From:
 EFSEC (EFSEC)

 To:
 EFSEC mi Comments

 Subject:
 FW: Hhh fires

**Date:** Wednesday, July 5, 2023 9:07:40 AM

From: Christina Caprio <capriotri@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, June 30, 2023 5:53 PM

To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>; EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>

**Subject:** Hhh fires

External Email

### Continued fires



Sent from my iPhone

 From:
 EFSEC (EFSEC)

 To:
 EFSEC mi Comments

 Subject:
 FW: HHH Fires McBee

**Date:** Wednesday, July 5, 2023 9:07:54 AM

From: Christina Caprio <caprio\_lv@pocketinet.com>

Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2023 8:11 AM

To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>; EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>

Subject: HHH Fires McBee

### External Email

See testimony and pictures of HHH fires where windmills are just left to burn in a wildfire centric area.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kahryn Campbell <info@anelare.com>
Date: June 30, 2023 at 7:25:48 AM PDT

To: <a href="mailto:caprio\_lv@pocketinet.com">caprio\_lv@pocketinet.com</a>

Subject: Thank you & upcoming concerts!



We want to send a big *thank you* for all those who reached out to us regarding the big fire on the McBee hillside. Your love and support means the world to us. It was very scary and emotional, but we made it through!

Tremendous appreciation to our local, state and federal firefighters. Their protection of our home and Anelare was incredible. We are open at Anelare and couldn't be more grateful to see you and share our wines.

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ore and give t ss. He will be	and Luke have a he night great so back, you can c	idded a percu oul and textur ount on that! e have few tic	ussionist and seller. Ty had a conformation for those that kets left for bo	sax player to conflict arise a at have purch	fill out the ban and is very sor ased tickets, v	d e ry ve
ore and give t ss. He will be	and Luke have a he night great so back, you can c	idded a percu oul and textur ount on that! e have few tic	ussionist and seller. Ty had a conformation for those that kets left for bo	sax player to conflict arise a at have purch	fill out the ban and is very sor ased tickets, v	d e ry ve
ore and give t ss. He will be	and Luke have a he night great so back, you can c	idded a percu oul and textur ount on that! e have few tic	ussionist and seller. Ty had a conformation for those that kets left for bo	sax player to conflict arise a at have purch	fill out the ban and is very sor ased tickets, v	d e ry ve
ore and give t ss. He will be	and Luke have a he night great so back, you can c	idded a percu oul and textur ount on that! e have few tic	ussionist and seller. Ty had a conformation for those that kets left for bo	sax player to conflict arise a at have purch	fill out the ban and is very sor ased tickets, v	d e ry ve

hope to see you soon! Love, Team Anelare

**EVENT TICKETS** 

\*Club Member Coupon code: ANELAREFAM



New Christina Capita capita: Julgiposiarine Lauro Seek Munday, July 3, 2021 S-01 PM Ta: EPIEC (EPIEC) orbiosty ches usa gaso: EPIEC (EPIEC) orbiosty ches usa ga

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Face CONTROL OF STATE OF STATE



From: EFSEC (EFSEC)
To: EFSEC mi Comments
Subject: FW: Hhh fire videos

**Date:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 11:47:21 AM

Attachments: Video.mov

From: Christina Caprio <capriotri@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 5:03 PM **To:** EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov>

**Subject:** Hhh fire videos

### External Email

The huge hhh fire near mcbee road in the benton city area as seen by the highway. Windmills are left to melt. We have a lot of wild fires. That is a lot of capital up in flames, with a huge negative impact on the environment. This fire is near a major winery near a major trail right where proposed windmills are to be.

Christina Caprio Environmental Scientist

Video 8of8

From: Christina Caprio

To: EFSEC (EFSEC); EFSEC (EFSEC)

Subject: hhh fire

**Date:** Friday, July 21, 2023 7:17:39 PM

Attachments: image0.pn

### External Email

The fire season continues in SE Washington. Check out this article from the Tri-City Hearald where it states the South Kennewick fire threatens the little tiny Finley windmills that would be left to burn if they caught because that is protocol. I remember moving back to the Hanford area as a third generation Hanford worker from Vegas working on the Yucca Mountain EIS. I remember asking people what the red lights were on our mountains. I said it was an abomination to our HHH. I was told they were new windmills. I will never forget the pollution of sight. I can't imagine my grandparent's disappointment for ruining the vistas. My family has already died from cancer from sacrificing their lives for Hanford work for the betterment of the country to fight WWII. Isn't that enough of a sacrifice to our area? The Department of Energy is reviewing cases to pay families off for their sacrifices of lost family members for working at Hanford. Leave the hills alone. This is not even green energy if we are being honest. It is all political. The energy is not needed. Come on we use green nuclear energy that has a tiny footprint. Use money to actually find green energy technology enhancements.



