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Kathleen Drew
EFSEC

I am forwarding a Sunday Tri-City Herald article on Scout Clean Energy changing their permitting to EFSEC after they have run into problems evidently in getting one from Benton County. They want to build a 24 mile corridor along a ridge line in Benton Co. there is already hundreds of wind turbines located in Benton Co. and this will add 235 more turbines. They changed to offering to build a battery storage and cover more acres of land with solar panels when many individuals expressed concern of further deterioration of the landscape in the hills around the Tri-Cities reaching all the way to the Columbia River Gorge in Oregon. We eliminated billboard along freeways and filled the space with wind turbines 500 feet in the air. I believe the only reason Scout Clean Energy changed from Benton County to EFSEC was the change and realization of many in the area believe that wind and solar energy are will be losing their subsidies for building them soon so they added batteries and solar power. Wind power and solar power lack the peak demand required for power in the Columbia River – Snake River Power generation and the dams can adequately increase flow during high power demand. The continued deterioration of the sky line on the hills over looking the Snake and Columbia River on which Lewis and Clark, indigenous tribes, and settlers traveled are no more only towers. Scout Clean energy was bought out by a English Company and the majority of the wind turbines are made overseas , so the rate payers and taxpayers in US will reap very little if any from

any further construction of Wind Farms. More attention should be given to the miniature nuclear reactors presently being studied here and in Idaho. We trust your decisions on future power sources will do away with many of these inadequate method to produce electricity and look outward toward newer programs to produce reliable energy sources.

Sincerely,

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

Ph: 509-783-2994

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10
trib

From: [Dave Sharp](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Scout Clean Energy(SCE) Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:46:51 AM

Pre-application public comment #P0007
Horse Heaven Hills Project
Docket #210011

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

I understand that SCE now intends permit through EFSEC instead of local authorities that are most affected.

You should know that this project will scar the beautiful vistas South of the tri-cities, and while it will benefit a few landowners, it will be an eyesore and negatively impact literally thousands of residents. It will also take away our dark skies with hundreds of flashing strobe lights. It will also negatively affect our property values. The ramifications of this project are just becoming apparent to the local public.

Some questions I have are:

1. How much area will be affected? SCE's project web page literally shows about 50 square miles.
2. Is an Environmental Impact Statement required for this project?
3. If not, why not? There are certainly environmental issues, ie, bird mortality, Dark Sky Impairment, NET emissions impact of the project to include those emissions to manufacture, install, and decommission the project.
4. What is the benefit of the project, and who receives that benefit?
5. Is a wind renewable energy source such as this project a good fit for the Northwest with our already top heavy renewable portfolio?
6. What role does your group have to ensure the ability to supply the grid power to meet customers needs at all times? Our state has two large base load facilities: a coal facility shutting down in 5 years, and an aging nuclear plant. Are we to be plagued with blackout situations like California or South Australia?
7. Who will provide balancing services for the project? Bonneville Power? How is that cost rolled to the customer?
8. Who are the buyers of the SCE generation? Bonneville? Large Tech Companies?
9. Now, in periods of over generation Northwest power is sold south at negative rates. Yes, utilities south of us are PAID to take the power. Do Northwest customers eventually pay for that in higher rates?
10. The project scope has recently changed to include battery storage with very few details. We must see more details, such as what output the batteries produce and for how many hours?

This is not just about siting a "renewable energy facility". This is about getting it right for residents and customers in Washington. Electricity cost on the spot market is very inelastic. A shortage can and will drive up the short term power price a hundredfold. And of course, rolling blackouts or brownouts would be a terrible black eye, and from a legal perspective would be termed malfeasance. With the upcoming shutdown of one large base load facility and our load growth, we are increasingly vulnerable.

David Sharp
Kennewick, Wa

From: [PATTY WILSON](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Projected Wind Farm in Horse Heaven Hills, Tri-Cities
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 8:37:01 AM

Pre-application public comment #P0008
Horse Heaven Hills Project
Docket #210011

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I am against the Scout Clean Energy Projected Wind Farm in our Horse Heaven Hills. These wind mills will destroy our beautiful hills. They are not as efficient as projected and are bad for wild life. We have the best energy resource out our wonderful Columbia River that is clean and efficient.

Please reject this proposal.

Patty Wilson
5985 W 41st Avenue
Kennewick, WA 99338

From: [Kristin Privette](#)
To: [EESEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind farm
Date: Friday, November 13, 2020 5:43:18 PM

Pre-application public comment #P0009
Horse Heaven Hills Project
Docket #210011

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I urge you to vote no on Scott Energy's proposed wind farm in Benton county. We do not want wind turbines, which are unsightly, noisy and inefficient destroying the view of the ridge lines here. In addition migrating birds will come in contact with the 24 miles of turbines. It is bad enough that the beauty of the Columbia Gorge has been marred by these beasts. Keep Benton county beautiful.

