First let me thank you for listening to my comments. I'm strongly against the proposal to install windmills, solar panels and battery stations on the Horse Heaven Hills. I feel it is a waste of money. On paper it sounds great but in the long run it's not. Windmills require lots of maintenance, as do solar panels and batteries. They create a hazard to planes, and birds. They change our climate. We have sufficient power with our Hydro and Nuclear plants. Their is no way these can be justified. The only ones that benefit from them is the people who on the land.

Thanks

Ira Johnson

Attachments:

0
EFSEC

State of Washington

Comments on the Scope of the Environmental Impact

Ladies/Gentlemen,

In the ATTACHMENT below are my comments for the record for the proposed HORSE HEAVEN WIND FARM "Request for Comments" on the Determination of Significance/Scope of the Environmental Impact Statement notice dated May 11, 2021. I believe the items I have addressed in my comments are relevant for consideration in Determination of Significance and may either directly or indirectly determine the environmental impact of this project on Benton County and the State of Washington.

Craig Brown

70 year resident of Benton County

Attachments:

1
Input for the Washington State EFSEC Request for Comment--Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Proposal
March 25, 2021 (Attachments 1 and 2 Updated May 11, 2021)
This proposed wind farm by Scout Clean Energy (SCE) should be REJECTED for the following reasons.

1. Scout Clean Energy has been neither OPEN, TRANSPARENT, nor ACCURATE about facts concerning this project. Mr. Rucker, CEO, made a number of claims in an article printed in the Tri-City Herald on March 22, 2020. I requested additional information from SCE concerning these claims on multiple occasions to no avail. Their incorrect or misleading claims are discussed in ATTACHMENT 1. BAD PARTNER FOR THIS PROJECT.

2. The premise that this project is needed to stop climate change affecting Washington is false. It will do nothing of the sort, see ATTACHMENT 1. If you plot the maximum daily temperatures in Washington, i.e., at the Pasco airport from 1895 to 2017, the trend actually shows a slight cooling, not warming; even though CO2 has risen from (an apparently worrisome) 0.03% to .04%. At best the TIMING of this wind farm is completely out of step with actually reducing CO2 since China and other developing nations account for most CO2 and China will not be carbon neutral until 2060. These windmills will be worn out and gone by then. BAD TIMING FOR THIS PROJECT.

3. SCE was originally going to apply to Benton County for necessary permits and permission to build in the Horse Heaven Hills. Now they are bypassing the county and going to the state. What right does the state have telling BENTON COUNTY what they can and cannot do in their own county? This wind farm will block all the natural growth of the Tri-Cities, which is to the SOUTH through the Horse Heaven Hills to the Columbia River. If the state can override a county on a project like this then we have a bigger problem than just siting a wind farm. Historically, didn’t the last time something similar to this happened, a bunch of tea got dumped into a harbor? BAD LOCATION FOR THIS PROJECT.

In addition, as noted in ATTACHMENT 1, the 7th Northwest Power and Conservation plan has a charge to provide for development of the “…least-cost mix of adequate, efficient, economical, and reliable power supply for the state”. (Relying on LCOE or cost of installed capacity values only for assessing economics of fuel types can be misleading.) Intermittent wind and solar power are neither efficient, economical, nor reliable, in my opinion. Recent blackouts in California and Texas are in part due to reliability issues dealing with wind and solar.

ATTACHMENT 2 is a letter-to-the-editor of the Tri-City Herald printed February 21, 2021 which also addresses reasons I believe this wind/solar farm is not in the best interest of Benton County.

The picture of PRONGHORN ANTELOPE below was taken on February 10, 2021 along Sellards Road in the heart of the Horse Heave Hills. Such an experience to me is worth preserving.

Thanks,
Craig Brown
Richland
Do we need another Wind Farm in Benton County?
Written in May 2020/Updated 11MAY21/Rev. 5

I have lived in Benton County for over 70 years. On May 7 my 12-year-old granddaughter and I hiked up to the top of Badger Mountain. She counted 60 what looked like Great Basin Fritillary butterflies on the hike. We talked about how during the last Ice Age Lake Lewis was formed and filled the valleys up to a level of 1,250 feet up the side of Badger Mountain.

On March 22, 2020 the Tri-City Herald had a guest opinion in the paper about the benefits of wind energy in Benton County. Michael Rucker of Scout Clean Energy (SCE) said it would be 1) affordable, cost competitive, 2) reliable and 3) meet the needs of Washington communities. It would be 4) low impact. Scout Clean Energy also said 5) that millions of metric tons CO2 annually will be avoided with the wind farm. Mr. Rucker said this is a win-win for the community. I don’t think so, but you can judge for yourself.

1) Is it affordable and cost competitive?
With the addition of this wind farm the cost of electricity generated in Benton County will go up. It is estimated that the cost of energy from the wind farm to be at least 10 cents/kWh¹ not including grid balancing costs and decommissioning costs at end-of-life. Benton County’s nuclear Columbia Generating Station (CGS) electricity cost was an average of about 4 cents/kWh for the years 2018 and 2019. Even with a huge current federal subsidy for wind of about 2 cents/kWh (currently set to expire in 2020), the cost of wind energy will be at least 50%-100% higher than CGS, per the above estimate. But even this is a false comparison because non-dispatchable electricity has significantly less value than dispatchable². Benton county does not need more, expensive, non-dispatchable electricity from wind turbines strewn across about 61,000 acres of Benton County land.

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¹ cents/kWh= (turbines+ installation cost) + financing + operation and maintenance + transmission
2) **Is it reliable?**
As indicated above, this wind energy is only good if you don’t care when you get it. It is inherently not reliable because wind is intermittent. Scout Clean Energy says this wind farm supplies enough energy for 140,000 homes. Assuming a modest home in Benton County uses about 1,650 kWh/month, that is enough for about 66,000 homes, less than half that quoted by SCE. (It assumes in a given year the wind farm will generate about 1,314 GWh.) In addition, electricity provided will often be zero from the wind farm for extended periods.

3) **Does it meet the needs of Washington communities?**
This wind farm will meet the needs of California, not Benton County. California imports about 47% of its electricity. From 2017 to 2018 California increased its import of NORTHWEST HYDRO and NORTHWEST WIND electricity by 64% and 47%, respectively. California has been pushing to completely (100%) decarbonize the state’s energy supply by 2045. They say they are going to do it mainly with wind and solar, completely shunning nuclear. As stated by James Hansen, et al., in the Wall Street Journal in April 2019, “While the share of energy produced by solar and wind has grown rapidly, nuclear remains America’s largest source of clean, zero-emissions electricity. Anyone seriously interested in preventing dangerous levels of global warming should be advocating nuclear power.” Why should Benton County make up for this major folly in California energy planning by peppering our hills with costly, unreliable, inefficient wind turbines? (The capacity factor of the wind farm is about 25% compared to 92% for CGS.) The Governor of Washington is a stanch proponent of the California plan to radically transform the US energy system. His push for more wind in Washington only helps to make up the huge California deficit. **It is not in Benton County’s best interest to build a wind farm to bail out California.**
One of the mandates of the 7th Northwest Power and Conservation Plan (2016) is to provide for the development of the least-cost mix of adequate, efficient, economical, reliable power supply. It also indicates that one of the drawbacks to renewables like wind energy is a lack of dependable winter peak capacity and they also require within-hour balancing reserves. For future resources it states that new or advanced low-carbon technologies should be considered, including advanced nuclear energy. **Had California not shut down all their nuclear plants, they would not be importing electricity from Washington leading to the need for another wind farm.**

4) **Is it low impact?**
Wind energy is not low impact. For comparison purposes, it will take about 7 of these Scout Clean Energy wind farms to produce the same amount of electricity generated by Columbia Generating Station annually. That means 1,400 turbines occupying ~425,000 acres of land across the Horse Heaven Hills. A nuclear station like CGS requires only about 400 acres, less than 1.0% of wind.