Brush fire threatens wind turbines south of Kennewick amp.tri-cityherald.com

7:13



LOCAL

# Brush fire threatens wind turbines south of Kennewick





Benton County Fire District 1 firefighters work to stop a brush fire and protect a crew of electrical linemen in the area off Nine Canyon Road south of Kennewick. The fire scorched more than 10 acres near some Nine Canyon Wind Project turbines as more firefighting equipment and crews were called in to help, said a social media post by the first district. The rural road was closed to give firefighters access to the blaze.

## Only have a minute? Listen instead





Christina Caprio Environmental Scientist Sent from my iPhone From:

Christina Caprio
EFSEC (EFSEC); EFSEC (EFSEC) To: Subject: Another hhh fire today

Date: Friday, July 21, 2023 7:30:55 PM

Attachments: Video.mov

External Email

See video of HHH fire right now.

Christina Caprio

From: <u>Christina Caprio</u>

To: <u>EFSEC (EFSEC)</u>; <u>EFSEC (EFSEC)</u>
Subject: Fwd: Another hhh fire today
Date: Friday, July 21, 2023 9:25:37 PM

Attachments: <u>Video.mov</u>

### External Email

Update 6000 acres as of earlier today in klikitat county, north if the proposed hhh site.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Christina Caprio <capriotri@gmail.com>

**Date:** July 21, 2023 at 7:30:45 PM PDT

To: efsec@efsec.wa.gov, EFSEC <efsec@utc.wa.gov>

**Subject: Another hhh fire today** 

See video of HHH fire right now.

Christina Caprio

From: <u>Christina Caprio</u>

To: <u>EFSEC (EFSEC)</u>; <u>EFSEC (EFSEC)</u>

**Subject:** Hhh comment

**Date:** Saturday, July 22, 2023 11:23:33 AM

### External Email

That Klikitat fire is growing. It is at 6,000 acres and threatening homes, fire and wind farms, etc. See attached article. The dry SE side of Washington has wild fires!!!! This is just north of the proposed HHH site. That's a whole lot of capital at risk to be burned. The wind farms are just let to melt down. All those toxins back into the soil, water and air....



6,000-acre brush fire burning in Klickitat County king5.com

Christina Caprio Environmental Scientist

From: <u>Christina Caprio</u>

To: <u>EFSEC (EFSEC)</u>; <u>EFSEC (EFSEC)</u>

**Subject:** Fwd: Hhh comment

**Date:** Saturday, July 22, 2023 11:48:25 AM

### External Email

Correction: 30,000 acres and growing

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Christina Caprio <a href="mailto:capriotri@gmail.com">capriotri@gmail.com</a>

Date: July 22, 2023 at 11:23:27 AM PDT

To: efsec@efsec.wa.gov, EFSEC <efsec@utc.wa.gov>

**Subject: Hhh comment** 

That Klikitat fire is growing. It is at 6,000 acres and threatening homes, fire and wind farms, etc. See attached article. The dry SE side of Washington has wild fires!!!! This is just north of the proposed HHH site. That's a whole lot of capital at risk to be burned. The wind farms are just let to melt down. All those toxins back into the soil, water and air....



6,000-acre brush fire burning in Klickitat County king5.com

Christina Caprio Environmental Scientist

From:

Christina Caprio
EFSEC (EFSEC); EFSEC (EFSEC) To:

Subject:

Date: Wednesday, July 26, 2023 10:39:42 AM

Attachments: Video.mov

### External Email

Pelicans flying over the hhh and a fire in the background.