Our Public Utility District and Visitor and Convention Bureau both oppose this project with salient points.

Again, I urge you to veto this project,

Sincerely,

Kristi Privette

From: [kaelee](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project
Date: Saturday, November 21, 2020 7:09:09 AM

Pre-application public comment #P0010
Horse Heaven Hills Project
Docket #210011

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To whom it may concern:

I write on behalf of my husband and myself, urging you to reject this wind farm plan. Many of us highly-educated residents are not in favor of this project, because we believe only a small number of individuals who own the land will benefit from it financially, while the rest of us taxpayers will foot the bill for the project. Furthermore, wind is not reliable. Many of us who work in the local nuclear power industry know this to be true and are not in favor of this project.

Signed,
Kaelee Darling

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: rempjm1965@gmail.com
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Wind Farm
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 11:36:48 AM

Pre-application public comment #P0011
Horse Heaven Hills Project
Docket #210011

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I get to enjoy the relaxing, unobstructed view of the Horse Heaven Hills ridges daily as I live within a half mile of the bluffs. This view offers SO MUCH relaxation in a world of chaos! PLEASE don't take that away by allowing massive, bird killing wind turbines to CLUTTER this area. I'm not convinced that wind turbines can offer an offsetting benefit to the lose!!

Thank you.

Phyllis Maynard

Badger Canyon resident

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Richard Yrjanson](#)
To: [Owens, Joan \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Look beyond Wind and Solar power and plan for a better future.
Date: Sunday, December 20, 2020 4:37:30 PM
Attachments: [Scan_20201220 \(2\).jpg](#)
[Scan_20201220 \(5\).jpg](#)
[Scan_20201220 \(10\).jpg](#)

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I am sending this in regards to Scout Clean Energy wanting to expand in Benton County WA . I am against the any future construction of Wind and Solar energy in Benton County. It has increased the cost of electrical energy throughout the Western United States and the need to look for answers to the electrical grid and we are the cleanest state in the production of energy how ever we can not afford the increasing cost of supporting the present methods of producing power for the grid. I remember seeing the 3 wind electrical generators on the hills above the Columbia River near Goldendale and had to find out what they were 30-40 years ago as test towers, and look what it led too. The enclosed article from the National Review shows that we may need to step back and see where we are headed. Construction of electrical production methods cost have made industry and farmers rich and the rate payers are paying the cost..

Sincerely Yours

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

Ph. 509-783-2994

Sent from [Mail](#) for
wi

Going Nuclear

It's time for the West to see the folly of renewable energy

BY MATT RIDLEY

If you judge by the images used to illustrate reports about energy, the world now runs mainly on wind and solar power. It comes as a shock to look up the numbers. In 2019 wind and solar between them supplied just 1.5 percent of the world's energy consumption. Hydro supplied 2.6 percent, nuclear 1.7 percent, and all the rest—94 percent—came from

Mr. Ridley is the author of How Innovation Works, and Why It Flourishes in Freedom, published in 2020. He is a biologist, newspaper columnist, and member of the House of Lords in the U.K.

burning things: coal, oil, gas, wood, and biofuels.

As Mark Twain might say, reports of an energy transition away from combustion as a source of energy are greatly exaggerated. True, carbon-dioxide emissions are rising more slowly than energy consumption, but that is mainly because gas is displacing coal. The rise of renewables has so far not even compensated for the recent decline of nuclear—a decline renewables have contributed to causing because intermittent renewable energy hits the profitability of nuclear power hardest. Nuclear cannot be easily switched on and off.

So the thermodynamic explanation of the world economy remains the same as it has since the industrial revolution liberated us from reliance mainly on the (renewable) muscles of people, horses, and oxen or the vagaries of (renewable) trade winds. We use the heat of flames to do useful things, such as move stuff around, light and heat our homes, manufacture

goods, grow crops with tractors, power the Internet.

The main change in recent years has been that energy is increasingly centrally planned. Instead of a market deciding between fuels, the government picks favorites to subsidize, and then subsidizes the old ones, too, when it finds it has poisoned the market against them. Throughout the Western world energy markets are coerced. The development pipeline, corporate rhetoric, and fuel-market shares are all determined by policy.

This has some perverse consequences. Lobbied by firms such as General Electric, Sylvania, and Philips, governments all over the world forced consumers to give up incandescent light bulbs in favor of expensive compact fluorescent bulbs, ostensibly to save energy. All this achieved was a delay in the voluntary replacement of both by a much more efficient, safe, and reliable form of lighting: LEDs.