5) **What is the benefit in avoiding about 5 million MT CO2?**
Scout Clean Energy says in an ad that this wind farm will reduce CO2 emissions annually. Put into some perspective, in 2018 all of the state of Washington wind energy avoided 2.4 million metric tons of CO2 emissions out of 35 billion metric tons of human emissions world-wide, out of 750 billion metric tons of CO2 emitted annually as part of the natural global carbon cycle of the earth. Ignoring the fact that water vapor is the main atmospheric greenhouse gas (36-72%) not CO2 (9-27%)\(^3\), this amount of CO2 savings will change the temperature of the earth nary a whit, i.e., less than .001 degrees C. As James Hansen has stated, "...suggesting that renewables will

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\(^3\) see Reference: ttps://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenhouse_gas.
let us phase rapidly off fossil fuels in the United States, ….or the world as a whole is almost the equivalent of believing in the Easter Bunny and Tooth Fairy.”

What benefit is this to Benton County? There will be no impact on Washington’s climate what so ever, one way or the other.

**Benton County has a choice.**
We can sell out our pristine views, vistas, and current wildlife in the Horse Heaven Hills to bail out the absolutely poor energy planning of the state of California, or we can preserve these lands for something better in the future. One thing is for certain, without the wind farm the Great Basin Fritillary butterflies will still be there.

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**NOTE:**
I have calculated the numbers here based on the best information I have, e.g., from Energy Northwest and other on-line websites. I asked Scout Clean Energy twice for information on what they assumed concluding that wind is “cost-competitive”, on March 29, 2020 and again on May 4. I received no reply March 29, but Mr. Javon Smith (SCE) did reply to my May 4 request, politely declining to provide essentially any information. He indicated that what was requested was either not available or confidential.

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BENTON County should have a say about proposed Wind Farm

Scout Clean Energy (SCE) has submitted a proposal for a 1,150 MW wind/solar farm in Horse Heaven Hills. SCE was initially going to apply for approval with Benton County but now has changed and gone directly to the state.

SCE has said they want to be open with residents about this project. They have provided no information to assess electricity rates for the power or who is buying it. SCE could receive an estimated $10.8 billion in revenue, of which BENTON county would get a scant $260 million in taxes over 35 years. They cite a need for 4,400 MW of additional power in the Pacific Northwest over the next decade. In 2018 the northwest sent 40 GWh of electricity to California, a third of which was wind power. Washington is not short of power, California is. Benton county should not keep subsidizing California’s short-sighted power planning, as it has done for decades.

So, what just happened here? The state of Washington and not BENTON county is now going to decide if SCE can dot 75,000 acres of beautiful, pristine vistas with windmills and solar panels? Ironically, the only climate that will change with this farm is BENTON county’s.

Craig Brown
Richland
We live in the Tripple Vista area of Southeast Kennewick and learned about Scout Clean Energy’s proposed plan to erect approximately 500-foot wind turbines on our all-encompassing view of the Horse Heaven Hills to the south of us. This project is of significant concern to us, from both an environmental and property valuation standpoint. We want to protect, save and preserve our ridges in the Horse Heaven Hills and keep those gigantic turbines away from our skylines. The Horse Heaven Hills are some of the most beautiful hills in our state and we don’t want our beautiful panoramic landscape ridges marred by a turbine wind farm. They are the home of bald eagles, burrowing owls, Canada geese, and the recently re-introduced pronghorn antelope. Our well-known local photographer, John Clement, recently posted a beautiful photo of the antelope on his Facebook page. One of my neighbors see the antelope frequently and are waiting for them to show off their newly born young ones.

This project would destroy twenty-four miles from Finley to Benton City of naturally beautiful hilltops overlooking the Tri-Cities. The annoying noise and flashing red lights at night will be an irritation to what is normally quiet, peaceful evenings. The view of our spectacular sunsets will be spoiled by these wind turbines! This wind farm will reduce our home values and cause difficulties in selling our home due to these distracting, intrusive turbines. Also, these gigantic turbines will injure and kill many migratory birds on their sky highway to the South such as sand hill cranes, Canadian geese, ducks, blue herons, snow geese (John Clement posted a picture of these on his web page too), etc. Thousands of these birds fly over our homes in the fall and I and my neighbors have pictures to prove it. If you want pictures, we will send them to you. I hear their delightful calls and watch them fly overhead while working in my yard. In the last few years, I’ve seen and heard eagles too; in fact, one of my neighbors took a picture of a Golden Eagle that had landed on a pole nearby and another neighbor had 3-4 young eagles in one of his trees! These turbines could injure, kill and devastate many predatory birds like bald eagles, hawks and owls. We don’t know how other bird species in our area will be affected like pheasants, doves, chukars, quail, hummingbirds, warblers, woodpeckers, finches, etc. We don’t know how it will affect the antelope that have recently migrated to the Horse Heaven Hills. As you can see, this project will be damaging in numerous ways to our area.

Our neighborhood plus many citizens in other neighboring cities don’t want these landscape-destroying projects connected to the electric grid for customers in far-away areas such as Los Angeles, Portland and Seattle. If they want the power, they can have these turbines in their back yard, not ours. We support the current government administrations effort to build more offshore wind sites where they are not visible from land and are much closer to the population centers where the energy is needed. We moved to the country to enjoy the beauty, peace and quiet it provides and don’t want it destroyed by ugly, noisy, irritating turbines that kill the magnificent birds that use the sky highway above us as they migrate south.

Thank you,

Gene & Judy Guse
Horse Heaven Wind Project
SEPA Scoping Comment Database Comments

104902 E Tripple Vista Dr
Kennewick, WA 99338

Attachments:

2
EFSEC Committee,

Building another wind farm on the Horse Heavens hills is a problem for our area. In discussions with fellow wine industry individuals there is a overwhelming consensus that this will negatively effect our tourism industry to see these monsters on the beautiful Horse Heavens landscape.

The wine and tourism industry is a multi-million dollar business that contributes significantly to our LOCAL economy. This out of state company that is proposing to build this project will build and leave the area. There will be no significant long term financial benefit to this project for our fragile local economy. There are many small family wineries and farms that are reliant upon the tourism industry. It is my understanding that the generated electricity will be sold out of state. We also have a significant number of bird life including red tail hawks that will be endangered by these machines.

Once the blades of these machines deteriorate the must be removed and placed in a land-fill. There are also instances of abandoned wind farms in the mid west that have become and issue for the locals. Without the government substitutes these wind farms cannot sustain themselves.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mark Tudor

Attachments:

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I am AGAINST Scout Clean Energy siting a 6500 acre wind project in the Tri-Cities region. These are my reasons that I hope you will consider thoughtfully to deny this project.

1) Scout Energy originally applied directly with the state, deceitfully circumventing our county government and the local citizens, who they knew were not in favor of this project. They instead were hoping they could ply EFSEC, and our Governor, to agree to this project because of Washington’s goal to be carbon free by 2045. This under-handed maneuver proved to me that they are not committed to my community nor will they be an honest and trustworthy company I want in my community.