From: <u>EFSEC (EFSEC)</u>
To: <u>EFSEC mi Comments</u>

 Subject:
 FW: Docket Number EF-210011

 Date:
 Monday, August 7, 2023 2:16:37 PM

----Original Message-----

From: 376rene@everyactioncustom.com <376rene@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2023 10:11 PM To: EFSEC (EFSEC) <efsec@efsec.wa.gov> Subject: Docket Number EF-210011

External Email

Dear Director Sonia Bumpus,

I am writing to ask that the Final EIS for Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project in Benton County take a stronger and more specific look at how the project can be designed to avoid impacts to the environment.

I support Washington's 100% clean energy target to combat the climate crisis. Audubon's science suggests that we may lose 389 species of N. American birds if warming climbs to 3 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. We are also in a biodiversity crisis. Conservation and clean energy must go hand in hand.

The Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project will be the largest renewable energy project in our state's history. As currently proposed, the project may cause unacceptable harm to state-listed Ferruginous Hawk and create barriers for landscape connectivity for shrub-steppe wildlife across a 113-square mile area. But the project could be considerably improved with more clarity on conservation measures and an alternative design.

The final EIS must include the following information and analysis to uphold our state's commitment to, and appreciation for, our wildlife and the connected landscapes they need. The final EIS must:

- Identify specific design features, mitigation measures and associated performance standards that will avoid adverse impacts related to wildlife movement and habitat connectivity within the Project Lease Boundary and at the regional level.
- Commit to how the proposed Project will avoid significant impacts to the Ferruginous Hawk population at the regional level by avoiding turbines within two miles of all documented nests and mitigating for direct and indirect loss of core and range habitat for all nests within six miles of the project.
- Include an alternative for analysis that features an explicit design for and commitment to turbine siting and other project components that minimizes impacts to the state-listed species and wildlife connectivity.
- Use the best available science to evaluate the magnitude and scale of impacts to birds due to turbine operation.

The build-out of renewable energy in Washington can be achieved in a way that honors the legal and sovereign rights of Treaty Tribes and balances the needs of both people and wildlife. We look to this Council and its staff to provide the leadership needed to achieve this vision.

Sincerely, Ms Linda Rene 467 W Beach Rd Eastsound, WA 98245-9339 376rene@gmail.com From: Richard Yrjanson

To: EFSEC mi Comments

Subject: Against Horse Heaven Hills

**Date:** Saturday, August 12, 2023 9:30:15 AM

Attachments: Scan 20220115 (2).png

Screenshot (224).png Scan 20220114.png Scan 20220113.png

### External Email

The picture of Mt. Rainer shows the beginning of the ruining the beauty of west side of the State which I took from my home in Centralia along with their blinking red lights during the evening. Scout and other solar and wind installation companies have ruined the beauty of the state and country, the time has come to stop the tax excemention installation of this unreliable source of electrical power. Now they want to put them in the Washington ocean coast. Stop the increased cost of our electricity to the end users not approve the Horse Heaven project and any further installations. Richard Yrjanson 212 EB Browning Drive Centralia, WA 98531

Email: <a href="mailto:dyrjanson@hotmail.com">dyrjanson@hotmail.com</a> Ph:509-492-6691

Sent from Mail for Windows



Richard E. Yrjanson Retired 5207 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave Kennewick, WA 99338 Phone:509-783-2994 email dyrjanson@hotmail.com

County Commissioners and related agencies

Scout Clean Energy taken over by Quinbrook a global investment manager located In England I believe, as such it appears that any revenue collected after taking tax advantages and other government write offs, which was set to end this year will be extended by the present elected party and the "green" party of this state.

I am against the approval of the Scout Wind, Solar, and Battery Storage Complex being approved. It is not needed for the following reason:

- 1. It only produces 30 % of its stated capacity (1,150 megawatts) it is not able to provide peak services and needs backup by dams, nuclear, etc. We are paying extra cost for our elec. Bills due to the low performance. Our taxes also increased due to subsidies and tax benefits Scout enjoys. "A very expensive way to generate quite unreliable electricity."
- 2. Visual eye pollution: You can't drive 180 miles without seeing the 400 foot towers: "we worked hard to eliminate bill boards near the highways, and we replaced them with wind generators".

3. Winds unpredictability means it truly has no generating capacity value. Wind is simply an additional capital cost which increases the cost to the rate payer twice as much.
4. We are here today to discuss wind power, costs, reliability, and other critical approval processes. The minute we begin to fear the opinions of others and heistrate to tell the truth that is in us, and from motives of policy are silent when we should speak, the divine floods of light and life no longer flow into our souls. And I THANK YOU for the opportunity to speak.