The world needs energy innovation if it is to reduce the use of fossil fuels, as

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(619) 203-4581
@resco_watches



Photo by @_bluecifer_



almost every politician now demands. But things such as electric cars merely displace the flame from engine to power station. Whether that reduces emissions at all depends on how much of the electricity comes from coal, gas or other sources, on how much energy is used to make the battery, and how long the battery lasts. Under even the most optimistic assumptions, the emissions reductions are small. And although the efficiency of energy consumption is improving, it cannot solve the problem. First, many people in developing countries are still without electricity or transport fuel. Energy demand will increase as their incomes grow. Second, as the economist William Stanley Jevons pointed out in 1865, if you make coal (or light or flight) cheaper, people use more of it. Efficiency gains increase demand.

It is in the generation, not the consumption, of energy that innovation is needed. Here there is another obstacle. History shows that you cannot demand a particular innovation and expect it to turn up, however generous the incen-

tives you offer. If you could, then the supersonic planes, routine space travel, and personal jetpacks we were promised in the 1950s would have long since arrived. Instead we have been using 747s for 50 years: We ran out of big innovations in transport.

For almost as long we have been asking inventors to find a way of generating cheap, reliable, and safe energy without producing carbon-dioxide. Frankly, it is now clear that renewables cannot do it. They tap low-density energy sources, so they need a lot of space. No amount of innovation will alter that constraint. There are not enough rivers to dam, tidal basins to barrage, or hills to festoon with wind turbines, at least not without destroying too much nature. It takes 150 tons of coal to make a wind turbine, and two tons of rare-earth metals. (Governments and market hucksters insist that wind energy is now cheap. Audited accounts of the firms that build wind farms reveal that this is untrue.)

There is enough desert space for the solar panels we would need—in

the Sahara mainly—but the cost of getting it to where the energy is used, and storing it for use during the night or turning it into jet fuel, remains astronomical, however fast the cost of solar panels themselves falls. As for waves, or ground-source heat pumps, or geothermal energy, they remain niche opportunities with little prospect of denting demand for oil and gas.

Nuclear power could supply all our needs from a comparatively tiny footprint of land and steel, but we have made innovation in nuclear all but impossible by massively increasing the cost and time required to license a new design. So we stick with an old and inefficient design that uses water coolant and solid fuel, while distorted energy markets leave the nuclear industry begging for subsidies equivalent to those received by the renewables industry. Molten-salt reactors will one day be more efficient, safer, and cheaper, but only if there is a revolution in regulation as much as one in technology. Keep your eye on Canada, which is trying to achieve this.

Fusion energy is another innovation we promised but failed to deliver. In theory a small quantity of heavy water (containing deuterium) and lithium (to make tritium) could power a town, if the atoms could be induced to fuse. It works in H-bombs. But doing this in a controlled way has proved elusive for half a century. There is renewed hope, however, that low-temperature superconductors and "spherical tokamak" designs may yet crack the problem of controlled fusion and that by 2040 we will have abundant, cheap, reliable energy on tap.

If that were to happen, through molten-salt fission or through fusion, imagine what we could do. We could synthesize fuel for transport, dismantle wind turbines and oil pipelines, stop burning trees in power stations, desalinate enough water to supply the human race without touching wild rivers, and suck carbon-dioxide out of the air. Above all, we could raise the standard of living of the poorest on the planet. It is surely worth a try.

Meanwhile, here is a worrying trend. Energy consumption in the West is stalling and in some sectors, such as electricity, falling sharply. No one really believes that efficiency accounts for all of that. What is going on?

In effect, the West has outsourced its energy consumption to China. Xi Jinping's announcement in September that China will be carbon-neutral by 2060 was merely a cheap headline-grabber. In the same speech he announced that China's emissions will rise until 2030 and, implicitly, remain high for quite some time thereafter. It's 30 years from 2030 to 2060. That was news.

China will Hoover up and employ as much of the world's fossil fuels as possible in the next few decades. Naïve divestment campaigns will simply play into Chinese hands. If Harvard sells its fossil investments, someone will buy them. Who?

With the wealth created from cheap coal, oil, and gas, China will then head for nuclear. Along with Russia, China has been involved in two-thirds of global nuclear development in the last 20 years. The future of energy thus depends on whether the West wakes up to the need to do the same or persists in its renewables folly until it is too late to change course.

From: [pam.minelli](#)
To: [EFSEC \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Thursday, January 7, 2021 11:43:22 AM

Pre-application public comment #P0013
Horse Heaven Hills Project
Docket #210011

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To Members of the EFSEC Council:

I hear the average life of a wind turbine is 20 years.

What is Scout Energy's plan for the disposal of 235 non-recyclable wind turbines in the HHH Wind Farm after 20 years?

What is the cost of disposal in dollars and to the environment?

Thank you in advance for your reply.

Pam Minelli