2) According to their own data the majority of homes in the Tri-Cities and surrounding areas will see a minimum of 50 windmills from their home windows. Not only is this a disgusting thought but it will destroy any property value growth for our region. Would you want to look out at your view and see these monstrosities? If you are truly interested in this type of project, why not put it in your backyard?

3) Kennewick’s growth management plan will be impacted to the point that Kennewick will have issues managing future growth Property values will decrease overnight and our tourism economy will be affected because who wants to drink wine while staring at rusting wind turbines.

4) The wind turbines will be in direct flight of migrating birds killing and maiming hundreds of thousands over the lifetime of the project.

5) This is the wrong state to construct wind farms. According to Scout Energy, this farm’s installed capacity will be 1,150 megawatts, but in reality they are operating at a capacity factor of only 30%, thus they will only actually generate 345 megawatts operationally. And, wind turbines in this area of the state have a proven average capacity factor of only 27%. This in itself should determine this is the not the appropriate location for this project.

6) The Tri-Cities has two sources of renewable and clean energy power generation. The Snake River dams and the Columbia Generating plant. Each of these run circles around wind energy and generate consistent energy at more than 95% capacity even if the wind does not blow. Instead of wind maybe the state should consider more nuclear such as the proposed small nuclear plant to be constructed in north Richland.

7) Scout’s claim that this wind farm will offset 3.5 million tons of CO2 is not true. There is little fossil fuel in Washington State, and this wind power will only displace hydro, which again is a reliable and consistent renewable, and will have not effect on carbon emissions, no matter where this energy ends up.

8) The employment numbers, although robust in the building of the project, drops off exponentially when the turbines are operational. The project does not produce enough economic viability for this community, the power grid and the fact that they are unreliable and unsightly are more reasons to deny this project.
9) It is proven that the United States contributes only 15% of the environmental pollution and it is also a fact that these proposed projects will do nothing to benefit the world as there are larger polluters, i.e., China, that are ramping up to burn more coal power offsetting any good our little state plans to achieve by going totally green. This in and of itself should prove that these projects are worthless.

10) Lastly, I am really tired that Eastern Washington automatically is considered for these projects. Maybe west siders don’t think we are beautiful here but they are wrong and I am tired of seeing my beautiful landscape destroyed by projects that are forced upon me that I do not believe is feasible or appropriate for Washington. Let Seattle and the environmental conscientious west siders place these ugly monsters in their communities.

Please protect my community and DENY Scout Energy’s certification to build an unwanted, unsightly and energy deficient project in my backyard. If EFSEC is bound to have wind power in our state please consider locating them to downtown Seattle.

Thank you

Vicky Keller
Kennewick, WA

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Light and Glare-

1. Scout offered no mitigation of Flashing Aviation strobe lights. There are working technologies that are approved by the FAA in use on wind projects. These systems only activate the lights when there is an approaching aircraft. This as a minimum should be required of the developer.

2. Scout failed to inform EFSEC that such a system was being considered for the project. It may have once been in the draft application as the term ADLS(Advanced Detection Lighting System) is still listed in the ASC under the Acronyms and Definitions section, but not in the body of the ASC.

3. The ASC, Page 4-76, references a study performed for BLM that estimates the FAA lights would be visible for 36.2 miles. That is well outside the 25-mile buffer zone that was used in the viewshed analysis figures. Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area, Saddle Mountain National Wildlife Refuge, McNary National Wildlife Refuge, and the Umatilla Wildlife Refuge are all well within the 25-mile buffer zone. Toppenish Wildlife Refuge is just outside the buffer zone.

4. The analysis does not appear to estimate the number of highway travelers will see the project lighting. Considering Highway 395, I-84, I-82, I-182, just to name major routes. There will be literally millions of passengers that will view the lights.

5. Viewshed Analysis Figures 4.3.2 show virtually the entire tri-cities area within the viewshed of the project. The majority of Pasco will see over 200 turbines, as will Richland. Kennewick, and the Benton County Urban Growth areas will not see the entire project, but they will be much closer. Hermiston, Or will also be in the viewshed. The constantly flashing synchronized strobe lights will be a constant irritation, and will take away the peaceful quiet tranquil evenings that people in a rural setting have sought and expect. Even Hermiston, Or will be within the 36 mile visibility range.

6. Why did the application figures leave out landmarks such as roads and rivers? Doing so has made it difficult for interested parties to find out whether and how much they will be impacted.

7. Some of the technical sources utilized to evaluate the visual resource were dated BLM material, 1980’s, before wind projects were in general service. Newer BLM documents recommend use of Audio-Visual Warning Systems to mitigate FAA Aviation lighting for projects on or impacting BLM lands.

8. Last, the Horse Heaven Hills South of Kennewick are one of the few areas at night that are dark enough to see multiple stars, and in some cases the Milky Way. Using a mitigation technology would preserve this vanishing resource. It should be noted that the developer is sensitive to the Dark Sky initiative as all of the other lights are downward pointing.

All of these are valid reasons to require aviation lighting mitigation.

In the permitting lexicon the term Best Available Control Technology is most commonly used for fossil facility permitting for controlling emissions. BACT is required on new projects. Substituting the word Mitigation, if the flashing lights are considered an unwanted emission and there is a Mitigation
Horse Heaven Wind Project
SEPA Scoping Comment Database Comments

Technology available to reduce that emission, it should be required on this project as a permit condition to mitigate the impact of the strobe lights on the population, human and wildlife.

Attachments:

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Destroying the growth to the south of the Tri-Cities with rows of massive wind turbines is ludicrous. The fact is the turbines will do little to nothing to meet the future power needs of the Columbia Basin. Our area already supplies hydro and nuclear power making Washington one of the most carbon free power generators in the country and we have 2 more nuclear reactors slated begin construction very soon.

I see thousands and thousands of sand hill cranes fly directly into their path of the proposed turbans annually. It is clearly a migratory byway, one does not need to be an expert to understand that. Odd to me this is not being reported by any wildlife study I have seen.

Please question any information Scout provides. I have found their claims to be very misleading. For instance, only their community survey shows the Tri-cities in favor of this, all others are strongly opposed.

Please do the right thing and strongly suggest to the governor that this project in its entirety is wasteful, extremely negatively impacting to the area and should NOT be approved.

Attachments:

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I oppose the horse heaven hill project because it will ruin the view of the whole canyon. The noise and sound it will produce will be horrible. I’m worried about the wildlife it will harm.
I do not believe the proposed windmills are good for the Tri-city area or for the State as a whole. I am a retired engineer who was once the first energy engineer for Boise Cascade. I was also an energy auditor. I was once a speaker for the paper industry at a BPA symposium on cogeneration.

Opposition points are as follows:

1. The City of Kennewick is growing and moving toward the south. The wind turbines will preclude that growth to the south.

2. Electricity generated from wind turbines in the Tri-City area comes predominately in the spring and fall when there is fall less demand for electricity.

3. The generation of batteries to hold the quantity of electricity that could possibly be generated by the turbines is limited unless possibly huge amount of lithium can be produced and converted in what is now short term batteries. The cost to generate and later dispose of the lithium batteries is fall greater than the value of the electricity that could be stored.

4. The cost to produce and site the turbines will again be greater than the power that will be generated from the turbines.

5. I have not seen a plan to remove the turbines when their 15 to 20 year life cycle has been completed.

6. Esthetically, the unsightly wind turbines will be seen every day by many of the citizens of the Tri-Cities.

7. Right now antelope and deer roam the hills where the turbines will be constructed forever displacing those animals.

Attachments:

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Horse Heaven Wind Project
SEPA Scoping Comment Database Comments

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Please read this article (I don't know how to attach this as a file):
https://stopthesethings.com/2021/05/22/people-power-american-communities-unite-to-oppose-industrial-wind-power/

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SEPA Scoping Comment Database Comments

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Please find attached, a scoping comment letter from the Benton County Board of Commissioners, dated May 25, 2021.

Attachments:

1
May 25, 2021

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council  
Attn: Amy Moon  
621 Woodland Square Loop SE  
Lacey, WA 98504-3172  
amy.moon@utc.wa.gov

RE: Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project – Scope of EIS Comments

Dear Ms. Moon:

The Benton County Board of Commissioners approved the submission of the following scoping comments to the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) on May 25, 2021. The comments are submitted to you for consideration in determining the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project in Benton County.

The Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project, as proposed, includes the construction of a renewable energy generation facility that combines wind and solar facilities, and battery energy storage systems, with an energy generating capacity of up to 1,150 megawatts. With this, the applicant is requesting the permitting authorization for up to 244 wind turbine locations, along with a solar and battery component to the project.

EFSEC issued a Determination of Significance (DS) and a request for comments on the scope of the EIS for this project on May 11, 2021 to provide further analysis and discussion on numerous environmental elements associated with the project, including wildlife/habitat, visual/aesthetics, and land use. In the DS, EFSEC identified a number of areas which require additional information before determining the level of review in the EIS, including air, water, plants, energy and natural resources, environmental health, noise, light and glare, historic resources and cultural resources.

Benton County requests all the above identified probable significant environmental impacts and the above identified environmental elements be considered for not only the 244 wind turbines, but the solar and battery components as well.
The 26-mile project, consisting of a total project area of approximate 72,000 acres, is situated in an area of the Horse Heaven Hills with geological features comprised of naturally vegetated steep slopes, native habitat, commercially significant agricultural land, and unique views. The Horse Heaven Hills is one of the County's primary areas for dryland wheat production and in turn one the County's most valuable areas designated for long term commercially significant agriculture. The Comprehensive Plan policies direct the County to conserve and maintain agricultural land of long-term commercial significance, sustain the County's agricultural economy while discouraging incompatible uses, reduce the inappropriate conversation of agricultural lands, and protect critical areas, and visually prominent naturally vegetated steep slopes and elevated ridges that define the Columbia Basin landscape.

While Benton County is not in support of this project as proposed, the County encourages EFSEC to require a comprehensive analysis of the probable significant adverse environmental impacts of the entire project. The County requests that all direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts be considered. In many instances the impacts should be evaluated on a site-specific basis for each turbine, solar array, and/or battery facility, taking into account the road, infrastructure, construction, and facility impact of each.

The overall potential impacts of the project that should be reviewed in the EIS should include those impacts to long-term commercially significant agricultural lands, birds, wildlife, plants, habitat, water supply, public health, property values, tourism, emergency services, roads, and views/aesthetics.

Please consider the following significant adverse impacts for further analysis and study in the EIS:

2. Consistency/compliance with the Benton County Comprehensive Plan.
3. Consistency/compliance with the Benton County Zoning Ordinance.
4. Consistency/compliance with the Benton County Critical Area Regulations.
5. Loss and impact to the County's long-term commercially significant agricultural lands.
6. Compatibility/incompatibility and impact to the County's agricultural lands.
7. Loss and impact to the County's open space and natural resources.
8. Loss and impact to the County's natural resources, including, but not limited to, habitat and plants, habitat connectivity, corridors, along with the County's locally significant habitat species and areas.
9. Loss, alteration, degradation and impact to the County's functions and values (quantitative and qualitative) of habitat.
10. Impact to ephemeral and intermittent stream channels and associated Fish and Wildlife Conservation Areas.
11. Impact to Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas, impacts to hydrology and groundwater contamination.

12. Impact to the County road system. A complete, independent, site specific analysis for each portion of the County road system that will be impacted by the project.

13. Individual site impacts of shadow flicker and compliance with industry standards.

14. Fire risks including, impact to public safety, emergency services and fire suppression. An analysis of the project's impact to local emergency responders, the need for on-site fire flow for each facility, and a study of the equipment needed to provide emergency services.

15. Impact to visual and aesthetic resources. The project will cover approximately 43% of the entire Horse Heaven Hill ridgeline which is an iconic geological feature that visually defines Benton County. The project will be seen by 83% of the area within 10 miles of the project; Impacts to urban areas; Impacts to rural residential areas.

16. Impact to the economy, including the wine and agricultural industries, and tourism.

17. Impacts and setbacks for solar array proposals including screening, traffic impacts, glare, and specific site locations.


Benton County appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the scope of the project's EIS. The County encourages a comprehensive analysis of the probable significant adverse environmental impacts including a site-specific evaluation for each facility site in the proposed project.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jerome Delvin
Approved Telephonically

Jerome Delvin, Chairman

Shon Small
Approved Telephonically

Shon Small, Member

Will McKay
Approved Telephonically

Will McKay, Member
Horse Heaven Wind Project
SEPA Scoping Comment Database Comments

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<td>00013</td>
<td>aVYMmEj</td>
<td>Sarah Cawley</td>
<td>Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation</td>
<td>PO Box 3434, Great Falls, MT 59403</td>
<td><a href="mailto:director@lewisandclark.org">director@lewisandclark.org</a></td>
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Historic Resources and Visual/Aesthetics

The information that we have been provided indicates the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project would have a significant and negative effect on the viewshed of the Columbia River, Snake River and portions of the Yakima River that are within the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Our organization has inspected the area of the proposed encroachment of the river viewsheds, and we agree that the proposed Project will have detrimental effects on the rivers within the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. In addition, the visual effect at Sacajawea State Park and Interpretative Center would be significant and in a negative manner, with approximately 200 of the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project’s 244 towers visible. This portion of the Columbia River, Snake River, and Yakima River is an integral part of the LCNHT.

Significant Expedition locations and campsites in the 10 mile buffer zone include campsite of October 16-17, 1805 at Sacajawea State Park and Interpretative Center at the mouth of the Snake River; Captain William Clark’s view of the Yakima River on October 17, 1805; campsite of October 18, 1805 near Spring Gulch; campsite of April 26, 1806 at Fourmile Creek; campsite of April 27-28, 1806 at Yellepit; campsite of April 29, 1806 near Wallula, and campsite of April 30, 1806 on the Touchet River. There are also several area locations described by the Expedition involving rapids, Native American settlements and other unique features.

Attachments:

0
Visual/Aesthetics

Please do not allow this project to proceed! I have lived in this area my entire life (61 years) and have witnessed many viable and worthy projects that were beneficial to our residents but this is not one of them!! Our beautiful hillsides throughout Washington and Oregon are being overrun with these ugly, ineffective and inefficient windmills! Enough is enough! The long term effects, besides the unsightly views, will be devastating to our environment and habitat. PLEASE do not allow this company to destroy what little of beauty and open land we have left!

Attachments:

0
I am strongly opposed to the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project. This project is simply too close to many residential neighborhoods, including my own. Surely there must be some standards to prevent these projects from being built in the backyard of an urban area.

In particular, my daylight view of our beautiful Horse Heaven Hills are spoiled, and at night we will see the relentless flashing red aviation lights. No matter what has been presented by the developer, residences close to the project, especially with views will have property value loss.

Attachments:

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I am concerned about the proposed wind project now being proposed for the Horse Heaven Hills. My residence has a view of the HHH, and with property value concerns, the closeness of the project, and the synchronized aviation lights that will destroy our quiet evenings, I am wondering what the quantified benefits are to the citizens of Washington State. I am all for renewable power, but nothing I have seen or read indicates that Washington will get any of those benefits.

I would think a Council with the power that you wield would ensure that not only the wildlife is not harmed, but also look after ordinary people and their interests.

Please reject this project.

Attachments:

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I am commenting about the proposed Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project and wish to add my opposition. The aesthetics of taking a beautiful landscape and spoiling it with a large number of industrial machines just sickens me.

I am an artist, and about three years ago in a Plein Air art contest, I painted a view of the Horse Heaven Hills from my back deck. My piece won an award specifically regarding the use of light contrast to highlight the landscape. And all I did was paint the Hills as they are. I did not have to make any enhancements. The natural beauty of the Hills was enough on its own.

Your committee being from the West Coast may not appreciate the rolling hills, arroyos, and steep escarpments, but there is stark beauty that this unique feature. Please consider what will be taken away by this project, and ask yourself whether it is worth it. I have attached a picture of the HHH taken from my back deck. And please note in the picture how many other residences that will be much closer.

I am sure that you will recognize the beauty of the HHH from the picture.

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<td>5/29/2021</td>
<td>00018</td>
<td>cPGmEgz</td>
<td>Jackie Banning</td>
<td></td>
<td>86715 E Haven View PR SE Kennewick, WA 99338</td>
<td><a href="mailto:joobann12@gmail.com">joobann12@gmail.com</a></td>
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Urging you to require ALL possible studies of environmental impact for the Horse Heaven Hills wind farm proposal! There will be so much damage and loss if this wind farm is allowed to proceed without exhausting EVERY possible environmental impact. We will lose so much if this is allowed to be built on our ridges! So many indigenous birds will be affected both grouse and flying. Their natural habitat will be destroyed and there will be no place safe for them. Not to mention the impact on local plants and other wildlife as well as the beautiful unobstructed landscape here. The littering of our ridges has got to stop! We are strongly opposed to this project.

Attachments:

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To whom it may concern,

As a land owner who will directly be in the visual path of the wind turbines, I’m tired of trying to appeal to your sensibilities. I’ve sent photos, videos of landowners that were persuaded into accepting money for the use of their land, confessions of people that regret their decisions to comply, and groups that are fighting to shut these “Green Energy” farms down!!

I’ve researched and watched many stories from the U.S. and International videos of people rejecting this idea of “ideological future warriors!!” Wind Turbines, solar power, massive battery storage! They’re the way of the future! 🌊 🌊 Texas didn’t fair very well this last winter!

Since these activities have happened, I have come to find out that Scout Clean Energy, Seattle,Olympia, and surrounding west coast communities don’t want the wind farms in their backyards! They’re ugly and intrusive and they want them somewhere else! They want them in my backyard, literally!! I live in Horse Heaven Hills!! Our own Governor ignores our objections and is determined to move his agenda forward without even listening to the people he represents! This farm will not be beneficial to the Tri-City area as we receive NO ENERGY from these towers, they will destroy an AVA Wine designated area of land, displace many species of animals; we had deer come through our property this morning, and have a small herd of antelope that live across our road, not to mention the avian population; Redtailed Hawks, Sandhill Cranes, Geese, Owls, and small migratory birds!!

The towers will destroy our tourism that caters to wineries, water sports; we host the Hydroplane races here, and ball games of all sorts for our young athletes!!

We receive no power from these monsters and we are very “Green” due to our close proximity to the hydro dams on our Great Columbia River!! We also as communities, have embraced the Nuclear plant that is at Hanford!! If you were considering a power plant, what about a Modular Nuclear plant ??

Please consider NOT APPROVING OF THE WIND TURBINE FARM!! Our communities HEALTH, WELLBEING, LIVELIHOODS, GROWTH, and FUTURE GENERATIONS ARE AT STAKE!! I’M BEGGING, PLEASE DO NOT PUT THESE TOWERS ON OUR HORSE HEAVEN HILLS!! Thank you for reading this!!

Karen Richardson

Attachments:
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Do not limit the scope of impact. The only reason to limit the scope is because the wind farm companies are afraid of the results. Do the right thing for Benton County.

Attachments:

0
Please save our ridges. Our local community will not benefit from the wind turbines and we shouldn't need to harm our views and environment so an out of state company can make a profit.

Attachments:

0
This project should not be allowed because of the visual pollution across miles of our skyline. Imagine looking at sunsets and seeing windmills blocking the vistas. Noise is also a detrimental factor. There are many negatives to this project for our area and not much to be gained. This project should not be allowed.

Attachments:

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We don't want these here. We've repeatedly said NO, go away. The fact that those with money, can for what they will on the folks who live, work and have to see these damn things, is enraging. No wind farms.

Attachments:

0
Date Received: 5/30/2021  
Comment #: 00024  
ID: 9kpG0gl  
First name: Ginger  
Last name: Cook  
Organization:  
Mailing address: 1372 Alla Vista Street, Richland, WA 99352  
Email address: gingercook29@yahoo.com  
Subscribed to mailing list: True

I am writing in opposition to wind and solar farm along 24 miles of our Tri-Cities' southern ridge line: atop Horse Heaven Hills, from Benton City, running through Kennewick and on to Finley.

Obviously, this project was kept from the residents of these areas due to the impact it would have on the aesthetics, the noise from the rotors, health problems caused by infra-sound, and the killing of birds.

Reports show that turbine neighborhoods suffer from sights and sounds of the spinning blades causing headaches, nausea and other health problems. This is caused from both the noise from the rotors and low-frequency "infra-sound."

Thousands of birds and bats are killed annually by wind turbines. Deaths include collision and barotrauma—internal injuries caused by exposure to rapid pressure changes near the trailing edges of moving blades.

The wind and solar farm will destroy a beautiful area and cause future health issues to both humans and wild life.

Attachments:

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May 29, 2021

To: EFSEC Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts regarding the Horse Heaven Hills wind farm. Although I consider myself an environmentalist I do not support the location for the proposed HHH wind farm. It’s just too close to 300,000 people. The change to the skyline will be dramatic. Unfortunately due to COVID, the EFSEC has not been able to visit the Tri Cities. Please find attached two photos for some visual context. The map shows the proximity of the wind farm to the population most impacted. Scout has indicated that the closest Turbine will be a minimum of 4 miles from Kennewick. As you can see there are THOUSANDS of people who live south of the city limits and have a MUCH closer proximity.

The second photo is taken from a subdivision called Summit View. It has over 400 homes each enjoying dramatic views of the hills. This photo is from the backyard of a homeowner. Also there are over 5 subdivisions south of the city boundaries of Kennewick which involves thousands of homes. I think Scout has understated the magnitude of the impact on a large percentage of the Tri Cities population outside of Kennewick.

A final thought: there are VERY few Tri Citians who are aware of the wind farm. For those who have heard of it have few details. According to the results of a Kennewick Chamber of Commerce most oppose it by a large margin. Once the construction of the turbines begin to come into view on the skyline, Tri Citians will be upset knowing they have been bypassed.

The view of green energy in Washington State, especially in eastern WA, will be met with significant opposition.

The Wind Farm is just too close.

Thank You,

Mike Minelli

Attachments:

2
THE VIEW FROM SUMMIT VIEW SUBDIVISION
(Similar Views of other subdivisions not in Scout Application)
Horse Heaven Wind Project
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<td>b2mHTBC</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>Williams</td>
<td></td>
<td>4921 W Park St</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rethanas@gmail.com">rethanas@gmail.com</a></td>
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Please require full environmental impact statements to be collected for all windmill projects in Washington. The process is there for good reason and skipping steps is not fair to the citizens and wildlife that are directly impacted by the project.

Attachments:

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I oppose foreign owned companies buying our energy resources, whether solar farms or wind farms !!

I oppose the building of the wind farm because it is not ecologically green as the turbine blades don’t decompose. Nuclear energy is cheaper and more effective.

Attachments:

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Please request the full environmental impact study for this. The benefits are questionable. Benton county commissioners, tricites chamber of commerce Kennewick city council and most other local agencies are against this. The community is against this. There are other places than right in our community to build a wind farm.

Power won't offset carbon emissions, and will most likely be sold out of state.

Please deny this request. The community doesn't need or want them.

Attachments:

0
I strongly object to these windmills for the following reasons:

1. Scout Energy has purposely bypassed Benton County's Conditional Permit process which has been set in place to protect surrounding resident's property values, safety, and well being. Will the EFSEC protect us?

2. Windmills at this height (as tall and taller than The Space Needle) have never been placed so close to residential communities and the blinking red lights at night will ruin the skylight in this community, what does Scout Energy propose to solve this problem? Have they proposed to post a bond to reimburse residents for the value lost in their homes, and take care of any residents suffering from mental and emotional anguish caused by these monstrosities towering over them?

3. It is my understanding that Seattle residents didn't want these things in their back yard to satisfy their carbon footprint so it's ok to put them in our backyard even tho we have satisfied our carbon footprint? Benton County residents will not take kindly to this if this is true.

4. What has Scout Energy proposed to protect all the residents on Clodfelter Rd. From all the large cement truck traffic that will take place if this is approved?

5. We had a Golden Eagle we were watching close to our property on Clodfelter, how does Scout Energy propose to protect these Birds?

6. Wildfires are very dangerous in our area and windmills are notorious for starting fires, what does Scout Energy propose to protect us from this danger?

Attachments:

0
We are opposed to the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project. This project will forever alter the scenic views of our ridges, and the Windmills will be extremely loud. The Windmills will have an affect on our touristy. The energy generated will not be used in the Tri-Cities area but will be distributed to the west side and California.

The turbines will be detrimental to the large migratory bird and bat flyway. This Wind farm will forever change the Tricities.

The Wind farm shouldn't be allowed it will change Horse Heaven Hills forever.

Attachments:

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I have lived in Badger Canyon for 16 years and did not build my home here to have to stare at windmills from my deck every night. They will impact migratory birds as well and are not environmentally friendly. The electricity is not needed here either. I am against this project.

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<td>9K3Etph</td>
<td>Shelley</td>
<td>Havenor</td>
<td>Citizen</td>
<td>98104 E. Christine Dr. Kennewick, WA 99338</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ShelleyHavenor@msn.com">ShelleyHavenor@msn.com</a></td>
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We live in an area where energy is easily made by dams and nuclear plants. Adding wind turbines along the Horse Heaven Hills for miles is not necessary. People still use these areas for riding horses and hiking. Please do not build here.

Thank you,

Shelkey Havenor

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<td>aE1xeF7</td>
<td>Linda</td>
<td>Sterling</td>
<td></td>
<td>26711 Dallas Road</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindaa@sgsterling.com">lindaa@sgsterling.com</a></td>
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No to Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project.

Attachments:

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Eastern Washington already supplies most of the Northwest Power and beyond. If Western Wa or California need more power they have wind and ridges of their own! It is past time to put the infrastructure where the power is going rather than desecrate the hilltops and ridges of Eastern WA.

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<td>Judi</td>
<td>Hastings</td>
<td></td>
<td>5104 thrush ct</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jhastings@cebridge.net">jhastings@cebridge.net</a></td>
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No wind farms here. Enough land is polluted with those monster things that are not worth the money. Not to mention, where will they go when done working? Just be left standing? We do fine with nuclear and solar power. We don’t need wind also. Too many around as is!

Attachments:

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We love the beauty of the open hills, valleys, fields, ridges and unmolested nature of Southeastern Washington State. Please don’t further encroach on our greatest natural resource.

Attachments:

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It's a perfect place for a wind farm. It's windy. VERY windy. I'd rather see windmills than smoke stacks or cooling towers or another dam.

Count me as a VOTE FOR IT!

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<td>52 Galaxy Lane</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lexic.yellowdog@gmail.com">lexic.yellowdog@gmail.com</a></td>
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Getting elected doesn’t make a person smart. Please try to prove me wrong by rejecting this stupid idea.

Attachments:

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Wind is a poor substitute for reliable power sources like hydro or nuclear.

Let us spend our money on something reliable!

I really value the open ridge views we have in this area. It would be a shame to populate those views with wind turbine towers.

Attachments:
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I am 100% against this. I do not want turbines to be placed on our hills.

Attachments:

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Please don't put windmills so close to our communities. They ruin our beautiful landscape.
Horse Heaven Wind Project  
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<td>Marla Moomaw</td>
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<td>12702 N Gap Rd Prosser, WA 99350</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mk_moomaw@yahoo.com">mk_moomaw@yahoo.com</a></td>
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No don’t want or need the windmills they are ugly and not enough landfills when they need to be discarded!

Attachments:

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I strongly oppose this. Do not bring in the windmills.

Attachments:

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I am against any more wind farms in my area. Why? Bird kill, non-recyclable, and a total waste of money! Not to even mention the view. When our first ones were built, I didn't mind, but now hate them. Out here we are desert, with our main view being the hills, storms breaching them! Beautiful! Now my main view is of ugly windmills and blinking red lights at night. I would suggest you build your wind farms near where the electricity will be used!! Seattle area and California. Not ruin our lives with more of these money wasting, limited life span pieces of CRAP!!!
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<td>1zondxB</td>
<td>Shannon Verduzco</td>
<td>Keller Williams Realty</td>
<td>818 S Neal Ct Kennewick, WA 0</td>
<td><a href="mailto:s.chauncey@kw.com">s.chauncey@kw.com</a></td>
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Do not support!

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<td>2uHEwyc</td>
<td>Theresa Richardson</td>
<td></td>
<td>1750 Meadow Hills Dr Richland, WA 99352</td>
<td><a href="mailto:trichardson55@gmail.com">trichardson55@gmail.com</a></td>
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We don’t want this here!

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<td>30qGfyG</td>
<td>Veronica</td>
<td>Kenney</td>
<td></td>
<td>277 Adair Dr. Richland, WA 99352</td>
<td><a href="mailto:veronica.kenney@gmail.com">veronica.kenney@gmail.com</a></td>
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Please know that I and my family are in 100% support of the landowner's rights to farm wind in the House Heaven Hills. We are local to the Tri Cities, we use the trails, and enjoy the beautiful landscape. But we understand and support the needs of the landowner's and our environment as we seek to server greater energy needs.

Thank you for coming too our area!

Attachments:
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Wind turbines have a demonstrated short life and are not feasible without government subsidies. They are also an eyesore; whatever happened to polluting the landscape with unsightly objects.

Attachments:

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These inefficient monstrosities do not belong on our ridgelines or anyone else's. Not only do they despoil the environment they adversely destroy property values. I promise to be a vocal adversary of this proposed project.

Attachments:

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We oppose the wind farm in the Horse Heaven Hills. We do not need wind energy in this area that has abundant hydro and nuclear power.

Attachments:

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I would normally voice opposition to any ‘green’ energy simply because the politicians have skewed it so that hydro and to a lesser extent nuclear power are not included. This the abundant resources we have here we cannot use and out utilities are forced to purchase more expensive ‘green’ power that they have benefitted from through lobbyists. But these are a horrible idea. The power is not consistent and will go elsewhere, the lights from the massive number of them is horrible, and they are ugly as hell.

Attachments:

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Please don't approve the wind turbine project! The turbines are inefficient, won't benefit our local community, and destroy our beautiful views forever! The local community is not supportive of this project! This is too close to the Tri Cities which has 300,000+ people.

Attachments:

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The sky line south of our home is beautiful to look at and we visit frequently to watch the sunset between Mt Adams and Mt Rainier. It is a peaceful place to go for a walk and unwind. That will be ruined by the building of wind turbines that won’t even benefit our community with cheaper power. I am opposed to the building of turbines on horse heaven hills.
I do not agree with the build of the turbines. The turbines would not only create an eye sore, they are a big piece of litter that once broken have to be buried in the ground. They cannot be reused and will not only take up or real state but will also destroy our ground. Our area has a source of power with energy northwest and the dams around us. There is no reason to take over our beautiful country side for someone else’s power! The power created from the turbines they want to place here will not even supply the tricities area. So I do not support the construction of turbines on our horse heaven hills.

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<td>91cDdK6</td>
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<td>Wilz</td>
<td></td>
<td>5704 Mulberry Dr</td>
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It's proven that these turbines need fossil fuels to create and maintain. And what happens to them when they cease to function?? Either sit there or tear them down and end up in a landfill! No turbines anywhere!!!!!

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<td>James</td>
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<td>County resident</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jameswarrenfamily@gmail.com">jameswarrenfamily@gmail.com</a></td>
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Please do not ruin our great horizon with these ugly white contraptions.

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The proposed "wind farm" on Horse Heaven Hills is not only an eyesore, but is located directly on the path of migratory birds, will destroy the surrounding natural landscape while under construction, and is falsely labeled as "green energy". The construction and transportation of these windmills is so far from carbon zero as to be ludicrous to bolster the ridiculous claim to be green energy. And where is the plan for recycling when they reach their design life and have to be removed - just loading up a huge landfill - using more carbon energy to remove? The temporary construction jobs are of little lasting economic benefit and the so-called permanent jobs and very few. The cost to the environment - both physically and aesthetically is way too high and the potential energy generated is not efficient and I suspect will cost taxpayers much more than it benefits them. This area already has real carbon free energy that meets current needs and there are proposals being developed for real carbon free energy to address future needs. I adamantly oppose the defacement of Horse Heaven Hills by constructing this unneeded, unnecessary, environmentally destructive wind farm, that has a short life span, is not green energy and does not provide a real, long term solution to future energy needs - it just lines the pockets of the construction company.

Attachments:

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According to LLNL flow charts WA state electrical grid is almost 100% renewable with access electrical generation going to California. Instead of putting up more wind turbines in Washington to support California needs why not put them up in California where they are needed.

Attachments:
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As I sit at my computer writing these comments, I look south and am once again amazed at the beauty, livability and environmental soundness our community treasures, and now stands to lose. It is profoundly important that this project and its proposer be scrutinized closely. I strongly encourage EFSEC to require the proposer to include and comment on the following issues, statements and significant adverse impacts to the Tri-Cities:

-compliance with all state and local plans, requirements, rules;
-loss/degradation of open space, natural resources, wildlife and habitat;
-degradation of quality of life to people and animals including harm from noise, vibration, motion and glare;
-create a plan with monetary guarantees for maintaining the project in good repair;
-create a plan with monetary guarantees for complete restoration of the entire area when the proposer or any successor(s) no longer use the project.

Finally, the proposer should be required to satisfactorily explain why it chose this area for the project instead of a remote area where few or no people would be subjected to and horribly injured by its presence.

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<td></td>
<td>P.O. Box 68 Prosser, WA 99350</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vvictoria16@hotmail.com">vvictoria16@hotmail.com</a></td>
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No on Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project

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<td>Theresa</td>
<td>Puthoff</td>
<td></td>
<td>5211 N Hayford Rd</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tlynnputhoff@gmail.com">tlynnputhoff@gmail.com</a></td>
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Please !!!

Going through with this project will be like building the dams on the Columbia. Do we really need this many wind turbines?? How many acres will be destroyed, with it.... animals/flowers/water flows. The list goes on. For what?? Power to be sold to other states.

Born and raised in Washington, I have seen the changes through that area. Most of it for us humans and only us.

Think out of the box and let’s bring being more self contained. Helping with neighbors and individuals with solar power and wind power there!!

Please listen too the people who care instead of money.

Thank you

Cheers

Theresa Puthoff

Attachments:

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I do not want this project to be approved.

Attachments:

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The windmills are not "green energy" or even "clean energy". They take lots of oil to be able to spin, and all that plastic cannot be recycled. They fill up landfills. They don't save money in energy costs. Nuclear energy is the cheapest energy source that we know of. Those windmills also destroy the beauty of the landscape. We don't want any more in WA. NO MORE! Leave Benton and Franklin counties alone! Leave the Horse Heaven Wind Farm project a thing of the past! Stop forcing all your liberal and progressive crap on everyone else! We don't want them! They do not bring about what theuberals and progressives claim!

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<td>John</td>
<td>Allison</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jeallison42@msn.com">jeallison42@msn.com</a></td>
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277 tower obstacles 65 feet taller than the Space Needle is an ugly visual blight and belongs in Seattle where it will do less environmental damage.

Attachments:
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We do not want the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project to proceed. I consider it a form of rural blight. The minimal benefits do not outweigh the negative consequences to the surrounding ding area. We strongly recommend not approving the Wind Farm.

Attachments:

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This is a beautiful area that will be ruined by the wind towers. Don’t put them there.

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I am opposed to anymore wind farms on our hills around the Tri-Cities area. They are ugly and take away the beauty of the area. They kill birds and displaced ground animals. The natural vegetation is destroyed. Blowing dust while under construction is a concern and long after.

Attachments:

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Constant red flashing lights will ruin the tranquility of our evenings and loss of ability to enjoy our property. The only dark sky area close to us, South and over the HHH will be lost as a result of night lighting and flashing lights. I do not want my view to be flashing lights. My husband hunts and wind farms are for the middle of NOWHERE. We see them all the time when hunting in the middle of nowhere and would like to keep it that way! They do not need to be here!

I think this will negatively affect the local wine industry. People will no longer visit for wine so they don’t have to look at a bunch of wind turbines?
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No. No more wind turbines. They mar the landscape and are an inefficient source of energy. They are a danger to the birds that migrate and live in the area. We have been asked and asked for input the answer is NO.

Attachments:

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we all know this is politically motivated. Gov. Inslee's desire to be the 'greenest' governor in history at the expense of proven, clean energy has opened the door for eyesore projects like this.

Hydro and nuclear power are far cleaner, more efficient, and produce massively more amounts of energy. wind turbines clutter the horizon, kill birds, and lower property values and aesthetics. And, not to mention what happens at end of life and they have to be disposed of-buried. not exactly small.

It's ironic that those who push these so-called "green" energy projects don't realize they clutter the environment far more than a dam or a nuclear power plant--especially the smaller microreactors that are being developed. I oppose this and other similar dumpster fires being planned in our area.

NO, NO, NO on the Horse Heaven Hills project. it will destroy a pristine natural beautiful area.

Attachments:

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This project is not appropriate to the area. Would limit recreational opportunities and I could see this being a extreme hazard for first responders most especially during fire season. You might check with the military as it is also near one of their low fly zones.

Attachments:

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We do not need windmills in our county!!

Attachments:
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These large unsightly monsters belong in a remote area, not where our pristine view is located. Also it is my understanding that more than likely the power produced will be shipped to places that will receive benefits of power without any of the detrimental affects, or mating of the countryside. My family voted no to this proposal.

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<td><a href="mailto:sunshinedherin99336@gmail.com">sunshinedherin99336@gmail.com</a></td>
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I do not support wind turbines in this area. They increase the temperature on the ground around them and are unsightly leading to decreased tourism. The environmental costs to make and dispose of them outweigh any kind of benefits. There has been a proposal of a unique and safe nuclear power plant for our area that I support.

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These are not very useful. Please do not spend tax dollars here.

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These wind mills ruin a landscape. They light up the night with flashing lights and make it look like an airport. From my understanding most of the power generated from these wind turbines gets used down in Californina. I have heard that jobs will be created for these, but they are short term jobs and very few long term. The cost outweighs the benefits.

Attachments:

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Please stop the scourge of these eye sores. They also severely impact migrating bird populations, which we see a lot of in the TriCities. Once these things are built, the death sentences of countless migrating birds will be signed by a greedy corporation. Those red flashing lights are just more on top of already horrid light pollution in our skies. NO NO NO NO to this INSANE idea and these bullies who think they can walk all over mere citizens just because they have money. The citizens are speaking up. NOT HERE!

Attachments:

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As a lifelong resident of the Tri-Cities (born in Richland 63 years ago), I would vote a resounding "NO" to these!

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<td>, WA</td>
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I am completely opposed to the proposed Scout Energy project that would place as many as 277 turbines over a 24 mile stretch from Finley up through the Horse Heaven Hills area.

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I am opposed to these wind generators being installed upon the Horse Heaven Hills. They are ugly and a fire hazard.

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This is unneeded. Look for more viable options for energy. Quit destroying our landscape with equipment that only benefits the person who sold the land or leased it. It does nothing for our community but add machines to our skyline.

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I absolutely appose any further degradation of the Horse Heaven Hills the wind turbines are a disgrace. The migratory path for the Canadian Geese as well as other birds will be decimated. We are already energy rich and live with catastrophic consequences if the dams or Nuclear plant fails. Wind energy is not viable so put the close to the people that will use the power. This is politics at its worst.

Thank you

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I support the project. I like the clean energy it will provide, the tax revenue to local governments and that all the ridges with turbines on them can't be destroyed with houses.

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We do not have enough wind consistency for this to make sense, put your wind turbines in tornado alley, it's been windy for a few days this year now but it's summer and tell me how nice it would be to HAVE some wind now and the next 3 months in these temperatures .. bad idea when I go through the gorge and seen 100's of non moving turbines
I am against the installation of wind turbines at this location largely due to environmental impact but also aesthetic concerns for communities and individuals.

Attachments:

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Research has shown that wind power is incredibly expensive to produce versus what it can capture in energy. This project is slated to be far too close to town for energy we don’t need. Our hydroelectric power provides for our power needs and some. Please take your windmills to California or somewhere else that is in need of additional power generations. The windmills are also ugly.
I believe the proposed wind farms are against the wishes of most of the people that live in the Area they will be built. In addition to being a huge eyesore, I personally think there are far better options for alternative power, and ample space nearby to pursue them.

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I oppose the Scout wind farm. This will ultimately raise my electric rates. I will gain no benefit from this project. I oppose this project for all the reasons stated in the Benton PUD letter of opposition.

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please consider local resident feedback such as mine, and do not allow construction of these monstrous eyesores that would litter our beautiful landscape, visible from all our communities.

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I am against the Horse Heaven Windfarms. They are not needed as we already are provided with good clean energy from all the hydroelectric dams in the area. Additionally it is wrong and blatant greed for an out-of-state entity to completely destroy the clear views of the eastern Washington environment and the beautiful rolling hills for tens of thousands of local residents for power generation, not even for our use but sent instead hundreds of miles away and to other states.

Why should our environment be ruined for the benefit of others? These incredibly large eyesores, if built there, WILL cause a significant amount of money out of thousands of people's pockets in the form of depressed property values - again to zero benefit to us and massive income for an out-of-state company.

Environmentally we have significant issues with dust in the air. This windfarm will make this situation worse for us. The light pollution from these things will ruin for thousands of people, our enjoyment of the dark and clear nighttime sky.

Bottom line is why should we have to bear all the various significant costs (tangible and intangible), and sacrifice our environment and scenic beauty to our detriment for people out of our state to get rich? Sending power far away for absolutely zero benefit to us and we suffer all the permanent losses.

We are being asked to sacrifice a great amount so that others can get rich?

Attachments:

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I am completely against the horse heaven wind farm! We don’t want them in our view and they are way too big! No no no! We moved here to be able to have a beautiful view not of a wind farm!

Attachments:

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The proposed wind farm on the Horse Heaven Hills south of Kennewick isn't a good idea. More people are against the idea than are for it. The Benton Public Utility district, Port of Benton, and Port of Pasco are against this also. This needs to be a decision made on the local level and not the state level. Let us citizens put it to the vote of the people. We don't want our animals killed, our scenery ruined, sound pollution, and so on all to have electricity who is owned by an out of state company sold to other states.

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I oppose the placement of a wind farm in Benton County. The population of Benton County is large enough that this farm impacts too many people with its light and noise pollution. Visually this farm would degrade the landscape. It harms mental health with its light pollution at night. It lowers our property values. A wind farm also effects the migratory patterns of birds traveling thru this area. I have lived in this County for 50+ years. Please take into consideration our views on this subject from people that actually live here.
These windmills are not welcome anymore. They will cause an eyesore and will have to be taken down without benefiting Benton county.

Attachments:

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I look out on these hills every day. I love them. And if there must be development, I would rather it be windmills than housing for the elite. Let the windmills bring purpose to the land. They bring no harm, and are an important tool in the fight against climate change. Build the windmills.

Attachments:

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This is absurd. I just built a new home for the free open country, views, and wildlife. I do not want these as my landscape. This does not even profit our area, so please take your wind turbines elsewhere. How about the area they will benefit.

Attachments:

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This is not the place for these monstrosities. They not only do nothing for this area they are to close to a late metropolitan area, that is still expanding and will prevent that from happening. They will negatively affect the economy in this area to allow people who don’t live here to profit. Please do not ruin our neighborhood and my kids future view of wildlife and their view. Go somewhere else.
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Take your wind machines somewhere else.

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<td>Smith</td>
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<td>1722 w 6th Ave Kennewick, WA 99336</td>
<td><a href="mailto:camerin.smith88@outlook.com">camerin.smith88@outlook.com</a></td>
<td>True</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do not destroy the Horse Heaven hills with your “renewable” energy. Your turbines cause way more disturbances to the environment than anything. Look at what you people have done with the Hanford site. Yes it may be a “nature reserve” now but that site is so polluted with radioactive waste that you are having to build a Vit plant to get rid of it all. How is this for an idea: Build your turbines in a place you have already destroyed. Quit destroying other pieces of land for your guilty pleasures!!! GO HOME!!!

Attachments:

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I am against the wind turbines going across our hills. I live right below these hills and do not want this as my backyard view. I am also concerned about migrating birds getting hurt by these turbines.

Attachments:

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