## On wind turbine plan, Inslee should listen to Tri-Cities

### BY THE TRI-CITY HERALD EDITORIAL BOARD

The thought of turning our beloved Horse Heaven Hills into a pin cushion for massive wind turbines breaks the hearts of most Tri-Citians.

Yet, in the end, will our sadness be a factor when Gov. Jay Inslee decides whether to approve Scout Clean Energy's application for its wind project?

That's the big question.
Inslee is known for his clean-energy goals, and while we support fighting climate change and reducing carbon emissions, many of us in Eastern Washington are tired of feeling like we're the sacrificial spot for that agenda.

We realize wind projects are bound to be built in our state, but must a project of this magnitude be constructed so close to a major population center?

And, we might add, it's a population center that relies heavily on the wine industry and the tourism that it brings. Beautiful vineyards, rolling hills and spectacular vistas are what bring people to Tri-Cities' wine country.

No one will be impressed by a skyline scarred by monolithic structures. More wind turbines will most certainly ruin the view.

At a two-hour public hearing held with Benton County commissioners Tuesday, citizens complained repeatedly that the turbines would be an eyesore and an atrocity in our backyard.

As discussion of this project moves forward, we would like to remind the governor that there is a precedent for heavily weighing the affect wind turbines have on a scenic landscape.

In 2004, the Whistling Ridge Energy Project would have placed wind turbines on a prominent ridgeline near the town of White Salmon, a community along the Columbia River.

While not in the boundaries of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the proposed wind farm was near the line.

Opposition to the plan was fierce, and in the end Washington state decided the project must be scaled down, which eventually led project managers to abandon the plan altogether.

The arguments against the Whistling Ridge wind project were that it would "mar world-class scenery" with "little to no benefit to the state of Washington's citizens," according to the Friends of the Columbia Gorge. It also would "harm the local tourism economy and negatively affect property values in surrounding communities."

Sounds a lot like the same arguments Tri-Citians are making.

The Friends of the Columbia Gorge also say that: "Icons of the Pacific Northwest, like the Columbia River Gorge, Mount Rainier, and the Olympic Mountains, should be off-limits to large-scale energy development. We can combat climate change without having to sacrifice our most special places and our core values."

We completely agree. Eastern Washington is not devoid of natural beauty. To Tri-Citians, the Horse Heaven Hills are a special scenic area. Why should it be valued any less than other remarkable sites in Washington state?

To add to the concern, the wind turbines planned by Scout Clean Energy are massive. The Colorado-based company is considering two options — and both include wind turbines comparable to the height of the Seattle Space Needle, where the observation deck is at 520 feet.

One proposal puts 244 turbines at almost 500 feet tall over about 10 square miles. The other option would be to install 150 turbines at 670 feet tall. The leased farm land for the project stretches about 24 miles from south of Finley to the south of Benton City.

If the application were up to Benton County officials, it likely would be dead on arrival. At the public hearing, Commissioners Shon Small and Will McKay voiced opposition to it before the meeting even started.

But the decision won't

be made at the local level.

Scout Clean Energy has filed its application with the Washington state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council instead.

Company officials claimed the scale and scope of the project would create a burden on county staff, but to Tri-Citians it feels like an end-run around the local community.

The final decision on whether to allow the project will be decided by the evaluation council and Inslee. The state council plans its own public hearing on the Scout Clean Energy plan on Tuesday, March 30. To register to comment, call 360-664-1345 before the meeting or email efsec@utc.wa.gov.

And then hope that council officials and Gov. Jay Inslee pay attention and truly listen to local input.

The views of the citizens who will be most affected by their decision should not be easily dismissed.

R

enewable energy sources - solar and wind - can't be the basis for a resilient, reliable and affordable electric system, which is necessary for a modern economy.

Both solar and wind are intermittent. Industries can't plan production if electric power depends on the weather.

Blackouts are unavoidable with solar and wind because the wind can stop blowing strongly, sometimes for weeks, and the sun sets daily and may be blocked by clouds for many days consecutively. Massive storage to date cannot fill in for more than a few hours at anything like an acceptable cost. Blackouts can cost electric customers their lives.



And in just about every case where a large percentage of electricity is generated by solar and wind, the cost of electricity to consumers has risen dramatically, and more and more people struggle to pay their energy bills.

Solar and wind also pose problems for the environment. Wind especially, but also solar, reabsurdly large tracts of land, disrupt animal habitats, kill hundreds of thousands of birds and bats, and despoil natural landscapes. Extraction of materials for these technologies has scarred lands around the world. Disposal of toxic solar panels and enormous turbine blades are a growing problem.

Yet politicians, especially green U.S. politicians, don't seem to have gotten the message. New York is pressing ahead with a near-term goal of 70 percent renewable electricity by 2030. President Biden, Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) and others seek a similar kind of renewable energy commitment for the nation.

Why risk lives, immiserate the poor, disrupt economic life? There are several reasons, but one seems especially relevant: After almost half a century of government support, there are now too many people and organizations within government, industry and academia invested in solar and wind. That means a great deal of money and influence are at stake, which the current winners would not want to give up without a fight.

Of course, solar and wind proponents say we need renewables to save the planet from a global catastrophe that could wipe out life on Earth. The goal must be to greatly reduce the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG), especially carbon dioxide, which are released by burning fossil fuels.

GHGs are changing the Earth's climate.

Biden calls climate change "an existential threat." And this catastrophe, it's alleged, can happen soon. Without a massive switch to renewables

Though catastrophists say they "believe in science" they seem not to have noticed that most scientists, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), regard such a threat as barely plausible. So that means at least that there's more time than eight or even 20 years to transition to a system that produces fewer GHGs than we produce today.

Still, renewable energy proponents have every incentive to push catastrophic scenarios, and that claim has gone on for decades. Lobbying for renewables has had a great deal of success. Solar and wind have had U.S. government support since the 1970s; they have been supported especially vigorously since the early 1990s.

Politicians are constrained from making major changes in policy by an army of lobbying proponents. But they must also face the reality that there are many institutions reflecting longtime policies that make any new initiatives a hard sell.

Social scientist Richard Rose observed years ago that "inherited commitments of past government must be accepted as givens. The legacy that office holders inherit from past policy choices is carried forward by institutional commitments grounded in laws, organizations and budgets."

Inherited policies can structure government itself and the relationships of government to outside entities. "Policies may create incentives that encourage the emergence of elaborate social and economic networks," political scientist Paul Pierson has argued, "inhibiting exit from a current policy path."

Once the policy direction has been set, it may remain unchallenged even when shown to be deeply flawed. Often the response to failing policies is to increase funding in the hope that more funding will somehow make them succeed or simply to keep them going to force the hard decisions onto future presidents and congresses.

Then again, a legislative legacy provides cover. Accepting what has been is a lot safer politically than demanding something very different. A member of Congress or president today can hardly be blamed for continuing a policy passed 30 years ago by a different Congress and signed by a different president. That in fact describes the main subsidy program for wind, which was enacted as a temporary measure in 1992, signed by President George H.W. Bush, but has been renewed afterward by presidents and legislators from both parties with no end in sight.

Yet one question lingers: Assuming we want to reduce GHG emissions, if not wind and solar, what energy technologies will help us achieve that?

First, as the U.S. has shown, replacing coal-fired generation with natural gas reduces emissions significantly. But the next step is clearly nuclear power, the major electric generating technology that is scalable, independent of the weather and GHG-free. The next generation of nukes is likely to power the future (perhaps along with nuclear fusion), but even the current generation should be considered for development.

And for heaven's sake, don't shutter still serviceable nuclear power plants as they're doing in Germany (and have done in New York State). That's a way to increase GHG emissions, not reduce them.

Any transition away from fossil fuels will take generations. It's a fantasy to think it can be accomplished in a decade or two. But an even greater fantasy is to believe that windmills and solar panels will save the planet.

Peter Z. Grossman is the author of several books on energy policy including "U.S. Energy Policy and the Pursuit of Failure" (Cambridge 2013).

From: <u>byjemany</u>

To: <u>EFSEC mi Comments</u>

**Subject:** Wind farm

**Date:** Sunday, August 13, 2023 11:57:45 AM

### External Email

We own property within 1-3 miles from House Heaven Hills. The thought of having huge wind mills obstructing our view is abhorent!! In addition, the efficiency of these apparatus to produce power vs. the affect they have on birds is questionable. Phyllis Maynard

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone