

From: [Andrea Aldrich](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Proposed Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:37:24 PM

External Email

Dear EFSEC:

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by Andrea J. Aldrich

West Richland, WA

<!--[if !supportLineBreakNewLine]-->
<!--[endif]-->

From: [Dan Banks](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm & Solar Project
Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 9:16:24 PM

External Email

As it has in most other cases, the EFSEC is running roughshod over local desires and concerns, considering only the power that will be generated and the profits to be made.

From: [Judy](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [pco1265@gmail.com](#); [crbatish@pocketinet.com](#)
Subject: Fwd: Trouble sending Comments for HHH Public Hearing
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:08:45 PM

External Email

I am forwarding Karen Batishko's email to EFSEC concerning public hearing comments as she is having computer issues. Will you please get back to her about her concerns? See below

From: pco1365@gmail.com
To: goosie1515@aol.com
Sent: 8/21/2023 2:47:04 PM Pacific Standard Time
Subject: Can you do a favor for me?

Would it be possible for you to forward this message for me to the comments@efsec.wa.gov site my email outgoing is not working correctly right now? (Thanks Windows for updating the use of my [pocketinet.com](#) Thunderbird account.)

I cannot attend the meeting on Wednesday evening and I wanted to request that they include the comments which I re-sent them in the database collected for this meeting. Thanks for any help you can give me.

Karen

Concerning the hearing of August 23 -Horse Heaven Hills Wind farm

I would like to attend, but cannot. However I do wish that my previous comments would be included in the discussion because I am not in favor of the project.

I apologize if this is a duplicate message, but I don't think my email sent you the last message which I sent less than a half an hour ago. You have my previous comments from a couple of days ago so I will not repeat them with this email. Please let me know if you have entered them in the Database for this meeting.

Thank you for your time

Karen Batishko

(crbatish@pocketinet.com or pco1265@gmail.com)

From: [PCO Karen](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Why have all the early comments disappeared
Date: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 3:56:50 PM

External Email

I shouldn't have to be sending this to you again!

The most obvious objection to Scout's proposal for a windfarm is found at the end of the DEIS:

"The Applicant did not obtain certificates from local Benton County authorities attesting to land use consistency. Therefore, the Applicant retains the burden of proving the Site is indeed consistent and compliant with the local jurisdiction's land use provisions."

Indeed it would be impossible for Scout's Windfarm to be consistent with "land use" certification of Benton County because the project makes an incorrect assumption that the land can be "leased" from the owner. In truth the land will never be able to be used again for agriculture OR viable open land because of the inability to "clean up" after "USE." Clean up after "use" simply has NOT been demonstrated at the other fourteen thousand dead, standing wind turbines in the USA. (14,000 was the number of dead, standing wind turbines BEFORE the Texas freeze-out a couple of years ago.) In Benton County WA this "use" permanently destroys agricultural and open lands: by openly destroying windblown soil layers as it destroys the vegetation covering the soil with construction sites and roads and storage areas as well as toxic contamination causing wind as well as rain erosion.

The planned Horse Heaven Wind Farm destroys 60,000 Acres of agricultural land. 60,000 acres equals one tenth of Benton County's Agricultural Land Acres.(613,530 acres) The Market value of the agricultural products sold in 2017 was over one billion dollars, \$1,005,288,000. It is a major part of Benton County's economy. This project is, indeed, inconsistent with the local jurisdiction's land use provisions.

*Please see the excerpts from the Benton County Comprehensive Plan update 2018 on page three to understand how blatantly offensive the proposal is to the county's land use plan. But even more importantly the plan is blatantly offensively to any kind of sense of conservation of the natural assets of the earth, either here in our county or in the Governor's back lawn. **In the Commission's comments about Douglas County, they specifically belittle and deny any ecological value to buffer zones which might protect land misuse. The commission is way off-base in refusing to recognize the need for soil and bedrock conservation and in respecting such geological studies that have been done. In fact they entirely dismiss "goals and objectives for any science-based habitat and wildlife protection."***

Furthermore this attitude was well demonstrated in the requests for siting Horse Haven Hill Project from the beginning. Neither the Commission nor the project, itself reference this lack of geological importance in the DEIS as they confront Benton County's Comprehensive

Plan which requires that “developments avoid or maintain setbacks from potentially unstable areas or adequately assess the degree of instability and locate, design, and engineer the development to address the level of hazard. Scout’s leases were in place before any ecological studies had been performed by them.

Other significant ecological objections to this wind turbine project apparently lie outside of “local regulatory” mention but even if there were no “municipal” regulations over sound and light pollution these wind machines will create an unbearable noise pollution and light-flicker for the whole of the corridor where they would tower over a very significant number of Benton County Residents. Yet the Commission as well as the Project itself seem unwilling to address these issues. Living in this valley below this proposed project has taught me that the bedrock vibrations from atop Horse Haven Hills is plainly heard throughout the house in the rattling of the cupboard doors and dishes as well as felt underfoot indoors and out-of-doors. No landowner deserves to have his home invaded by the level of sound these machines make. Light flicker, especially continuous light-flicker, is equally disturbing to healthy living. This information is gathered world wide, but problematically these reports are for the most part more available in Europe than in the U.S.A.

(Please see: <https://stopthesethings.com/2019/05/07/far-out-german-study-finds-pulsing-wind-farm-infrasound-20-kilometres-from-turbines/>) *Note: Infrasound is found 20 kilometers away from turbines.*

This site goes on to say: “Industrial wind turbine infra-sound is not the best weapon, but it is a weapon.” This German video documents the harmful effects of the infra-sound produced by industrial-sized wind turbines. “Wind turbines appear to be at the apex of producing human discomfort, annoyance, and harm, in particular, infra-sound and low-frequency noise (ILFN) harm because of impacts unique to this concoction of noise.

The dangers of infra-sound have been known since the 1980s when the U.S. military heavily invested in infra-sound (below 20 Hz) as a weapon. It looked like it had great promise, according to Col. John B. Alexander who was involved in weaponizing it.

The military gave up on infra-sound as its effects on people were too random: some potential targets were seriously debilitated; others not so much. A five year old review of various studies by acoustical engineers and other scientists includes a look at infra-sound’s affect on the ear, the heart, the brain and other organs. Please see: <https://www.masterresource.org/wind-power-health-effects/infrasound-growing-liability-windpower/>

Further effects that need safe mitigation go unmentioned in this request for Horse Haven wind-turbines:

Effects of “Ice Throw” and “Shadow Flicker” – are addressed in this paper: Turbine Health Impact Study

<https://puc.sd.gov/commission/dockets/electric/2018/EL18-003/testimony/dakotarange/rExhibit7.pdf>

In summary, this project IS by it’s construction harmful to soils, to the livelihood of farmers, to the health of nearby population centers and outlying

suburbia. It promises to serverly harm the flyway for migrating birds, destroy the bat populations with alluring vibration noises and hinder wildlife and domestic animal health. It is an ugly eyesore which uses up sparse natural mineral resources unnecessarily. And it is an unavoidable scenery wound on the high desert Eco-system, in the face of citizens and travelers for at least two counties. All this without one iota of reduction in our state's carbon footprint.

The real problem is the unnecessary costs to the rate-payer. Scout Clean Energy is building this wind farm in the wrong state because windturbines in this area have an average capacity factor of only 27%. (The capacity factor is the percentage of the time a system is supplying its nameplate or installed capacity.) If efficiency is going to be so low, there really is no reason to be investing so much in such monster machines. This would be a deliberate theft of the rate-payers, especially since every bit of electricity the project produces must be backed up with the steady source of electricity already produced in the county by the BPA's renewable hydro-power, as well as carbon-free nuclear power supplied by U.S. Department of Energy, Hanford. Every megawatt of electricity generated by windmills or solar power in the Mid-Columbia must be backed up with dispatchable generating sources to ensure electricity when the wind is not blowing but demand is high!

Furthermore, no honest investor would "buy" 240 "super-machines" when not even one of them has been test-proven to function as promised after manufacture and installation. Their projected life span of their machines sounds quite fanciful for an untested monster machine. This has proven to be a problem in the Diablo Canyon Project of Oregon where there is already talk of "renewing" poorly functioning wind-turbines after only half of their life span has been accomplished. One cast off a blade, several have lost bolts and the project, as a whole, is only producing electricity at half the promised rate of it's manufacturer.

Thank you for your attention

Karen Batishko

Past Precinct Committee Officer of Precinct 1365

Benton County, WA



Virus-free www.avast.com

From: [Bayard, Trina](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: copy of Audubon WA 8.23 Horse Heaven Wind public hearing comments
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 6:00:55 PM
Attachments: [AudubonWA_Horse Heaven Wind Adjudication public hearing comments.pdf](#)

External Email

Please see attached for a copy of my comments provided at the 8.23 Horse Heaven Wind public hearing.

--

Trina Bayard, Ph.D.
Director of Bird Conservation
206.704.4303
Pronouns: she/her

Audubon Washington
5902 Lake Washington Blvd. S.
Seattle, WA 98118
wa.audubon.org

From: [John Bender](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Green Energy is Neither
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 1:52:46 PM

External Email

Comments for EFSEC:

No to wind turbines a mile from my house. No to wind turbines anywhere within my site line.

Vast majority in Benton County does not want this project. If it were to be voted on, this project would go down in a landslide defeat.

Out of state company taking our money and the minuscule power these turbines make and leaving our state with us holding the empty bag. Are these green energy people planning on cleaning up, removing and disposing of this mess when the damage has been done?

All these green energy scoundrels need to reevaluate why this is moving forward, if they were truly worried about the environment, this would not even be a discussion. Apparently the green energy propaganda has been swallowed whole.

Stop this project now!

John Bender

From John's iPhone

From: jascben@charter.net
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Wind Turbine Project
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 11:58:36 AM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by

the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Submitted by

James C. (Jim) Bennett
21706 S. Spruce St.
Kennewick, WA 99337-6258

From: [Bob](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Just say NO to the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Project.
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:07:18 AM

External Email

This is simply an UNACCEPTABLE project! The facts are the NIMBY greenies in Seattle and our Governor think we need this and are more than willing to make others deal with the adverse effects as they do not have to. This debacle is made worse by the Governor's decision that the locals can have no real impact on siting decisions, aka he will decree what will happen no matter what.

JUST SAY NO!!!

Robert Birney
Richland, WA 99354
rebirney@gmail.com

From: [Mike Bosse"](#)
To: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
Cc: austinh@strategies360.com
Subject: Testimony
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:07:19 PM
Attachments: [HHCEC Testimony.pdf](#)

External Email

Although I am scheduled to give public comment tonight at the public hearing regarding Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center, I am submitting the attached as written testimony for your records.

Mike Bosse

IUOE Local 302

mbosse@iuoe302.org

From: kmbrun@gmail.com
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm proposal (on the Updated ASC)(EF-210011)
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:37:20 PM

External Email

[Corrected version below](#)

From: kmbrun@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:35 PM
To: comments@efsec.wa.gov
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm proposal (on the Updated ASC)(EF-210011)

I am eligible to comment having previously [made](#) comments prior to the 1/31/23 deadline. Since I will not be able to submit my comments during the open comment campaign, I am submitting them this way. I am also on the list to make oral comment. If only one of these can be accepted, I want it to be this written one.

My additional comments follow:

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am opposed to the proposed Horse Heaven wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents - 100,000 within 6 miles. By comparison, all other Washington counties where wind power exists have a combined affected population of less than 20,000 at 6 miles. This is the largest project proposed for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size of the turbines and the proximity of these turbines to heavily populated residential areas will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines will, more often than not, severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. The FAA has a 20,000' buffer area for any structures 499' and taller so that airplanes can safely take off and land at the same height and speed that aerial firefighting planes use to drop fire retardant. The proposed towers are 499' tall so that same 20,000' buffer area should be implemented for those turbines along the ridgeline. We have multiple range fires on the eastern slopes of the Horse Heaven Hills every year. I fear that not having aerial firefighting capability will result in unacceptable loss to wildlife and properties. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with

environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage. One of the applicant's witnesses talked about some kind of detection application that would track instances of endangered wildlife but there's no indication anywhere that this is going to be used or who's going to monitor any of it.

To add insult to injury, this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. If not for this governmental help (i.e., taxpayers, since the Federal government has no money other than what they take from us), projects like this would not be economically feasible. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

Washington State is unlikely to reap any benefits from this project as there are no public utility districts, investor-owned utilities, or independent power producers willing to commit to purchasing the power. They know that wind power produced in Montana and central Oregon is much more reliable, has higher capacity factors, and is cheaper than what this project will produce. Because of that, Washington State will not get the net carbon gold star that Governor Inslee and his ilk want. The Governor has been travelling the world trying to entice companies to move to Washington to take advantage of the cheap and abundant power. They walk away when they find out the truth.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal, responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Karen Brun
105506 Tripple Vista Drive
Kennewick, WA 99338

From: kmbrun@gmail.com
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm proposal (on the Updated ASC)(EF-210011)
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:34:41 PM

External Email

I am eligible to comment having previously previous comments prior to the 1/31/23 deadline. Since I will not be able to submit my comments during the open comment campaign, I am submitting them this way. I am also on the list to make oral comment. If only one of these can be accepted, I want it to be this written one.

My additional comments follow:

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am opposed to the proposed Horse Heaven wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents - 100,000 within 6 miles. By comparison, all other Washington counties where wind power exists have a combined affected population of less than 20,000 at 6 miles. This is the largest project proposed for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size of the turbines and the proximity of these turbines to heavily populated residential areas will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines will, more often than not, severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. The FAA has a 20,000' buffer area for any structures 499' and taller so that airplanes can safely take off and land at the same height and speed that aerial firefighting planes use to drop fire retardant. The proposed towers are 499' tall so that same 20,000' buffer area should be implemented for those turbines along the ridgeline. We have multiple range fires on the eastern slopes of the Horse Heaven Hills every year. I fear that not having aerial firefighting capability will result in unacceptable loss to wildlife and properties. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage. One of the applicant's witnesses talked about some kind of detection application that would track instances of endangered wildlife but there's no indication anywhere that this is going to be used or who's going to monitor any of it.

To add insult to injury, this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. If not for this governmental help

(i.e., taxpayers, since the Federal government has no money other than what they take from us), projects like this would not be economically feasible. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

Washington State is unlikely to reap any benefits from this project as there are no public utility districts, investor-owned utilities, or independent power producers willing to commit to purchasing the power. They know that wind power produced in Montana and central Oregon is much more reliable, has higher capacity factors, and is cheaper than what this project will produce. Because of that, Washington State will not get the net carbon gold star that Governor Inslee and his ilk want. The Governor has been travelling the world trying to entice companies to move to Washington to take advantage of the cheap and abundant power. They walk away when they find out the truth.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal, responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Karen Brun
105506 Tripple Vista Drive
Kennewick, WA 99338

**Respondent No:** 2**Login:** Anonymous**Email:** n/a**Responded At:** Aug 23, 2023 19:30:45 pm**Last Seen:** Aug 23, 2023 19:30:45 pm**IP Address:** n/a

Q1. **Name** Karen Brun

Q2. **Email address** kmbrun@gmail.com

Q3. **Are you part of an Agency or Organization?** **Yes (please specify)**
Tri-Cities CARES

Q4. **Share any comment**

I am eligible to comment having previously made comments prior to the 1/31/23 deadline. I am submitting additional comments as 2:30 was not nearly enough time to say what I wanted to say. My additional comments follow: As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am opposed to the proposed Horse Heaven wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community. This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents - 100,000 within 6 miles. By comparison, all other Washington counties where wind power exists have a combined affected population of less than 20,000 at 6 miles. This is the largest project proposed for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size of the turbines and the proximity of these turbines to heavily populated residential areas will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines will, more often than not, severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. The FAA has a 20,000' buffer area for any structures 499' and taller so that airplanes can safely take off and land at the same height and speed that aerial firefighting planes use to drop fire retardant. The proposed towers are 499' tall so that same 20,000' buffer area should be implemented for those turbines along the ridgeline. We have multiple range fires on the eastern slopes of the Horse Heaven Hills every year. I fear that not having aerial firefighting capability will result in unacceptable loss to wildlife and properties. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage. One of the applicant's witnesses talked about some kind of detection application that would track instances of endangered wildlife but there's no indication anywhere that this is going to be used or who's going to monitor any of it. To add insult to injury, this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. If not for this governmental help (i.e., taxpayers, since the Federal government has no money other than what they take from us), projects like this would not be economically feasible. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense. Washington State is unlikely to reap any benefits from this project as there are no public utility districts, investor-owned utilities, or independent power producers willing to commit to purchasing the power. They know that wind power produced in Montana and central Oregon is much more reliable, has higher capacity factors, and is cheaper than what this project will produce. Because of that, Washington State will not get the net carbon gold star that Governor Inslee and his ilk want. The Governor has been travelling the world trying to entice companies to move to Washington to take advantage of the cheap and abundant power. They walk away when they find out the truth. EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal, responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved. I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Q5. **Upload your document (optional)** not answered

Q6. Upload a picture (optional)	not answered
Q7. Did you also share a video?	No
Q8. What is the title of your video?	not answered

From: [Karen Brutzman](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: HHH Wind Farm Comments
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:12:13 PM

External Email

I have been given permission to speak, but fear that I might not have an opportunity given the short duration of the meeting. I am sending them in this email so that they may be included in the record.

My name is Karen Brutzman. I have lived in Kennewick for nearly 40 years. I am concerned about climate change and support the idea of clean energy, but do not believe that our Horse Heaven Hills are an appropriate location for the project proposed by Scout Clean Energy.

"Clean Energy" is a misnomer for this project. Concrete leaves a huge carbon footprint. The [environmental impact of concrete](#), its manufacture and applications, are complex, driven in part by direct impacts of construction and infrastructure, as well as by CO₂ emissions. The [cement industry](#) is one of the main producers of [carbon dioxide](#), a potent [greenhouse gas](#).

The Tri-Cities are already a hotspot for ozone health risk. The Tri-Cities Ozone Precursor Study (T-COPS) final report dated December 12, 2017, was prepared by the Laboratory for Atmospheric Research, the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, and Washington State University. It can be found by following this link: <https://ecology.wa.gov/DOE/files/93/934a2f46-b000-4f9a-837c-a286ccfa615e.pdf>

This study was conducted because Air Quality managers noticed that the daily predictive air quality forecast model operated by

Washington State University (WSU), consistently showed elevated ozone in the Tri-Cities area. The ozone in this study is attributed to car emissions, but we can't ignore the pollution created by the millions and millions of tons of concrete that will be used to erect these gigantic wind turbines and the emissions from the trucks transporting concrete and water to the worksite.

A standard 328' tall wind turbine requires 30,000 tons of cement for the foundation. I'm an elementary school teacher, not an engineer, but one can predict that a 500-foot-tall wind turbine requires a proportionate amount of concrete-- probably 50,000 tons. There are 244 wind turbines that will be sited in the Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm. That means approximately 12,200,000 tons of concrete! That's a lot of cement trucks!

Building this project is going to require at least 220,000 gallons of water per day for dust control and construction. Our community does not have enough water to support the construction phase of the project. That means an armada of 40 to 50, 5,000-gallon trucks driving from the Port of Walla Walla on highways and county roads each day for several months of the year. We already live in a dusty place — this project will make it much worse.

Over 100,000 people live within six miles of the project boundary. Potential loss of life and property damage must be taken seriously. Siting massive turbines on the ridgeline of Horse Heaven Hills directly threatens the safety of the citizens living in Benton County. The towering height of these industrial wind turbines could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry

seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

For these reasons, and many more, I believe that the Horse Heaven Hills are clearly not appropriate and should be off-limits to energy developments. The Horse Heaven Hills Wind and Solar Project is not in the best interest of the citizens of the Tri-Cities or Washington State. The developer has not proven the benefits outweigh the costs and impacts to those of us who call Washington our home.

--

Karen Brutzman
509-947-4143

From: [Keith Brutzman](#)
To: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
Subject: Comments for 8-23-23 HHH Wind Complex Meeting
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:28:50 PM

External Email

As an over 60 year community member and business owner in the Tri-Cities, Washington, I want to strongly recommend against the proposed wind turbine project.

The size and quantity of the turbines would severely hamper firefighting in this delicate shrub steppe environment. The scarring to the landscape and increased smoke in the air would ruin our beautiful views and compound a growing health hazard. The height of these turbines obstructs access for firefighting aircraft. This jeopardizes both our property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved. I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Submitted by Keith Brutzman

From: [SB Prosser Resident](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills / Scout Clean Energy Project
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:44:29 PM

External Email

To the EFSEC Members,

Our family has lived in the Prosser/Tricities area for over 70 years by choice. We value and enjoy this desert plateau of diverse landscapes and abundant wildlife, with three rivers flowing through it. This unique area has given us a beautiful place to live and raise our family, job opportunities and many outdoor recreational activities. We support “green energy” solutions knowing we need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, but we DO NOT support the HHH/Scout Clean Energy project’s proposed location.

Point 1)

The sheer size of the project is massive. The preliminary review of its impact to wildlife (animals, birds, bats, bees etc.) is incomplete not only because of not enough of a study but also SCE has not provided exact siting information for the turbines.

Point 2)

We are concerned about the effects on people from noise and light flicker from the 244 turbines.

Point 3)

Again the size of the project will impact our views and enjoyment of our community. Why is Scout siting this large of a project, within the view and usability of hundreds of thousands of people? There are miles of open space in Eastern Washington with little to no population to place a project of this size.

Point 4)

In relation to the siting of the HHH/Scout Energy, where will the energy produced by this project be going? Western Washington? California? If this is the case then why not place the project in a less populated area and nearer to where the energy is needed.

Point 5)

Who is going to benefit most from the HHH/Scout Energy project?

Who will receive the money from federal subsidies and the profits from the sale of electricity? The TriCities? Washington State? Or Scout Clean Energy? This goes back to where to put this project, put it where the benefits of its energy and tax dollars will go.

Our points here are abbreviated; we submitted a more complete explanation of our views in the original public comment period in January 2023.

In addition, what we find unconscionable is Scout Clean Energy circumvented our local authorities permitting process and applied directly to the State for approval, thus cementing a distrust of SCE to work with local jurisdictions on the environmental and personal impacts of the project now and in the future. The first step in siting any project should be the input of the surrounding communities. It makes us so livid that the approval of this project, given its size and consequence has been given to the State and those who will not have to live with the direct daily consequences.

To the Members of the EFSEC, this project by Scout Clean Energy should not be approved for our community.

Sincerely,

Alison and Stacy Burgett

From: [gus.calapristi](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Gus Calapristi](#)
Subject: Against Horse Heaven Hills wind farm
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:52:41 AM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.
4. Also, wind turbines are a very expensive form of energy, especially when sited in an area such as ours where wind is generally calm in the summer and winter. The proposed wind farm is NOT a cost effective form of low carbon electricity and will result in higher electricity rates for everyone in the state.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. Also consider locations that have more consistent wind. The Horse Heaven Hills locations do not have consistent wind in the Winter and Summer when energy needs are at their highest. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by

Gus Calapristi
West Richland WA

Gus

From: [ROBERT CAROSINO](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comments in Objection to the proposed Horse Heaven Hills wind farm project
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:02:20 PM

External Email

I am a resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, living above the Franklin County side of the Columbia River with a panoramic view of the Horse Heaven Hills. My view stretches from the Horse Heavens above the west end of Kennewick to the Horse Heavens area above Prosser. I am strongly opposed to the proposed wind turbine project (wind machines). It will create an unreasonable destruction of the beauty of this area and it imposes a massive and unequal burden upon the citizens of this area, that has never been imposed upon any other area of the state.

As I stated in comments upon the Draft EIS, this proposal sites a massive industrial like activity in the open spaces of the Tri Cities, and the costs of that project that are imposed upon TriCity residents are simply unfair and not compensated for by the meager energy net benefit that this project may provide. It is especially important that EFSEC understand and consider that not only will a substantial number of thousands of existing TriCity residents be adversely affected by this project, but the project will also affect the future residents of the Tri Cities. The city of Pasco alone is expecting 40,000 new residents to live in the booming area of West Pasco, and area that is only now starting to develop. Most of the housing that will be built in the West Pasco area will have views of the Horse Heavens Hills and the majority of these new 40,000 residents will be adversely affected by the destruction of their viewsheds by this project. The adverse impact upon these future residents is a reasonably foreseeable impact of the proposed project, and thus must be considered.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too massive, but also too close to thousands of residents living in a major urban area. No one in their right mind would suggest siting hundreds of windmills in Puget Sound in direct view of the citizens of Seattle. The views in that area are too "precious". Just site this in the good ole Tri Cities, they are several hundred thousand people, but they don't have any political power, so why not impose this project on them, is the position that the smart money

and ruling class takes. If you don't believe this, then why not site this project in Puget Sound in view of the West Sides's major cities? Certainly, those West Coast cities are the largest users of power, and a generation source located next to them would have economic efficiencies of being closer to the power use centers. The state of Washington could then collect lease fees for the lease of aquatic lands to be used for a Puget Sound Wind Machine power source located within the viewshed of major Westside population centers.

This burden should not be imposed upon the Tri Cities, as it is already the major power generator in the state of Washington, with a large number of dams, the state's only operating nuclear power plant, and solar power arrays that are located in areas that don't impact the viewsheds of the Tri Cities. The massive number of these wind machines proposed to be installed as part of this project, their humongous height and the proximity of these turbines to the Tri Cities will destroy our cherished viewsheds, significantly and adversely altering the landscape we have historically fought so hard to protect.

I am also opposed to this project due to the significant environmental threat this project poses to our local wildlife population. At my home I am visited throughout the year by bald eagles, red tailed hawks, and falcons of every sort. These beautiful natural residents of the Tri Cities and Horse Heaven Hills will be put greatly at risk of death or injury by the hundreds of wind machines that are proposed of this project. The "taking" [a legal word for death or destruction] of these magnificent animals that will occur by collisions with the turning blades of these wind machines will result in population reductions of these species in our area. Studies have also shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity.

I am also significantly concerned with the potential wildfire impacts that can be associated with the location of these hundreds of wind machines on the parched Horse Heaven Hills. First of all, these machines can be source of fires that can become wildfires, and there is little or no capability to fight these wildfires in these

areas that have no water distribution system. Secondly, these wind machines' height, number and areal extent will make it much more difficult to fight wildfires, whether they started from a spark from the wind machines, or whether they start from a purely natural cause. Because of the terrain in the Horse Heavens, there is really only one effective way to fight wildfires. That is with the use of large water carrying airplanes that can come in at reduced altitudes and dump water or other fire retardants on the wildfires. Unfortunately, the height, and massive number of wind machines proposed for this project will make it impossible, or almost impossible, to effectively use plane tankers to discharge water or other fire dispersants since the wind machines themselves will preclude the aerial tankers from making drop runs at the altitudes that are necessary to effectively fight wildfires. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. These wildfires are a continuing threat to the Tri Cities and neighboring communities, and this project would put at risk the residents of the Tri Cities and nearby towns from an out-of-control wildfire starting in the Horse Heavens. And even more importantly, it would put the lives of local and state fire fighters at additional and unnecessary risk in fighting wildfires in this area.

As I noted earlier, the Tri Cities already is the hub of power generation in the state of Washington, and we are prepared to support economically supported and environmentally friendly additional power generation sources. For example, our local power generation agencies have started to work on the development of additional nuclear power generation using state of the art small and safe modular nuclear reactors. Compared to wind machines that will work for only a very small time period of the year, these carbon free modular reactors can steadily and continuously operate for months or years at a time providing power 24 hours of the day, every day of the year. The current Energy Northwest commercial nuclear power plant at Hanford has demonstrated that capability. The proposed wind machine project is so inefficient that it is only economically viable if the state and/or federal governments make energy tax credits and other benefits available to the developers of these projects. They offer false economics because of the tax credits and other subsidies offered by federal and state programs, and taxpayers should not be required to support the siting of this project and bear the significantly adverse environmental impacts that will be imposed upon the local community, just so out of state developers and project financiers can collect tax subsidies and energy credits.

I am not the only one to recognize the adverse impacts that projects like this one impose. For example:

1. Studies issued by environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, document that wind machines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC must recognize that the far greater adverse impacts of this proposed project upon citizens of the Tri Cities greatly outweigh the potential benefits of this project.. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats, or exploring alternative power generation sources such a carbon free 24 hour per day modular nuclear reactors.. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I request that you reject this ill-conceived wind machine project. and advise the Governor of this state that it is not in the state's best interests, and the applicant's request for authorization to build this project must be denied. I clearly support the use of carbon free energy sources for future energy generation, but it should not be provided by projects like this, that are inefficient in useful power generation, or ones like this that impose such significantly adverse environmental impacts on the surrounding population, and that are financially unviable without massive governmental subsidies or tax credits.

The Tri Cities had done more for power generation than any other part of the state of Washington. Please do not impose this hideous project upon us. If you must approve a site somewhere in the viewshed of a large metropolitan area, please site it nearer to the large cities that use most of the power and that currently do not generate power. The Tri Cities have already made far too many sacrifices for the benefit of power users on the West side. It is time for EFSEC to consider not only the interests of power users and project proponents, but also to protect the citizens of areas like the Tri Cities who have already done their part to provide power to the state, and to recognize that the adverse impacts of this project on the Tri Cities are just too great accept.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing
August 23, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Carosino

130 Terrace Drive,

Pasco, WA 99301

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: [Geneva Carroll](#)
To: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
Subject: HHH Wind Turbines
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 8:20:33 AM

External Email

Given the recent fire on Horse Heaven Hills, it is clear that having a huge infrastructure of wind turbines on the property is unsafe for the community. Wind power has shown to be not as effective as the dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers which is *clean* energy as opposed to the ugly, noisy and bird killing wind turbines. No wind turbines on Horse Heaven Hills!

Geneva Carroll

From: [columbia.georesources](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills DEIS Comments 8-23-2023 Attached
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:56:36 PM

External Email

HORSE HEAVEN HILLS WINDFARM DRAFT EIS COMMENTS – 1-31-2023 Amended and Resubmitted for Project Adjudication Public Hearing 8-23-2023 Docket No. EF-210011 ("Project")

This project is not ripe for a Final EIS (FEIS) or for an EFSEC Site Certification Approval recommendation to the Governor. Based on the available data and analysis of the limited alternatives, the continuous scope modifications, and the insufficient demonstration of need, it is requested that the proposed action be denied approval for the following reasons:

1. Failure to adequately and fully address ecological concerns
 - a. The applicants failed to include operating impacts of destruction of migrating bird flyways and already declining populations of endangered and threatened species (e.g., red tailed hawk and bats). According to the *Cumulative Impacts to Birds, Bats and Land Cover from Renewable Energy Development in the CPE* wildlife study provided, the wildlife take annually could be as high as 13000 birds, not including raptors, and 6000 raptors including the red-tailed hawk, bald eagle and owl populations. Mitigation by habitat avoidance during and after construction does not address accountability or mitigation measures for the wind farm operation taking of wildlife.*
2. Failure to adequately and fully address health and safety concerns
 - a. Construction noise mitigation – allowing work up until 10 pm does not constitute “within daytime” hours. Daytime ends at sunset.
 - b. The wind turbine blades generate significant amounts of hazardous chemical waste. The quantity of hazardous waste designated for disposal following wind tower demolition was not analyzed or presented regarding 1) human health exposure scenarios, 2) transportation of hazardous waste accident scenarios to a certified hazardous waste facility, 3) lifecycle disposal cost of the blades upon their demolition and removal, or the cost of creating

additional disposal space and groundwater monitoring. Since these factors were not analyzed for cost/benefit against other potential alternatives, it is recommended that a second draft EIS be prepared that more completely addresses the required cumulative impacts before issuing a final EIS for decision.

3. Failure to adequately and fully address viewshed and tourism concerns
 - a. The viewshed study prepared is a purposefully deceptive presentation of what will actually appear. A drive down the gorge illustrates the expanse and extent of the true visual impact of these large towers. There is a reason there are no windmills along the west end of the gorge around Mt. Hood, Mt Adams and Mt St Helens. They are eyesores and obstruct scenic views.
4. Failure to adequately and fully address other options
 - a. Failure to analyze the “other” alternatives that were “considered and eliminated because they did not meet the “desired capacity” and eliminating said alternatives before issuing a draft EIS demonstrates the lack of compliance with federal NEPA implementing requirements 40 CFR Parts 1500–1508. Failure to adhere to federal requirements disallows any federal “green” funds to be utilized by the State.
 - b. The purpose of the draft is to discuss and analyze more than one alternative besides the no action alternative identified in a public scoping meeting.
 - c. The lack of a public scoping meeting further demonstrates that this EIS does not meet the requirements for NEPA, that the EFSEC process was not conducted in accordance with NEPA implementing regulations and therefore does not meet requirements necessary for issuing a Final EIS much less a Record of Decision. Thus, the State of Washington is not acting on behalf of it’s citizens health and safety, or the environment.
 - d. The executive summary fails to adequately address “TBS Option 2”, which utilizes a different array of wind turbine towers (i.e. different number and size of towers).
5. Failure to adequately follow the intent of the SEPA/NEPA and EFSEC Public Involvement Process
 - a. When did Scout Clean Energy and their investors begin and complete their third-party lease options of farmland and payment to landowners for easements? Did this activity start before the NEPA notice of Intent in order to circumvent the Public Involvement Process due the citizens of Benton County under this SEPA and EFSEC review and decision determination process?
 - b. By “fast-tracking” the determination decision process, the public, local public utility district, local governments, and confederated tribes have been denied their only legal right to provide input on Energy Plant location alternatives or other green energy supply alternatives. The fact that public utility districts outside of the local region hold determination power over the citizens that

are directly impacted by the construction and operation of the proposed 77,000 acre Energy Site with 244 turbines, 500 ft, tall (as in the Seattle Space Needle) operating over 11,800 acres and 24 miles of scenic ridge tops is unjustified and a misuse of government taxpayer money. Would western public utility districts (PUDs) agree to having eastern Washington PUDs determine where to locate 244 wind turbines in their districts? Especially when the Project does not comply with their local County Growth Management Act Comprehensive Land Use Plan?

6. Failure to establish the need for this project
 - a. This project is not needed in a state that already has 88% of it's energy coming from renewable resources.
 - b. FERC Reviews the siting application for electric transmission projects under limited circumstances. It is not unrealistic to assume that the power generated at the proposed 77,000 acre Energy Plant will be sold (if not sooner then later) to neighboring states, resulting in interstate utility transmission actions. Thus, construction of this new Energy Plant project would be a connected action and therefore, would need to be addressed in the cumulative impact analysis of this project and its siting reviewed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) per the Energy Policy Act of 2005. It appears it is the intent of Scout Energy to avoid the scrutiny of the long term cumulative environmental, health, and cost of this project by segmenting activities over the next 20 years and disregarding the impacts to future generations as required by SEPA regulations.
 - c. In the interest of fast-tracking this project, Scout Energy acquired land easements for this project before completing the public scoping process per the NEPA requirements resulting in a predetermined scoping of alternatives and likely EFSEC decision of those inadequate alternatives. Scout has not included alternatives that would eliminate or reduce the destruction of the viewshed and flyways along the Horse Heaven ridges. (e.g., all solar or micro-nuclear facilities.)
 - d. Public Utility Commissions. The NARUC website provides information about each Public Utility Commission on the National Associations of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) website. Other Public Utility Districts support this action because they are not impacted by it.
 - e. Scout has failed to address the life-cycle cost to taxpayers with regard to the demolition, removal, disposal and replacement of 244 X 3 (non-recyclable, epoxy-resin-filled wind turbine blades and materials that will require massive amounts of Hazardous Waste Landfill space and taxpayer dollars to be

constructed, lined and groundwater monitored for centuries. Also, demolition, removal, and disposal is a connected action whose human environmental health and safety impacts need analysis. Should Scout elect to sell or abandon their interests in this Energy Plant in the future, it is a reasonable assumption that it will be the federal and state taxpayers who will be liable to pay for the cleanup of the hazardous waste from retired wind turbines not unlike the cleanup of the Hanford Site.

Supplemental:

[Cumulative Impacts to Birds, Bats and Land Cover from Renewable Energy Development in the CPE](#)

*Based on the current and future levels of wind energy development within the CPE, between 17,000–33,000 birds (excluding raptors) would be killed annually, the majority (67%) of which would be composed of species in the Passerine group that have robust populations (>1 million individuals) followed by non-native species in the Upland Game Bird group (12%) that have open hunting seasons. Based on the current and future levels of wind energy development within the CPE, between 800–1,500 raptors would be killed annually, of which, the majority (81.5%) would be species in the Diurnal Raptor group. Red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) and American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) fatalities would be highest but composed 0.4–0.8% of their estimated population in the CPE, respectively.

However, some species may be disproportionately affected by wind energy development due to small populations or low reproductive rates. Ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*) is a Washington state endangered species with increased conservation concern due to declining population trends in the region and a small population size. Elevated projected fatality estimates for the breeding population of ferruginous hawk in future development scenarios will likely contribute to cumulative effects with other stressors in the CPE (e.g., habitat loss, prey availability, shooting). Although fewer ferruginous hawk fatalities have been documented at wind energy facilities compared to other raptors, ferruginous hawk breeding populations in the CPE are comparatively small with sustained declining populations that makes the species more sensitive to increased mortality from any source.

For example, an estimated 2.9 billion birds are killed annually by domestic and feral cats but typically do not affect raptors. The concern of cumulative impacts to raptors are comparatively higher than other bird species because raptors are typically long-lived species with delayed reproductive maturity, low reproductive rates and flight behaviors that make them more susceptible to wind turbine collisions

Based on current and future levels of wind energy development, between 7,300–13,800 bats would be killed annually, of which, the majority (96%) would be composed of migratory tree roosting bats that include hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*) and silver-haired bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*). Although the proportion of wind energy derived mortality on bat populations and other sources of bat mortality in the CPE are unknown, bat occupancy rates in the CPE have declined in past years,

suggesting declining populations. White-nose syndrome (WNS; *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*), a lethal fungus that has decimated bat populations in the Midwestern and Eastern US, was first detected in Washington in 2016 and within the CPE (Kittitas County) in 2018 and Chelan and Yakima counties in 2020. The scale of bat mortality in the US caused by WNS is analogous to cat mortality in songbird populations. Of the 14 bat species that occur within the CPE; six species have exhibited a symptomatic lethal response to the fungus, three species have been asymptomatic (including silver-haired bat), and five species currently have no documented response (including hoary bat). As the disease spreads in the western US and potentially changes pathology to affect more bat species, WNS could have a decimating impact on bat populations in the CPE as observed elsewhere in the US. Better estimates of bat population sizes and dynamics are crucially needed as a first step to understanding the effect of wind energy mortality on bat populations.

G. Cummins
Kennewick, WA

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [bronwyn.evans](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:48:37 AM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community. This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage. Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties. What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense. To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines. EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved. I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Thank you

Bronwen Evans

From: [Ken Gano](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Scout Clean Energy Horse heavens wind farm
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:43:10 PM

External Email

The proposed horse heaven wind farm project will devastate the view shed of the entire TriCities area as well as have major impacts to wildlife.

The EIS does a fine job of admitting there will be lasting impacts to wildlife and plant communities. I've worked in the field of habitat restoration and can tell you it is impossible to restore native plant communities in our desert environment. You can try to plant a half dozen or so species but you can never restore a complete native community. There are no seeds available for 90% of the grasses and forbs that live on those ridge tops. As for impacts to wildlife, they try to say impacts will be minimal and no more impacting than another wind farm east of the TriCities. They don't mention the cumulative effects of all these wind farms, which is a requirement for all EISs. This wind farm is in the main fly way for sand hill cranes and all waterfowl flying between the Umatilla wildlife refuge and the Columbia river in the TriCities and the Columbia basin to the north. It will have major impacts to the migratory silver hair and hoary bats, whose populations are already in decline. There are some mitigation measures that can be employed to reduce impacts to bats, such as curtailing operations when the wind is less than 6 mph. I did not find any mention of this in the EIS. If allowed to go forth, this should be a required minimum mitigation measure. Most greedy wind farm projects don't employ any bat mitigation measures because it might cost them a nickel or two. What are they going to say when our migratory bat species hit the endangered species list.

There will also be impacts to all the local raptors. This is one of the last places in the state that has ferruginous hawks. These people claim there will be minimal impact. If you take out the last one, that is not minimal impact.

What are you going to say when some of these species become extinct? Sorry about that? That doesn't cut it!

Finally, the impact to the viewshed of the TriCities will be monumental, as admitted in the EIS. If this project was proposed for the west side of the state within the viewshed of 200,000 people it would never get off the ground.

Please do not allow this project to go forward.

From: [Grama Son](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: No windfarm
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:00:09 PM

External Email

From: [Patrick D. Grengs II](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: EFSEC - HHH - Public Comment Hearing Wed. August 23, 2023 5:30-8 PM / feedback
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:15:04 PM

External Email

Hello EFSEC HHH Comments and Feedback Collector –

I am writing with respect to the HHH (Horse Heaven Hills) wind project that is being proposed by Scout Clean Energy. As a 30-year TriCitian, I am opposed to this project and offer the following rationale for my opposition.

- **The project will destroy the unique landscape and appearance around the TriCities and seriously reduce property valuations:**

- I own 40 acres in West Richland with 120 degrees of view toward the West including the Rattlesnake, Red, Candy and Badger mountains.
- The destruction of the visual landscape will reduce the value of my property to both me and any future developer.
- Property devaluations are a consistent result in localities where wind turbines are constructed.
- Significant vehicular traffic during the construction of the turbines will increase the level of dust and noise in the area.
- Increased construction traffic raises the potential for accidents on the roadways and will certainly exacerbate traffic congestion.
- The wind turbines will generate long shadow flicker across the miles of property that they impact.
- Ongoing studies show detrimental health effects to individuals who live near these turbines.
- There will be the expected noise pollution generated by the wind blades.
- The winking red lights will despoil the quiescence of the Tri-Cities night.
- All of these results contribute to the lowering of property values and the standard of living of the people living in the TriCities.
- **The project is not fiscally viable:**
 - This project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for TriCities taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.
 - All wind power must be supplemented by hot-standby power (typically natural gas plants). The additional costs of these plants act as a multiplier on the costs of wind power, wherein this multiplier is typically 3 or greater.
 - Additionally, the backup power (hydro, nuclear, nat. gas) will need to be on stand-by mode while the wind power is feeding the electric grid.

- The turbines have an expected life of 15 years (despite the PR material that shows 25 years for the amortization).
- Nearing the end of the 15-year expected life of a wind turbine, the maintenance costs exceed the wholesale rate of energy production (this would be the rates charged to the local municipalities, Rural Electric Associations and consumers of the power).
- The natural resources and costs to mine the materials, fabricate, ship, install, maintain, and decommission a turbine exceeds the sum of the intermittent power that it will generate over its lifetime.
- Wind turbines have a cut-in and cut-out wind speed. That is, the turbine will not generate power until the wind reaches the cut-in speed. The cut-out speed is the wind speed where the turbine is brake-locked. As such, during very high winds, the wind turbines will not even be rotating; all the while, the blades are wearing out due to stress fractures.
- Wind turbine blades can only be “recycled” at exorbitant costs. Instead, government municipalities have taken in spent turbine blades; for this, they receive tax-credits and other State-incentive subsidies. Instead of burying them in landfills, they are piled up out in the desert or open spaces of sparsely populated areas – out of sight, out of mind.
- **Wind power is unreliable, unaffordable and dangerous:**
 - Where wind power has been implemented on a large scale, power costs have increased dramatically. This can be seen throughout countries in Europe as well as Southern California.
 - The winds are intermittent; as such, power produced is not reliable. In Germany, where wind turbines litter the landscape, there are long periods of Dunkelflaute (weeks and months when there is little wind). The TriCities experiences a similar phenomenon wherein the wind turbines will essentially stand idle.
 - Expensive energy may have killed more Europeans than Covid-19 during the Winter of 2022-23. The expense was brought about by the massive implementation of both wind and solar installations which failed to produce adequate power (Germany experienced a long period where the wind speed slowed, essentially rendering the wind mills impotent).
 - The wind turbine debacle in Texas (2021 Winter) was just one example where the failure of wind power (frozen turbines) resulted in a catastrophic failure of the electric grid. This failure then caused a surge in excess deaths (which was not experienced by neighboring states during the same period).
- **Wind turbines are not “green”:**
 - Washington State already has over 65% of its electrical power provided by safe, quiet, green, paid-for hydroelectric plants.
 - It is interesting that Washington State politicians insist that hydropower is not green – this designation has been made so that the highly-subsidized wind farms can be installed at great cost both economically and environmentally.
 - The 2500 tons of concrete at the base of a 2MW baseplate turbine (one of the typical turbines with a 200’ tower and 100’ blades) requires 600,000 pounds of cement – just the creation of that cement generates ~300 tons of CO₂. This does not even include the costs for the rebar, forms, transportation and installation of the concrete base. The much larger turbines in the HHH project will require significantly more materials and generate a far greater amount of CO₂ (so much for the clean-and-green claims for wind turbines).
 - The National Ready Mixed Concrete Association says that, during production, each

pound of concrete releases 0.93 pounds of CO₂.

- <https://www.ecori.org/climate-change/2019/10/4/global-warming-has-a-co2ncrete-problem>
- All the components for a turbine must be transported and installed using trucks, trains and cranes that require substantial fuel which generates more CO₂.
- Wind turbine blades wear out like aircraft wings. Stress fractures break down the effectiveness of the blade which requires replacement prior to catastrophic decay. Germany is already experiencing the result of this as wind farms have been decommissioned due to known material degradation of the blades. Many of the turbines in the Columbia Gorge were installed during the period 2008-2010. These will need to be replaced no later than 2025. Watch for the online films of an ever-increasing number of turbine failures.
- Offshore wind turbines need to be replaced more frequently due to the adverse effects of salt water.
- **Wind turbines change the climate:**
 - Wind turbines alter the surface air temperatures during the day (cooling) and night (heating).
 - Wind patterns will be impacted because of this huge installation and can have detrimental effects on the local crops in terms of precipitation patterns.
 - Wind turbines change the wind velocity to such an extent, that in the larger wind farms (report by US Wind Power 2016), the rows of turbines at the trailing end of the wind vector move more slowly because of the momentum of the wind being significantly dampened by the turbines on the front of the wind wave. In short, the actual amount of power produced is significantly less than the calculations from the models.
 - Wind turbines directly change the climate by parasitizing the surface convective air currents which place a drag on the vertical advective atmospheric mixing. This effect is mostly evidenced in offshore turbines that dampen the smooth laminar flow of air that oscillates between the land and the sea.
 - When you have over 250,000 wind turbines, around the world, that directly change the climate via parasitization of surface convective air currents which dampen atmospheric mixing and nobody from the Sierra Club, Earth First or the Union of Concerned Scientists is even bothering to wave a flag of concern, then you can be assured that Climate Change Catastrophism is less a matter of science and more a matter of politics.
- **The basic premise of the wind project is to reduce “Climate Change” – this premise is fundamentally flawed:**
 - Whether the sea levels are rising or falling, glaciers are advancing or retreating, mean atmospheric temperature is increasing or decreasing, ocean pH is becoming more acidic or base; know this: the climate is always changing. If we lived in a static climate, this would be cause for concern. In short, there is no such thing as a “climate change denier.”
 - The “Science” on climate change is certainly not settled – insisting on such is antithetical to Science. Additionally, Science is not conducted by consensus.
 - “Climate Change” as advertised by the mainstream media and state scientists, is bunk – to wit, the 97% consensus is a fraud:
 - The Cook study of climate paper abstracts and its resultant 97% consensus has been

roundly discredited.

- The online climate survey by Doran, et. al, with its 97% results, when looked at mathematically, has similarly been revealed to be without merit.
- 10 minutes of research on the internet illustrates the 97% figure to be an arbitrary fabrication.
- The climate change alarmists will insist that AGW (Anthropogenic Global Warming) is the major contributor to climate change. This is not the case. The large nuclear furnace in the sky, the sun, is primarily responsible for the periodic changes in the climate.
- Weather is different from Climate – the mainstream media makes a lot of noise regarding weather events as though they are particularly unusual; when, in fact, they are simply party to a global climate that has been experiencing changes for millennia.
- Climate change models have been notoriously wrong in their predictions. We constantly hear the din from governments and the media that the world has only 12 more years until we will require a Planet B. This claim is absurd. Predictions relating to the melting of the polar ice caps, the drowning of vast coastal areas and 10s of millions of climate refugees has not come to pass. Instead, the climate change alarmists just kick the date for the End-of-the-World further down the road.
- The sea levels have been rising at the rate of ~ 2mm per year over the past 150 years. That's one foot over 150 years. This is not an emergency. This is not a crisis. This is normal. Humans have adapted to these changes over the millennia and will continue to do so.
- If the sea levels were dramatically rising, as claimed by the climate alarmists, then banks would not offer loans to developers that are constructing buildings along the coastlines.
- **Wind turbines are a so-called solution to a problem that does not exist – we have safe and effective green power already. More importantly, CO2 is not a pollutant, it is a necessary ingredient for plant growth.**
- The claim is made that a Carbon Tax will help to reduce CO2 and result in a decrease in global warming (climate change). This is nonsense. The entire premise of "Cap and Trade" is nothing more than pushing 'carbon credits' around the plate while incurring a cost (taxes) to be captured by the carbon traders. It would not change the amount of carbon produced. It would enrich those who develop and administer the Carbon Tax Credit Exchanges. Costs for energy and everything downstream of energy would become more expensive to the consumer. The whole thing is a scam.
- When 25+ years of IPCC reports slowly remove any notion of the existence of the Medieval Warm Period (the premise of which would invalidate the necessity for AGW), you must know that something aside from Science is taking place.
- When 95% of all the greenhouse gases consist of water vapor, and you cannot put a tax on water vapor and life-giving CO2 is labelled a pollutant, then you need to be assured that something is rotten at the very core of the Great Climate Change Fraud.
- When children are used as tools to further the notion that Climate Change, as the result of man-made use of hydrocarbon fuels, is radically changing the Climate, then know that you are dealing with Climate Charlatans.

To Summarize: Electricity produced by nuclear plants and hydroelectric dams provides the most cost-effective and reliable form of energy. Nuclear plants and dams do not shut down at night. They do not shut down when the wind stops. The fluctuations of so-called "green

power" (solar and wind) are highly dependent on power from 24/7 sources including hydroelectric dams and nuclear plants. Solar and Wind farms require far more land area per kilowatt hour produced when compared to Hydro and Nuclear. Additionally, both solar panels and windmill parts have a tremendous cost in terms of the waste products from their manufacture and disposal. Climate Change alarmism is less a matter of science and more a matter of politics and taxpayer financed corporatism. I see the HHH wind project as both a criminal waste of resources and the application of unnecessary technology that will destroy the beauty and value of property owned by individuals throughout the Tri-Cities.

Submitted with respect to the HHH Wind - Public Comment Hearing on Wednesday, August 23, 2023,

Patrick D. Grengs II / Property owner and rancher in West Richland of 17 years, TriCity resident of 30 years.

From: [Rylan Grimes](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Project Comments
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 6:23:45 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[EFSEC comments 8-23-23.docx](#)

External Email

Please include my attached written comments as part of the official record in addition to my spoken comments.

Thanks,

Rylan Grimes

Lead Organizer

IBEW LU 112

Cell: 509-619-4547

Office: 509-735-0512

Fax: 509-735-0514

Email: rylang@ibew112.com

join112.com



From: [Eugene Guse](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comment for the HHH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:51:22 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable

energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Submitted by

Eugene Guse

Kennewick, WA

From: [Judy](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comment on HHH Turbine Wind Project -How Solar Cells And Wind Turbines Are Made
Date: Thursday, August 17, 2023 9:03:40 PM

External Email

Why would you approve a project on the HHH that destroys the environment? This project relies on the most toxic and industrial processes that's ever been created!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EHSgSdipTOU>

From: [Judy](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comments on HHH Turbine Wind Project
Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 3:28:42 PM

External Email

We have lived in this area for going on 19 years. We moved to the country to enjoy the beautiful vista view, the peaceful country living and quiet it provides and don't want it destroyed by ugly, noisy, irritating turbines that will destroy the spectacular landscape of the HHH, disturb wildlife, habitat and kill the magnificent birds that use the sky highway above us as they migrate south.

This turbine wind project will definitely affect the property value of our home. We have seen what these monstrosities have done to other neighborhoods, the detrimental health on people birds and animals, damaged wildlife habitat and shrubsteppe, the ruined view, the swish sound of the blades, low frequency sound, blade flicker, ground vibrations, etc. The view of our spectacular sunsets will be spoiled by these wind turbines! It will be difficult or impossible to sell our home unless we give away our hard-earned investment.

Our local authorities and public were bypassed in the decision-making process and the choice for our county was directly placed in Olympia! Scout Energy applied directly to the state, deceitfully circumventing our county government and the local citizens whom they knew were not in favor of this project. They instead were hoping they could work with EFSEC and Governor Inslee to agree to this project because of Washington's goal to be carbon free by 2045. People on the west side who will **not** be impacted at all should not determine what gets built here that will negatively affect 1000's of people in our community.

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 an industrial turbine wind project. 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 has taken some spectacular photos of the HHH. 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, etc. Thousands of these birds fly over our homes in the fall. We've seen eagles flying overhead too. In fact, my neighbor across the street had several young adult eagles perched in his tree last year. We don't know how other bird species in our area will be affected like pheasants, doves, chukars, quail, hummingbirds, warblers, wood peckers, finches, etc. We don't know how it will affect the antelope that have recently migrated to the

Horse Heaven Hills.

This industrial turbine wind project should not be placed in the dry desert where it will be a dust bowl during construction, use up our limited water supply and impact our well water supply by depleting our aquifers. Heavy truck traffic will damage our roads and place public safety in jeopardy especially to school children at school bus stops and for vehicles meeting and following these trucks hauling turbine materials and copious amounts of water for cement mixing and dust control. Traffic disruption – there will be long wait times during road straightening, widening, and paving. The dust that will be stirred up during construction is another concern. People who don't live in a desert have no idea what happens in a dry climate when heavy equipment start digging and moving dirt. Fugitive dust will be a constant battle and that fugitive dust laced with chemicals used in farming operation on the HHH will be a major health concern for everyone in the Tri-Cities especially to children and the elderly.

Fires in our desert climate is another concern. A fire on a 671-foot tall turbine in a desert where there are abundant amounts of tumble weeds and dried grasses will burn rapidly and spread quickly to surrounding homes. A fire burning high on a turbine is out of reach of local firefighting resources. Low and slow aerial firefighting aircraft cannot be used due to the risks posed by the wind turbines. Hundreds of acres can be consumed by a single turbine fire and just one fire incident can cost up to \$4.5 M to contain according to Wind Power Engineering. We are not dealing with harmless, innocent windmills but rather with high voltage machines called **aerogenerators** high in the sky, operating with hundreds of gallons of oil and lubricants, and subject to lightning strikes and friction ignition from moving parts. Research suggests that one of the main ignition sources for fires in turbines is lightning strikes. We have a lot of dry lightning strikes in our desert in the summer time. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RGuzcqfcqVo>

Nuclear Energy is cleaner, cheaper, abundant and safe. It produces massive amounts of energy cleanly and efficiently. Concerning safety, yearly there were 1.4M deaths from car accidents, 2.3M deaths that's work related, 4.2M deaths from air pollution and less than 200 deaths from nuclear power not yearly but in the entire history of nuclear. It would take dozens of wind and solar projects covering thousands of acres of land that would match a single nuclear power plant can produce. If you really want to save the planet, go nuclear. Wind power requires 30-45 times as much land and about 10 times as much concrete and steel to produce the equivalent power of nuclear. Building one wind turbine requires 900 tons of steel, 2,500 tons of concrete and 45 tons of plastic! Solar power requires even more cement, steel and glass—not to mention other metals. "Renewable energy" is a contradiction. Wind and solar machines and batteries are built from nonrenewable materials. And they wear out. Old equipment must be decommissioned, generating millions of tons of waste. If hydro and nuclear power in the PNW stay in place, we would meet a theoretical 100%

clean electricity goal in our region. Using wind and solar power would require a land area of 20-100 times the area of Seattle and Portland combined. Wind development will only increase our electric rates. Our hydro and nuclear energy have given our area low electric rates for years! Hydro-power is by far the largest renewable worldwide, producing over twice as much energy as wind, and over four times as much as solar. Why would anyone take out the dams and replace them with wind turbines? It doesn't make any sense at all. It seems like we are going backward to a more primitive unreliable source of energy that produces on the average less than 20% of their capacity rather than keeping the reliable sources of hydro & nuclear we already have.

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. The Northwest is America's leader in hydro-power, the cheap electricity is a draw for new businesses, for ongoing research at PNNL (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory), for business and industry, and for the consumers. Hydro-power is the greenest, most reliable energy source we have. Hydro-power fits nicely within the energy grid work in that it can respond to energy load changes, and still be continuously operating, Wind doesn't even come close! Scout's claim that this wind project 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 not have an effect on carbon emissions, no matter where this energy ends up. If these turbines are installed the net effect would be higher energy costs for the taxpayers to cover the initial costs, maintenance costs and the cost of disposal when the turbines life is done. The wind turbines have a useful life of approximately 15 years if that and then what do you do with the massive amounts of plastic and metal? It's doubtful that they can be recycled. Instead of wind maybe the state should consider more nuclear such as the proposed small nuclear plant to be constructed in north Richland.

On a per capita basis, WA state doesn't have a dirty electricity problem worth sacrificing vast amount of our natural landscapes and risking blackouts that jeopardize the health, safety and well-being of our citizens. Thanks to hydro and nuclear energy, WA electricity is very clean. How does more wind development and accepting further environmental and ecological impacts in the northwest help the eastern states move away from coal? Natural gas is cleaner burning than coal, is reliable can be built on a relatively small footprint and emits CO2 at a rate 60% below some coal plants. Transitioning from coal to natural gas can keep the US from heading on a downward trajectory of annual emissions. Wind cannot be counted on to provide the electricity needed on the coldest and hottest days of the year. 7,100 MW of wind In the PNW contributes only about 500 MW to capacity needs. Sacrificing our scenic hillsides canyons and desert vistas in Benton County will have little if any environmental benefit. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rQyoFe-K_BU

This proposed project is located too close to people's homes! Nothing this large has been built this close to heavily populated areas. Many residents who will be exposed the negative effects of the turbines have not given their consent. The landowners are profiting off of something on their property that infringes on their neighbors' rights. I am all for the property rights of owners to use their property as they choose, but there are always conditions to that. I cannot have cows or pigs in my backyard; I don't have the right to do whatever I want on my property. With property ownership comes responsibility. We have to abide by codes, conditions and rules so we do not harm the community or the neighbors around us. We are a community of neighbors who hopefully care about each other. And that is more important to most people than getting some monetary gain off of an industrial wind turbine project, knowing that they are going to have to live with the neighbor who is exposed to it against their will, against their consent, and may be exposed to harm. It is more important to "love your neighbor as yourself." We want to live together in harmony, not animosity. There are things in this life that are a lot more important than money.

These are not innocent windmills. I was reared on a farm and we raised animals and grew crops; NOT turbines! We had a small windmill to pump water into a holding tank in our pump house. It was barely as tall as our two-story house or a tall tree. What is planned for the Horse Heaven Hills are 244 industrial turbines in rows of six, some the height of the Seattle Space Needle, 500-671 feet, stretching 29 miles from Benton City to Finley. Farmers have long used the wind. Beginning in the 1800's, farmers in the United States installed several million windmills across the Midwest and Plains to pump water and (later) generate power for lights and radios. Those windmills fit nicely into the existing landscape and generally did not create problems for others. Today, however, the wind energy industry is using the wind in a different manner by virtue of large scale aerogenerators that have a tremendous negative impact on the health of individuals and the visual landscape and the rural culture.

The use of the word "Farm" in the title of the DEIS, is a misrepresentation from the very start of the SEPA Process which is repeated a myriad of times throughout the cover letter, executive summary, the DEIS and appendices, the historic records associated with the ASC, and all associated project documentation. The use of the word "wind farm" is misleading since it isn't raising animals or growing any crop for harvest. The project is not an agricultural activity under the regulations. The "wind farm" terminology is a distortion used in public relations to bias the view of the public towards something perceived to be green, eco-friendly, and not industrial, and damaging. The use of the words "farm" and "windmill" gives the impression of innocence, insignificance and American as apple pie! That's as deceitful as it gets.

Gene & Judy Guse

104902 E Tripple Vista Dr

Kennewick, WA

From: [Denise Hagood](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:03:26 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community, and reduce the cherished ridges of our Horse Heaven Hills to a HORRIFIC INDUSTRIAL WASTELAND.

This HUGE project is sited TOO CLOSE to the Tri-Cities. It will cause visual misery, loss of property value, loss of tourism, danger to wildlife, fire-fighting impediments, impacted air quality, and much MORE!

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to fully understand and fully address the PROFOUNDLY NEGATIVE IMPACTS this project would have on the Tri-Cities community.

PLEASE--do the right thing--for the Tri-Cities and for Southeast Washington. Seek a different site for a wind project of this magnitude.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by:

Denise Hagood
Richland, Washington

From: [Greg Hanson](#)
To: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#); [Drew, Kathleen \(EFSEC\)](#); [Bumpus, Sonia \(EFSEC\)](#); pam@tricityscare.org; [Greg Hanson](#)
Subject: Concerned Resident of Tri-Cities
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:36:16 AM

External Email



To: EFSEC

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by: Greg Hanson

709 S Penn Pl
Kennewick, WA 99336
ga_hanson@yahoo.com

From: [Christy](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: EFSEC HHH PUBLIC COMMENT SUBMISSION FR 8-23-23
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:33:58 PM

External Email

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

August 23, 2023

Dear Sir or Madam:

As a concerned life-long resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine and solar project that threatens to devastate the landscape and our community. I am adamantly opposed to this project for the following reasons, which will be stated here.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. This project is also a huge fire hazard in an area already dealing for its limited yearly precipitation and yearly wildfires.

In addition, the power from the Scout Energy combined Wind and Solar project is not even intended to benefit the state of Washington, nor the Pacific Northwest. The limited amount of power that could be created from this sprawling monstrosity also will not interface well with our already extant grid of nuclear and hydro-power. Additionally, Energy Northwest has recently signed an agreement with X-Energy Reactor Company, to build 12 modular nuclear reactors which will sit on the already extant footprint near Energy Northwest, and which will tie in harmoniously with our extant power grid and produce 200-300 megawatts of power per unit or 2400-3600 megawatts, which will be used here in the pacific northwest. Contrast this to Scout Energy's proposed

1150 mg, with a grossly sprawling, widespread, unwanted footprint, a shorter working life with no extensions, and no recycling or mitigation plan), and which will not harmoniously interface with our existing grid but which poses interruptions of the grid and rate hikes for its rate payers.

This ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife and local and migrating bird and bat species. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. Local Ferruginous Hawk populations, for example, are listed as State Threatened, under the endangered species act. Habitat loss and fragmentation of their shrub-steppe and grasslands is a huge factor in their already threatened status. The Horse Heaven Hills ridgeline system post a significant migration corridor and habitat for Ferruginous Hawks and many other species of wildlife. The ridgeline system's value for native plant and animal communities cannot be overstated. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties. As this year's fire season in our area shows, with significant fires on both the Horse Heaven and Rattlesnake ridgeline systems, unimpeded access by fire fighting planes played a significant role in getting these fires contained quickly and with the minimal possible damage to homes and property. As fire is the second-leading cause of accidents related to wind-turbines, the mega-sized industrial wind-farm complex proposed by Scout Energy, would be an irresponsible and unnecessary burden on our fire-fighting facilities with absolutely no local return for our economy, outside of a few, short-term jobs for locals. The few jobs provided during the construction phase of the project in no way

compensate for the negative effects of this unwanted industrial wind-farm monstrosity being proposed.

To add insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation as well as actual, physical wildlife kills due to collision.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats, or just denying the project altogether. Our extant energy grid will soon be augmented by modular reactors which also provide carbon-free clean energy, with a smaller footprint, which will tie-in nicely to our already extant hydro-and nuclear grid. This grid, which is a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment, has already been proven its reliability and environmental stewardship. Unlike the proposed wind-power project which will jeopardize the efficiency of our energy grid and raise rates, fragment already threatened wild lands and wildlife, create huge eyesores and fire hazards, and be obsolete almost as soon as they are built, with no mitigation plans for once they have become so.

Cultural, recreational, and economic and tourism viability is also being ignored by this proposed project. The Yakama Nation oppose the Scout Wind and Solar project as it would harm traditional Yakama cultural lands. Recreation on the Horse Heaven Hills ridgeline system is huge and varied and takes place all year long, with everyone from hikers, mountain bikers, native plant enthusiasts and bird watchers, wildlife watchers and photographers, equestrians, paragliders, hunters, off-road vehicle drivers, cross-country skiers and others using these ridgelines throughout the year. Locals of all kinds enjoy recreating in these areas. Additionally, people from the west side of the state and from out of state enjoy the accessibility and varied recreation opportunities present there. Native plant communities, which are already adversely affected by mechanical disturbance in many areas, would be fragmented and destroyed beyond viability by the proposed wind project. Wine industries, economic industries, and quality of life would also be irreparably affected, as has been communicated time and again, by people and groups participating in these comment sessions, in editorials in our and regional local newspapers, etc.

The final EIS date is unknown, yet the adjudication process is speeding past. How is that even legal? How can anyone adequately analyze the project when the project specifications seem to be a moving target and no one knows really are? Requests have been denied to hold hearings in the Tri-Cities. EFSEC is failing to balance the need to meet mandated clean energy goals by foisting this ill-conceived and ill-sited project where it is least needed or wanted, while ignoring the needs of the people impacted by it and the impacts to wildlife and the environment. This project is an attempt to exploit tax credits but doesn't help the environment in the slightest and will be needlessly damaging to the local environment in myriad ways.

This project has been from its outset, steamrolled past the communities who will be directly impacted by it and who will, ultimately be footing the bill for it. I and others have participated repeatedly in these comment sessions, which live versions are always limited to extreme brevity for those brave souls who show up to participate live and online. Written

comments have been submitted also been repeatedly submitted for these processes. But the fact is, Scout Energy and EFSEC continue to steamroll this process, without an adequate and final EIS, and apparently without any real consideration to the many participants who do not want this monstrous development to become a reality in their backyards and local recreational areas. So far, to all intents and purposes, this process has been a farce, designed to meet the minimum appearance of token consideration of “all parties involved” while actually listening to none of the valid, dissenting opinions of the people that this project will most affect and the lands that this monstrosity will most violate. This is a gross violation of the democratic process, making a mockery of the public input process, while pretending to actually listen to the public’s concerns.

Lastly I wish to point out, which may or may not have been covered by others, and which should at least be given due consideration in the final Environmental Impact Statement, before any further development of this project can occur, what are the carbon-fixing benefits of leaving those ecosystems intact vs building the proposed wind-and-solar farms. Carbon sequestration by intact ecosystems results in carbon mitigation to the average tune of 30% per year. The carbon COST or impact of just one wind tower 1701 tons of CO-2 equivalent, which is not negligible. I suspect that if the final EIS was being done honestly and in a timely manner, it would show that not only does the SCOUT wind-and-solar project come out in the Red in terms of initial Carbon impact for manufacturing and erecting these behemoths, but that in the working life of these machines, the offset (zero, because it doesn’t benefit us locally), carbon sequestration benefits (zero) and other supposed “green” benefits zero out or actually end up in the red. While just leaving those ecosystems intact, allowing them to function as nature intended, allows the land to go on contributing in a much more beneficial, carbon-sequestering way. In short, NOT building the SCOUT wind and solar industrial complex, is in fact, actually much better for the planet in terms of true carbon sequestration and keeping carbon out of the atmosphere. And that is what this whole debacle is supposed to be about, really, isn’t it?

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being, nor at the expense of viable ecosystems, wildlife, native habitat and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by Christy Hembree, Tri-city native and life long resident

From: [Margaret Hue](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Decide locally p 1-50 testimony against HHH Wind/Solar Farm
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 6:43:25 PM
Attachments: [Decide locally p 1-50 testimony against HHH WindSolar Farm.msg](#)

External Email

From: [Margaret Hue](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Margaret Hue](#)
Subject: Decide Locally Petition p 106-145 Against HHH Wind Solar Farm
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:57:08 PM
Attachments: [Decide Locally Petition p 106-145 Against HHH Wind Solar Farm.msg](#)

External Email

From: [Margaret Hue](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Margaret Hue](#)
Subject: Petition Against HHH wind /solar farm p 146-190
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:54:10 PM
Attachments: [Petition Against HHH wind solar farm p 146-190.msg](#)

External Email

From: [Margaret Hue](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Decide Locally Petitions Against HHH pages 51-106
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:35:04 PM
Attachments: [Decide Locally Petitions Against HHH pages 51-106.msg](#)

External Email

From: [Margaret Hue](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Margaret Hue](#)
Subject: Decide Locally 2777 signatures (original to Governor Inslee)Against the HHH Wind Farm Project
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:33:42 PM
Attachments: [8-23-2023 Petitions against HHH Wind Farm p 1-50.pdf](#)
Importance: High

External Email

Pages of Petition against HHH wind farm
1-50

From: [Margaret Hue](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Margaret Hue](#)
Subject: Decide Locally Against HHH Wind /Solar Farm Project Part 1
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:40:50 PM
Attachments: [cover letter 2677 signatures against wind farm petitions.pdf](#)
[Decide Locally Petition Against HHH Wind Farm 2123.pdf](#)

External Email

HHH

From: [Margaret Hue](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Margaret Hue](#)
Subject: 8-23-2023 Testimony Against Scout Energy HHH Proposed Wind and Solar Farm
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:41:02 PM
Attachments: [8-23-2023 Testimony Against Scout Clean Energy-HHH Wind Project.pdf](#)

External Email

Please enter the following testimony into the record for the public hearing comments against the HHH wind farm

From: [Becky A. Hughes](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: HHH wind turbines
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 10:58:57 AM

External Email

Not sure the original of this actually sent

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our objection to this poorly planned blite on our neighborhoods,

I will not be able to speak at your meeting but please enter my objections to this project. I do not want these wind Turbines built in my neighborhood. Many individuals neighborhoods, animal, wildlife, bird sanctuaries, back up to the hills which are the raptors hunting grounds. The high powered electric lines they will be installing to service the wind turbines can impact health too not mention the actual construction will have on the environment badger is the only 2 lane rural road for the residents to move thru the area and if they tear up the sand it will be blowing everywhere making outdoor life unbearable causing lung and health issues. . This Project is backed by Australian investors (motivated by our tax payers subsidy) that hired a Colorado based Company (Scout Energy) to erect 244 wind machines 671 feet tall for 24 miles on private wheat farms, protected Lewis and Clark Heritage Trail along a ridge/canyon area. These are placed in the Pacific Flyway migration path, degrading the shrub steppe ecosystem (federally protected birds and plants.) There is no energy/economic impact of this project other than the out of state user or large corporation that will benefit from purchasing a "green energy source" with transferable tax credits to another facility not meeting energy guidelines (no penalty.) Other states denied this project. Our local authorities and public were bypassed input and it was directly placed in Olympia! Negatively impacting our wine and agriculture, higher energy bills for consumers. Currently Europeans are rethinking this minimum producing wind turbine energy and beginning to dismantle them. European data points to health hazards including the environmental impact (Netherlands and Germany dismantling has begun).

We have One of the Hawk pairs that lives in the tree at the intersection of Badger Rd and Badger Canyon Rd. I have previously sent you pictures of. There are many more nests in our canyon this is only one. We also have other protected species living in our land. There has been no real impact statements produced locally only the investors who bypassed us. Dust blowing in residential environment both from the wind turbines and the construction. Demand for Water, depleting the aquifers, all residents are on well water with no other source This is Protected Birds breeding/hunting grounds and migrating fly way Wildlife & protected antelope range in the living environment Construction of both KID water shed storage and the power lines will make living and traveling thru the area unbearable. Restricted small 2 lane road, Noise and heavy equipment tearing up roads and blocking emergency vehicles. They do not care that any fires in this area immediately travel acres and endanger residents and wildlife, they have no real water or plan to keep batteries from burning our homes. Just a spark from a rock icing each ther causes hundreds of acres to burn quickly and we will have no way out of the canyon! What are you doing this is a horrible plan putting us all in danger.

There has been no Placement plans of turbines and no noise, dust temperature studies. Our Health and air quality will deteriorate to unbearable levels Harvard study showed an Increased heat 8* our temp last summer were often in the 100* already! This is Poor, unreliable and costly power production that has been proven to cause Heath problems for people forced to live in immediate area. I do not want the wind turbines in anyone's living environment. Look what is happening to the wales on the east coast.!

If you must destroy the environment at least put it in uninhabited areas or in your own back yard this is a horrible idea!

Becky Hughes Concerned citizen of Badger canyon Kennewick, WA 99338

--

Sent from [Canary](#)

From: [Becky A. Hughes](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Hhh turbine objection
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 8:37:25 PM

External Email

I will not be able to speak at your meeting 1, but please enter my objections to this project. I do not want these wind Turbines built in my neighborhood. Many individuals neighborhoods, animal, wildlife, bird sanctuaries, back up to the hills which are the raptors hunting grounds. The high powered electric lines they will be installing to service the wind turbines can impact health too not mention the actual construction will have on the environment badger is the only 2 lane rural road for the residents to move thru the area and if they tear up the sand it will be blowing everywhere making outdoor life unbearable causing lung and health issues. . This Project is backed by Australian investors (motivated by our tax payers subsidy) that hired a Colorado based Company (Scout Energy) to erect 244 wind machines 671 feet tall for 24 miles on private wheat farms, protected Lewis and Clark Heritage Trail along a ridge/canyon area. These are placed in the Pacific Flyway migration path, degrading the shrub steppe ecosystem (federally protected birds and plants.) There is no energy/economic impact of this project other than the out of state user or large corporation that will benefit from purchasing a "green energy source" with transferable tax credits to another facility not meeting energy guidelines (no penalty.) Other states denied this project. Our local authorities and public were bypassed input and it was directly placed in Olympia! Negatively impacting our wine and agriculture, higher energy bills for consumers. Currently Europeans are rethinking this minimum producing wind turbine energy and beginning to dismantle them. European data points to health hazards including the environmental impact (Netherlands and Germany dismantling has begun). One of the Hawk pairs that lives in the tree at the intersection of Badger Rd and Badger Canyon Rd. There are many nests in our canyon this is only one. We also have other protected species living in our land. There has been no real impact statements produced locally only the investors who bypassed us. Dust blowing in residential environment both from the wind turbines and the construction. Demand for Water, depleting the aquifers, all residents are on well water with no other source This is Protected Birds breeding/hunting grounds and migrating fly way Wildlife & protected antelope range in the living environment Construction of both kid storage and the power lines will make living and traveling thru the area unbearable. Restricted small 2 lane road Noise and heavy equipment tearing up roads and blocking emergency vehicles. They do not care that any fires in this area immediately travel acres and endanger residents and wildlife, they have no real water or plan to keep batteries from burning our homes. Just a spark from a rock icing each ther causes hundreds of acres to burn quickly and we will have no way out of the canyon! What are you doing this is a horrible plan putting us all in danger. There has been no Placement plans of turbines and no noise, dust temperature studies. Our Health and air quality will deteriorate to unbearable levels Harvard study showed an Increased heat 8* our temp last summer were often in the 100* already! This is Poor, unreliable and costly power production that has been proven to cause Heath problems for people forced to live in immediate area. I do not want the wind turbines in anyone's living environment. Look what is happening to the wales on the east coast.! If you must destroy the environment at least put it in uninhabited areas or your own back yard this is a horrible idea!

Becky Hughes Concerned citizen of Badger canyon Kennewick, WA 99338

--

Sent from [Canary](#)

From: [Ira Johnson](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Turbines.
Date: Thursday, August 17, 2023 3:01:56 PM

External Email

I was one of the first to stand before you when we were able to make comments to you face to face in Kennewick. I was against the installation of wind turbines then and still do not want them. When you consider all the pros and cons it's plain to see the proposal needs to be rejected.

Please I pray that you will do what's right for the people of Washington state. Not what the federal and state governments want.

Sincerely
Ira Johnson

From: [Bob Johnson](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Letter For The Public Comment Hearing On 8/23/23
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:04:16 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense. This project is fiscal irresponsibility at its finest!!

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as

Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.

2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.

3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

4. These turbines will not produce electricity when it is most needed – summer and winter – because the wind seldom blows during those times!

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to give priority to the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities over those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats, or cancel the windmills and invest in a small, modular nuclear reactor which uses new, safe technology and eliminates ALL the negatives of a wind farm. By doing so, clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty, AND it should be from a source that has isn't so worthless as wind turbines!!.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by: Robert A Johnson

From: [art kelly](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Turbines
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 6:04:22 PM

External Email

23 Aug 2023

Dear EFSEC:

Please know that I am opposed to this proposal to construct up to 244 Wind Turbines in the Horse Heaven Hills here in the Tri-Cities. We have had hard evidence that Hydro-power and Nuclear power has long been efficient and reliable here in this region to meet electro-power needs in our region as well as contribute excess power to the Bonneville Power Administration to meet other region needs as well as selling power out of state to California. The Wind Turbines will not produce substantial power based on national statistics/surveys via governmental/environmental agencies/organizations compared to what we already have.

The construction of these massive and intrusive wind turbines will not only be an issue with birds/wildlife, but will have an effect upon those orchardists/ranchers/farmers/homeowners who live close to such turbines due to the wind conditions/temperatures as well as noise/lights that these turbines create. Such turbines will certainly obstruct the natural beauty of the Horse Heaven Hills too which is so much appreciated here by local citizens as it would be in parts of Western Washington or even other parts of the state.

I would highly recommend that EFSEC look into Tulip(flower) windmills that can be used on private properties, businesses, governmental buildings and operate at a higher efficiency rate. They produce electricity even at lower wind speeds; plus, these windmills lower the cost of electricity bills. Such windmills have been widely used in the Netherlands, Germany and other parts of Europe and elsewhere and are indeed much smaller and far less intrusive and do not require massive amounts of land.

These massive wind turbines are extremely questionable when it comes to the recyclability of the blades, lithium-ion batteries and other components; plus, the life span of such turbines are relatively short compared to our existing sources of power. Contingencies are certainly questionable and need to be raised in terms of the cost of ongoing operating expenses, the possibility of turbine failures should proposed power standards do not meet a higher benchmark level, the potential of downside economics which could cause the Scout Energy to foreclose, the termination of federal/state subsidies, the cost of turbine replacements due to mechanical/weather/electrical issues, the question of wildfires in the Horse Heaven Hills, etc. The construction of such a project does not outweigh the benefits of what reliable power sources we have already.

The overriding issue here is that EFSEC, the legislature, and the Governor have refused to put this issue up to a vote of the residents who live here in this region and would be affected by this project. Where is our final voice in this project? Would you bypass people in other areas of the state if such a project were being proposed? EFSEC may be complimented in other

areas of agency business, but unfortunately, you are amiss by not providing the final voice of the people here. Thank you for allowing me to email my comments to you.

Sincerely,

Art Kelly
Richland

From: [Kathy](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm- Ferruginous Hawks
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:54:25 PM

External Email

August 22, 2023

Dear Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council:

Re: Scout Clean Energy Horse Heaven Wind Farm

Scout's proposed wind farm will have negative consequences for the endangered Washington state ferruginous hawk and environmentally sensitive areas the hawk needs to be able to hunt and nest in. And as I have stated before in my previous comments submitted to you, Scout still has NO MEANINGFULLY COMPENSATION proposals nor any real mitigation efforts for any negative effects suffered from their proposed wind farm for the hawk.

The U.S. and Wildlife Service estimates that between 140,000 and 500,000 bird deaths occur at wind farms each year and the most significant threat is posed to species of large, threatened and high-conservation-value birds such as the Washington state Ferruginous hawk.

Our farm is in the Conservation Reserve program for the Ferruginous hawk and our farm is less than two miles from this proposed giant wind farm. While our land is attracting hawks the turbines will be chopping them up as they fly in to hunt and nest.

Please do not approve this giant wind farm. The endangered Washington state Ferruginous hawk should not be sacrificed to meet the green energy goals for Washington.

Respectfully,

Kathryn Knutson and Gordon Knutson
Furnace Canyon Ranch
1333 Hains Avenue
Richland, WA 99354
kknutsonwa@gmail.com

From: [Paul Krupin](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#); [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
Subject: HHH Adjudication public comments
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:09:12 PM
Attachments: [KRUPIN - EXH-5301-T Final Public comments.pdf](#)
[KRUPIN - EXH-5302-T final 0800 AM 061223.pdf](#)
[Paul J Krupin Fire Water response Rebuttal 071423 combination fr public comment.pdf](#)

External Email

Tri-Cities CARES, an approved intervenor in the adjudication, is fighting this project. We believe EFSEC must deny this proposal, or significantly reduce the number of wind turbines, because it will not produce reliable, abundant clean energy and will cause significant environmental, social, and economic impacts to the citizens who live here.

To date, this process is failing to identify and discuss the substantial risks and consequences this project will cause.

Judge Torem has made the adjudication process more difficult, expensive, and cumbersome by:

- Rejecting testimony containing important evidence that shows the benefits of this project are dramatically outweighed by the impacts to the environment and the serious risks to the health and welfare of people.
- Favoring the applicant and approving their requests to add evidence, testimony and witnesses and denying the other parties the same privileges.
- Making decisions that prevent the presentation of reasonable information describing the severity of the impacts of the project from the Council.
- Making decisions that prevent the identification, description, and evaluation of reasonable siting alternatives.

This information is needed by EFSEC to fulfill its responsibility and take appropriate measures to minimize the impacts on the environment and people.

This project is an all or nothing proposition and EFSEC is failing to identify and evaluate siting restrictions that will effectively reduce the significant impacts on the local area.

This siting process is ignoring and minimizing critical elements of science and economics, unreasonably accelerated adjudication schedule.

The Tri-Cities is going to be irreparably harmed by the unacceptable impacts of the project unless highly visible turbines are pushed back away from Horse Heaven Hills ridgeline.

The Council for the Environment, the office charged with protecting Washington citizens

and wildlife, has been notably absent for most of the adjudication process.

EFSEC is failing to address key compliance issues with Benton Counties conditional use requirements and obligations. Benton County is not being given “substantial deference” by EFSEC.

Scout witnesses stated that there will be no impact on property values for homes within sight of wind turbines. If that is the case the applicant should offer a property value protection guarantee.

Aerial firefighting will not be allowed if there are 500-foot-high wind turbines in the flight path. Turbines need to be eliminated to ensure this capability is available.

The public participation process is failing to provide timely meaningful public participation. To this date, no one knows what the project will be because the Final EIS has not yet been published.

The adjudication process favors the applicant and the impacted communities are being seriously harmed.

I am submitting my stricken testimony as public comments I encourage you to read them and see for yourself what the Council has not been allowed to see.

The comments that Judge Torem ordered to be stricken and redacted are attached

EXH-5301, EXH-5302, and EXH-5305

Appreciatively,

Paul J. Krupin, BA, MS, JD

Board Member on behalf of TRI-CITIES C.A.R.E.S

Visit: <http://www.TriCitiesCARES.org>

509-531-8390 cell 509-582-5174 landline Paul@Presari.com

From: mikelahtinen@yahoo.com
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:14:25 PM

External Email

Hi Michael ,R Lahtinen does not and I mean does not want the wind turbines in my own backyard. I was born and raised in Pasco. I live in badger Canyon, Governor Insley, who I dislike need to have it in his backyard or put it in the Puget Sound Since he wants to put it in a community more than 100,000 or 200,000 or 300,000 because a Tri Cities is it is well over 300,000 then put it in the Puget Sound

Better yet how about in Seattle just west of pikes in the puget Sound

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: mikelahtinen@yahoo.com
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: WIND FARM
Date: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 3:49:23 PM

External Email

I

I don't want it in my backyard I don't wanna see it. I don't want to hear it and I don't want to have the blinking lights. I was born in Pasco and live in Badger canyon for twenty seven years I'm 66 years old

MICHAEL R LAHTINEN

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Tim Lamberson](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Against the Scout Energy Wind Farm
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 7:50:08 AM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Thank you,

Tim Lamberson

1602 Naples Lane

Richland, WA

From: [Brad Lane](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: wind turbine project
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:39:53 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable

energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

From: [Marleen Lechelt](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:42:30 PM

External Email

We are coming close to a decision that the EFSEC and our Governor will make that will forever impact our community. When you make this decision, I ask you to consider if your parents or family were affected by all of the valid objections we have put forth , would you vote yes? The noise and lights would affect your families mental health, the fugitive dust with Paragat blowing southwest into the Tricities from the deep dips in the Horse Heaven hills that are necessary to install these huge turbines...would you want your children and grandchildren to breathe that in their lungs? The loss of home value this will cause to homes in sight of these huge turbines, would you be concerned if you lived there? I ask you all to put yourselves in our place when you make this decision and treat us the way you want to be treated.

Thankyou

Marleen Lechelt
34203 Cantera St
Kennewick, Wa.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Bill Letourneau](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Proposed Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:29:36 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife

habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Thank you,

Bill Letourneau
West Richland, WA

From: [Fred Lieske](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills proposed wind towers
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 5:06:42 PM

External Email

This proposed site for 200 or so Space Needle sized turbines is the wrong place to locate such a massive, hyper-industrialized, ill conceived and completely unwanted project. The County Commissioners, City Council members, Cities' leaders, local industry experts, local wildlife experts, tourism agencies, and also the vast majority of TriCities residents DO NOT WANT THIS WIND FARM.

The proposed site is TOO CLOSE TO THE STATE'S 4TH LARGEST METROPOLITAN AREA. The monstrously huge scope of this wind farm would **stretch for 25 miles east to west on top of the Horse Heaven Hills' ridgelines.**

Turbines would be visible from every corner of Pasco, Richland, Kennewick, and West Richland including the immediate countryside for many miles.

If you must build a new wind farm in Washington, then build it where most of the power is used, off the western Pacific coastline. Or if you cannot bear that idea, at least **locate such a wind farm FAR, FAR AWAY FROM THE TRICITIES, there are many, many better suited places to locate this project.**

From: [Patricia Loera](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: HHH wind farm opposition
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 8:46:27 PM

External Email

I've been a resident of Tri Cities for over 35 years. When my wife and I arrived here in 1985 there wasn't much of a city to look at and most people thought it was just a good place to fuel up and keep going. Over the years my wife and I have come to love this area, the rivers, the wineries, the desert beauty. We live in South Kennewick and often take walks across the hills, the sunsets are incredible, the silence is calming and peaceful. It's a wonderful piece of heaven for us. I'm all for green energy and saving the planet but I absolutely do not agree with putting a wind farm near Tri Cities. There are a lot of things that bother me about this project but the most bothersome is what seems to be the dishonesty of this company. One of its claims is that jobs from this project are going to benefit the Tri Cities. They mention hundreds of positions when in reality there are only going to be a few long term. It makes me wonder what else are they hiding, what else are they exaggerating, what else are they not being completely transparent about.

Please do NOT allow this project to move forward.

Respectfully,
Joe Loera 4889 S Morain St
Kennewick WA 99337

From: [Pat Loera](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: HHH Wind Farm opposition
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 2:33:16 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

I invite you and strongly urge you to come to the Tri Cities and tour this beautiful area that will be destroyed if this project is approved! Come and see for yourselves why we the locals, are so opposed to the wind farm!

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by

Patricia Loera 4889 S Morain St
Kennewick WA 99337

Sent from my iPad

From: adavidmaughan@gmail.com
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: adavidmaughan@gmail.com
Subject: against proposed Tricities windturbine project
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 6:29:49 PM

External Email

I do not want federal government (my money) used to support this project that sounds so good but in reality has adverse effects on farming and ranching, fire prevention, wild life, noise, the budget, and aesthetics. Farms and ranches are restricted in heights of building that can be erected and their general use of their lands. Grass fires are common in this Tri-Cities area, fire-fighting equipment is highly restricted where these tall wind towers exist. It is common knowledge that wild life populations, particularly birds (eagles on down) are diminished because of contacts with the moving blades. Noise problems are 24-hours a day when the wind blows and can be heard by those near the towers. The information goes out that these towers generate revenue, probably they do for towers that have threshold winds sufficient to rotate the blades. The down time at low or when the wind doesn't blow can be substantial even here in the Tri-City area. I believe that these have been proposed to provide California power via the Bonneville power line. The Towers at Ellensburg have at times sent power generated by the towers to "ground" because we have had sufficient for our needs. Aesthetically, I personally do not like to see these giant towers—they destroy the landscape. I PROPOSE THAT OUR LEGISLATURE CREATE RULES THAT DO NOT ALLOW SUCH TOWERS, IF BUILT, CLOSER THAN 50 MILES FROM A TOWN.

David Maughan, 310 Benham Str., Richland WA 509-222-9180

From: [Homes for Richland](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:43:36 PM

External Email

Hello, EFSEC,

I'm a concerned resident living in the Tri-Cities, Washington, about the proposed wind turbine project that threatens our community. This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of us residents and home owners. The project threatens safety and local homeowners' investments, not to mention the natural landscape we should uphold, as others in Washington State do. The size and proximity of this project to our homes is unprecedented for Washington State, and possibly for the United States.

Furthermore, the construction and operation of the turbines will disrupt natural habitats leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already confronted with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from existing homes and existing residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be better achieved. Renewable energy is important for a sustainable future, however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being so I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by, Lia McClure

From: [David McDonald](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comments on the Horse Heaven Hills Project
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 12:02:12 AM
Attachments: [August 23 Comment Ltr for Horse Heaven Hills Project.docx](#)

External Email

August 22, 2023

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,
621 Woodland Square Loop SE,
Lacey, WA 98504-3172.

Re: Comments on the Horse Heaven Wind & Solar Project for the August 23, 2023 Hearing

Dear Council:

This massive unsightly industrial scale energy project is too close to the Tri-Cities. The impacts of the proposed wind and solar project will be horrible for our shrub steppe environment and the people of the Tri-Cities. This project is a good example of destroying the environment to save the environment.

There are enough examples of the environmental and social harm created by wind and solar projects all over the world that the EFSEC should scale back the size of the project or work with the out-of-state developer to relocate the project to an area that would have less impacts.

A new study out of California indicates that the restriction of travel routes to a few corridors through wind and solar farms has led to increased predation as carnivores soon learn to wait for prey at the narrow routes. Industrial scale wind and solar facilities the world over have had a devastating impact on wildlife. The sheer scale of the proposed project will likewise cause degradation to our environment and the loss of wildlife in our area. Due to the size of this project the biodiversity of wildlife in Benton County will be negatively impacted.

Experience has shown that solar and wind projects tend to destabilize the electric grid and drive-up utility costs for rate payers. When the sun goes down solar switches off and when the wind stops or is too strong the turbines cease to produce electricity. When it is very hot, dusty, snowing or frosty the capacity of solar panels is reduced. The average output of wind installations is just over one-third of the nameplate capacities; it's one-quarter for solar. Solar and wind energy facilities do not and can not provide us with the firm power that we need for our everyday activities. Because of its intermittent nature the Horse Heaven Wind & Solar Project will never provide us with meaningful power.

Disposal of the turbine blades and solar panels from this project in 25 years will create a toxic legacy for the EFSEC that will last for hundreds of years as the turbine blades and solar panels are carted off to a landfill. But more harmful for the residents of Benton and Franklin Counties is the fact that the natural erosion of the turbine

blades spreads microplastics far and wide. Research has shown the potential for 137 pounds of epoxy microparticles to be shed per turbine per year. We already have a number of wind turbines shedding microplastics over the hills of the Tri-Cities. We certainly don't need anymore.

This project is very disturbing in that it enriches an out-of-state developer/investor at the expense of the environment in Eastern Washington. The people of the Tri-Cities will bear the cost of this unneeded project while the developer who will never live here gets rich off government energy subsidies. All residents of Washington will be impacted as the EFSEC approves weather dependent power sources.

Please do not approve this project or recommend it be relocated were there will be few impacts.

Thank You for your thoughtful consideration of the people of the Tri-Cities.

David McDonald

David McDonald
10312 W Argent Rd
Pasco, WA 99301

From: [C VanZandt](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: My comments to EFSEC
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 7:53:54 AM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities, which we recently witnessed. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties. ^{[[1]]}_{SEP}What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense. ^{[[1]]}_{SEP}To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts: ^{[[1]]}_{SEP}1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.

^{[[1]]}_{SEP}2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.

^{[[1]]}_{SEP}3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines. ^{[[1]]}_{SEP}EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Sincerely,

Cathy Metz,
Kennewick, WA

From: [Adam Miller](#)
To: [EESEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:54:12 PM

External Email

While the below is copied, I strongly agree with all of the points made. Please reconsider this project as it will have a huge negative impact on our relatively large community.

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as

taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Submitted by Adam Miller, resident of Kennewick WA

217-899-9469
Adam Miller

From: [Mike Minelli](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Project
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 8:28:42 AM

External Email

ADJUDICATION PUBLIC COMMENT

Why did we go through 2 years of the SEPA process when the outcome was already known before we started.

I can say that after hearing Gov. Inslee's statement at the United Nations Climate Conference last November... as Quoted by The Capital Press, November 14 2022.

HE SAID: Quote: (pause)

“regulatory reforms are needed to prevent local opponents from delaying projects” (X2)

When Gov. Inslee said:

“REGULATORY REFORMS ARE NEEDED” He meant EFSEC ... which is made up of his appointees... will regulate those reforms.

When the Gov. says “ TO PREVENT LOCAL OPPONENTS FROM DELAYING PROJECTS.... he meant once recommended by EFSEC, he will approve the Horse Heaven Project while Benton County and The Tribes have been stripped of their authority.

The SEPA process has been carried out with a clear bias by chair Kathleen Drew in favor of the applicant and not the wishes of the vast majority of the people of Benton County.

Conclusion: THE HORSE HEAVEN WIND PROJECT WILL BE BUILT AS PLANNED. And EFSEC, appointees of the Governor including Chair Kathleen Drew, will vote to reflect Gov. Inslee's clearly stated wishes...and We The People of Benton County.... will have been successfully silenced! By Our Own

Government.

Aerial Firefighting Essential to Public Safety

With the rash of recent fires in Benton County and around Eastern Washington, we are reminded of the high fire risk in our area, including within the HH Wind Boundaries.

When the inevitable fires do occur, this 25 mile long project TOO CLOSE to homes will hinder the use of aerial fire fighting to protect them.

The June 2023 fires near Benton City burned miles of the Horse Heaven Hills (HHH), including portions of the proposed HH Wind Project, and even lapped at the door of the Analare Winery. Thankfully large airliners swooped close to the ground spreading fire retardant to protect homes, lives and crops. **If the 499 foot tall wind turbines proposed for the HH Wind Project had been present, aerial firefighting would have been impossible.**

Later in the summer, another fire occurred near the Nine Canyon Wind Project in Benton County. According to their press release, **Benton County Fire did not call on aerial firefighting because of the danger posed to the aircraft by existing turbines**

Portions of the dry, steep slopes of the Horse Heaven Hills burn each season. When fire originates in the upper Horse Heaven Hills, it burns down the steep slopes to homes and farms below. Often these fires threaten multiple homes, crops, farm animals and wildlife in the populated Badger Canyon. On a windy day, these fires burn rapidly and are accompanied by flying flaming tumbleweeds that expand the fire further.

Often aerial firefighting is the only option available to fight these rapidly moving fires due to the rugged, steep terrain.

Wind turbines placed near the edges of the steep HHH slopes will prohibit the use of aerial firefighting. This will cause increased threat...or loss... to lives, property, crops and wildlife. In addition, the safety of fire fighters will be placed at greater risk as they attempt to navigate the steep slopes with traditional firefighting equipment.

Solution: To protect lives, property and wildlife, I urge EFSEC and Judge Torem to require HH Wind turbines planned near steep slopes be removed to allow for safe and effective aerial firefighting. This would include the turbines at the north side of the project near numerous Badger Canyon homes and farms and Ferruginous Hawk nests.

When determining which turbines to remove, consultation with the FAA and Benton County Fire Chiefs would ensure the continuation of safe aerial firefighting in Benton County.

Respectfully submitted by Pam Minelli for HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23



June, 2023 fire burned to the edge of Analare Winery's parking lot near Benton City, WA. The fire also burned portions of the HH Wind Project boundary area.

499 feet tall turbines proposed for the HHH ridges above Analare Winery would prohibit use of aerial firefighting.



8.23.23 HH Public Comment Hearing

From: [Pamela K. Minelli](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Pam Minelli](#)
Subject: Comment for HH Wind Project Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:28:09 PM
Attachments: [Aerial Firefighting - August 23 comment.pdf](#)

External Email

To whom this concerns:

Attached please find my written comment for the HH Wind Project Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23.

Please let me know that my comment was received by EFSEC during the appropriate time.

Thank you,
Pam Minelli
pkminelli@me.com
pam_minelli@hotmail.com

From: [Dana Morgan](#)
To: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
Subject: Tri-Cities Wind Turbine Project
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:36:23 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Karena Morris](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: HHH wind farm comments
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 6:53:19 AM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity

reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by _____ Karena Morris _____

From: [Tenika Morrison](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Comment
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:26:51 AM

External Email

I am sending this email to voice my public comment that I am thoroughly against the Horse Heaven Hills wind farm.

I am in direct sight of the proposed land use and not only am I furious that this is even being proposed in direct migration lines of many bird species but that it will not have proper water in case there is a fire so it will just burn the property to our homes since the turbines do not allow fire helicopters or planes to help. We live in a desert where fires are a very real concern every single year, it boggles my mind we are even entertaining the notion of a wind farm this big with no way to stop fire.

There is many miles along the Columbia river toward Oregon that are empty and not located right next to a major city where these can be placed that could be better suited toward having less of a threat to wildlife, & nearer to water in case of wildfire.

Please know that all year round I see wildlife out in the hills and eagles/hawks/cranes flying/migrating right over the proposed site and I have seen fire break out in that area as well. Please do not allow money to override common sense here. We have a nuclear plant & a hydroelectric dam both here that has WAY better energy production than all those turbines together could even attempt to make.

NO ON THE HORSE HEAVEN HILLS WINDFARM.

Thank you for your time,

Tenika Morrison
Kennewick, WA

From: [Brent Naylor](#)
To: [EESEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Wind Turbine Project
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 11:40:57 AM

External Email

As a concerned frequent visitor to Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate the community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to the local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. The unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for

protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of the community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by _Brent Naylor, Raymond WA_____

From: [Ob Server](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Ob Server](#); [Judy](#)
Subject: Comments on the proposed wind turbine and solar farm being forced on Tri-cities, WA residents (Horse Heaven Hills project)
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 12:47:46 AM

External Email

Dear EFSEC: 8/23/23

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation. Also, see footnote 1 below providing documentation on wind turbines killing eagles.

2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations. Also, see footnote 2 below providing documentation on solar batteries starting fires. The same situation would occur for the wind turbine batteries.

3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines. Further, there are indications of a 30% failure rate of these wind turbines. See footnote 3 below. So the taxpayer would be expected to foot the bill for repair and/or replacement of a defective product/service the government forced on their employer. I object to the government using my tax monies to choose business winners and losers (i.e., what products and services I can get, and, specifically in this case, what form of energy I can access and the reliability of that energy source). This IS called government mission creep. I urge it be stopped immediately.

This whole project is based on the fallacy of human caused "climate change." That has been debunked by NASA as well as other scientific entities. See footnote 4 below.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I strongly urge you to NOT approve the Horse Heaven Hills wind turbine and solar project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Submitted by

J. Polehn, POB 482, Richland, WA 99352

jpolehn1@yahoo.com

Footnotes:

1) Criminal cases for killing eagles decline as wind turbine dangers grow, Matthew

Brown and Camille Fassetap, Washington News, 5/17/23 >
<https://apnews.com/article/dead-eagles-wind-turbines-enforcement-biden-53ce35355433e18a27324f9254a2475a>

2) Battery fire at solar farm triggers shelter-in-place order. Fire chief says '5 or 7 days' to extinguish. Jack Davis, The Western Journal, 7/28/23 >
<https://www.wnd.com/2023/07/battery-fire-ny-solar-farm-triggers-shelter-place-order-fire-chief-says-5-7-days-extinguish/>

3) Massive energy corporation says up to 30 percent of its wind turbines could be malfunctioning. 'The fact that we have identified more quality problems marks a significant setback for us.' WND, Will Kessler, Daily Caller News Foundation, 6/23/23 >
<https://www.wnd.com/2023/06/massive-energy-corporation-says-30-percent-wind-turbines-malfunctioning/>

4) NASA admits that climate change occurs because of changes in Earth's solar orbit, and NOT because of SUVs and fossil fuels, Ethan Huff, Natural News, 8/30/19 >
<https://www.naturalnews.com/2019-08-30-nasa-admits-climate-change-not-caused-by-suvs-fossil-fuels.html>

From: [Kristin Privette](#)
To: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
Subject: Wind farm monstrosity
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 11:02:03 AM

External Email

Dear EFSEC,

I could write another letter that would be slightly different from this form letter but why be redundant. This lists the pertinent points that will affect our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by ____

Kristin Privette_____

From: keeweegirl@frontier.com
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: comments for Wednesday August 23rd
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:00:44 PM
Attachments: [As a concerned resident of Tri.docx](#)

External Email

From: [Jordan Ryckman](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Dave Wernitz](#); [Jay Kehne](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm Public Meeting - Comment
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:20:18 PM
Attachments: [HorseHeavenWindProject_publicmeeting_CNWcomment.pdf](#)

External Email

Hello,

I have verified with Ms. Masengale that I am eligible to comment as part of the Horse Heaven Wind Project Public Meeting that is being held this afternoon. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the meeting, so I have attached my comment for your consideration.

Thank you,

Jordan Ryckman ([she/her/hers](#))

Conservation Northwest

Coordinator, [Sagelands Heritage Program](#)

From: [chad schaefer](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Wind turbine project
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 8:02:43 AM

External Email

I am not in favor of the badger canyon wind turbine project.

Chad Schaefer

From: [Gary Schaefer](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Turbine Project
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:13:59 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by

Gary L. Schaefer

From: [Jeff Schatz](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Wind Turbine Project near Tri-Cities, WA
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 7:58:15 PM

External Email

To whom it may
concern,
8/22/23

I am a tax paying resident of Benton City, WA located just east of the Horse Heaven hills where the proposed wind farms would be constructed. My wife and I chose this 5-acre location to build our dream home and invested our life savings to do it, as both a beautiful place to live and for a future investment. We purposely positioned the house so we would view the Horse Heaven's hills. We don't have a lot of things here in this part of eastern WA that other areas have to offer, but we do have the wide open spaces and beautiful views. It would truly be a shame to lose that in this area! I know it would ruin the view for us, which is the main reason we built here. It would also depreciate the property values all around the area that would view these ugly wind farms.

There is no argument in that wind turbines, especially this size definitely cause damage to the wildlife, environment, noise pollution, and have many other negative side effects. There are many facts and studies out there that prove this that I'm sure you're aware of. It's troubling too that this project is being pushed upon us but wouldn't even have much economic benefit to the communities and people that live here and would have to look at this ugly mess every day. Most of the work would be done by workers from other states and areas. The company building it is from Boulder, Colorado, where they would never allow this monstrosity to be built anywhere near their city. The environmentalists there would tear them apart over it, which is why they are here trying to push it on us. I know a little about that because I lived 22 years just outside of Boulder, Colorado. They would never allow this there.

Another thing that doesn't make any sense is that those of us that live here would have to deal with all the negative effects this WILL produce, yet we reap none of the benefits. The power produced by these wind turbines would go to those on the west side of the state, Oregon and California. If they want the power so bad in those areas, let them build wind turbines in their backyards, they have just as much wind there, as we do here. They don't want them in those places, yet for some reason think we should have to deal with them over here while they reap the benefits...that is just plain wrong! We have all the power we need here from the hydroelectric dams that are truly green renewable energy, unlike the wind farms that will produce waste and aren't very reliable or monetarily efficient. The people have spoken in this area and don't want these wind turbines here. Please don't force them down our throats. It's supposed to be about democracy in this country and going with the majority, and not dictatorship with a few in charge forcing things upon us that we want nothing to do with for their gain.

The wind farm project in the Horse Heavens area of eastern Washington is wrong on every account. Please don't allow this to become a reality for us here.

Thank you,

Mathew J. Schatz
51806 N. Evert Rd
Benton City, WA 99320

509-554-0577

From: [Schiessl, Joe](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#); [Moon, Amy \(EFSEC\)](#)
Cc: [Amundson, Jon](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Adjudication 8-23-23 Public Hearing
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 11:30:47 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[City of Richland 8-23-23 Written Testimony Submittal to EFSEC.pdf](#)

External Email

State of Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council,

The City of Richland, WA is a party of record in the Horse Heaven Adjudication. The City respectfully submits the attached written testimony in lieu of providing oral testimony at today's scheduled public hearing. This alternative delivery method is per EFSEC instructions [here](#) in the "if you are eligible to comment but are unable to attend the meeting..." instructions.

Thank you,



Joe Schiessl, AICP
Deputy City Manager
625 Swift Blvd., MS-04 | Richland, WA 99352
(509) 942-7778

Disclaimer: Emails and attachments sent to or from the City of Richland are public records subject to release under the Washington Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW. Sender and Recipient have no expectation of privacy in emails transmitted to or from the City of Richland.

From: prrfct60@aim.com
To: [EFSEC.mj Comments](#)
Subject: Wind Turbine Project Tri-cities
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2023 5:59:04 PM

External Email

Hopefully you have seen the letter below many times by now so I will not repeat it. But I am very concerned about the many destructive aspects of this project. I am very much opposed to it.

Fred Shaffner
Richland, Wa.

"This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage."

From: [Dave Sharp](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Public Comment Dave Sharp
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:52:53 PM
Attachments: [Dave Sharp Public Comment for Aug 23.pdf](#)

External Email

Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Proposal-Updated ASC), Dockett (EF-210011)I am eligible to comment and am submitting this in writing to ensure it is available for review and becomes part of the record. Public Comment- This comment will also be made orally at the public comment session, August 23, 2023

Thank you Judge Torem for the opportunity to comment today. I am on the Board of Tri-City CARES, but for this comment I will be speaking from the heart, as a citizen of Benton County.

The Developer has been in this area for over 6 years, and has yet to submit a final project. It has grown from a relatively small wind project, to an 1150mw hybrid in the space of a year. More changes continued in 2022 and 2023.

You have heard the main issues: too close, too big, too many, too much impact to wildlife, no commitment to renewable benefits, recreational impacts, native American cultural aspects. Those are issues, but the real issue is the elephant in the room.

The perception of the EFSEC process to the average citizen here is that it is unfair, and the outcome has already been determined: politicized by a Chief Executive openly committed to a green agenda, no matter the cost, EFSEC leadership with intent to please their boss, and to other voting Council members that may fear a no vote would be a career ender.

The Developer has chosen to lay a generic application at the feet of EFSEC they believe can be changed even after the Adjudicative Process and issuance of SCA.

Major parts of the final EIS will be authored by the Developer or subcontractors deeply seated within the wind industry. As the Lead Agency, EFSEC has responsibility to ensure that an unbiased EIS is presented, with reasonable alternatives, and to provide stipulative guard rails to manage future project changes. We are hopeful for a fair adjudication decision that balances the many impactful. issues.

As a resident and property owner impacted by this project, **I desire only the quiet use and enjoyment of my property without the nuisances brought on by poorly sited Wind Projects. Thank you.**



Compose



I am opposed to the Scout energy Horse heaven hills wind and solar panel project. This is a very poor location right in the path way of migrating birds. It also is a threat to the endangered red tail hawk and burrowing owls this peaceful location is to important to wildlife to move forward. Our community is much more supportive of nuclear power and does not want this unsightly asthetic pollution on our back door.

Sincerely

Vince Shawver

West Richland

Vince.shawver@gmail.com|



is

and

I



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

0

q

w

e

r

t

y

u

i

o

p

a

s

d

f

g

h

j

k

l



z

x

c

v

b

n

m



!#1

,

English (US)

.



From: [Vince Shawver](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Opposition to the Scout energy windmill project
Date: Thursday, August 17, 2023 6:39:18 PM

External Email

I am opposed to the Scout energy Horse heaven hills wind and solar panel project. This is a very poor location right in the path way of migrating birds. It also is a threat to the endangered red tail hawk and burrowing owls this peaceful location is too important to wildlife to move forward. Our community is much more supportive of nuclear power and does not want this unsightly aesthetic pollution on our back door.

Sincerely

Vince Shawver

West Richland

Vince.shawver@gmail.com

From: [Louetta Shiplet](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: HHH Turbines
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 11:05:18 AM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Benton City, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbines installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities and Benton City with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance

between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. The fossil fuels they use, the constant maintenance, the many fires they start, the blades that cannot be recycled are issues as well.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by Louetta Shiplet

From: [William S](#)
To: [EFSEC \(EFSEC\)](#)
Subject: Tri-cities Turbines
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:24:07 PM

External Email

I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate the community. This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is

important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of the community's well-being and natural beauty.

Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23

Submitted by Will Sneiderwine

From: [Rod Spaniel](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: EFSEC
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:17:57 AM

External Email

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable

energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Submitted by

Rod S.Spaniel

From: [Clark S](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Farm Proposal
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:07:56 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Submitted by,

Clark Stolle

Kennewick, WA

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Clark S](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Farm Proposal
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:59:41 PM

External Email

Dear EFSEC Council Members,

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.

2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.

3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

As a 60 year resident of Kennewick, I know this area very well. I have been a land use planner in the northwest as a City Planner, County Planner, Regional Planner and at the federal level for decades. This proposal is just wrong on so many levels as described above in brief. The EIS is terribly flawed and would not hold up at the federal level to support this proposal. I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Thank you for your consideration,

Clark Stolle

Kennewick, WA

From: [VICKEY STOLLE](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Hills Project
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:52:18 PM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy

generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Submitted by:

Vickey Stolle

702 S Montana St

Kennewick, WA 99336

From: [Kathleen Stricker](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comment for the HH Wind Public Comment Hearing 8.23.23
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 11:15:09 AM

External Email

As a concerned resident of Tri-Cities, Washington, I am deeply troubled by the proposed wind turbine project that threatens to devastate our community.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear.

Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, let me present some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Kathleen Stricker

From: [Gaye Tesar](#)
To: [EESEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Horse heaven hills wind project
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 8:08:26 PM

External Email

I am strongly opposed to this project

Gaye Tesar
3707 S Keller St
Kennewick WA

From: [Barbara Thompson](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Cc: [Judy](#)
Subject: Horse Heaven Wind Project Public Comment Hearing Wed. August 23, 2023 5:30-8 PM (Virtual or In Person)
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 9:13:48 PM

External Email

I am not in favor of this massive, intrusive turbine wind project that is slated for Horse Heaven Hills in Benton County, WA.

I have prior commitment for Wednesday and would like to have my comment recorded.

The loss of land from agriculture use, water source for the project is questionable and non existent, at least the last I heard. The damage these massive wind turbines will do to the birds is irreparable. In the 1990's a entire industry was shut down for the Spotted Owl, later to be known to habitat not only in trees but also in abandoned vehicles. Yet, the EPA could not care less about the loss of jobs, the monetary damage done to rural communities but shut down logging all over the Pacific Northwest.

Now, the buzz words are Green Energy, which are anything but green. The cost to build them is over \$2.5 million dollars per wind mill, the longevity of these ugly monstrosities is 20 years before they have to take them down and then the fires that windmills start. The loss of agriculture to the area and then the burial grounds that will have to be built for them is more loss of land. If the government is truly looking for green energy, they should increase the number of nuclear energy plants. England, France and Germany have gone back to coal fired and nuclear energy plants and have abandoned windmills. The cost is too high. Wildlife, loss of land, for a fraction of the energy this nation will need to fuel the government's electric demands.

400 windmills multiplied by \$2.5 Million dollars.. I think there is a better use for the money.

Barbara Thompson,
Benton City, WA

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: [Gene And Ruby Torrey](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Wind Turbine proposal for Greater Tri-Cities
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:08:18 PM

External Email

I am so disappointed with this entire process. You have us over a barrel, and will make the decision on allowing those massive, intrusive, and ecologically damaging wind turbines to be built. The facade you portray is that we Tri Cities residence have actual input into the decision is ludicrous.

What process will be used to dispose of those massive blades? I haven't heard that much about any successful process. That alone is reason enough for canceling this program. The list of reasons to deny this project is long and conclusive. There are countries around the world who are stopping these projects for a multitude of reasons.

The reason that Governor Inslee is pushing this is to make a statement that he wants the project to go forward here, but not in his back yard. If he wants it so bad, he should build it on the west side of Washington.

Don't ruin our beautiful Tri Cities with this god awful project. No matter what recommendations we make here, in my heart, I know Inslee will push it forward. I hope you all are proud of your actions, and regret your decision to move forward with this project.

Regretfully yours
Gene Torrey
1814 S. Jefferson Pl.
Kennewick, WA

From: [Jessica Wadsworth](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Fwd: Message from KM_C368
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 7:23:43 AM
Attachments: [SKM_C36823082307230.pdf](#)

External Email

EFSEC,

Please see the message below.

From: [Kelly Watts](#)
To: [EESEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Opposition to wind turbine project
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 8:56:58 AM

External Email

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my opposition to the wind turbine project that is being considered near the Tri Cities. I not only oppose the location of this project, but also the use of this technology for the production of electricity. This is an interruptible source of electricity so there has to be backup sources put into play. Very inefficient in my opinion. Also, the mechanisms are mechanical and some day will become obsolete and have to be replaced. There are no plans in place in how to deal with this. I feel this is just a fad and an expensive one at that. We should be focusing more on nuclear energy in my opinion. Lastly, the location really bad for those that live in the area and have to look at these turbines. Ruins the views in the area.

Regards
Kelly Watts
85228

From: [Denise Wilson](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Wind Turbine project- please hear me!
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 7:48:07 PM

External Email

I stand firmly against the wind turbine project proposed on the horse heaven hills region of where I call home.

This proposed wind turbine project is not only too large but also too close to hundreds of residents. It is unprecedented for Washington State, if not the entire United States. The sheer size and proximity of these turbines will destroy our cherished views and forever change the landscape we hold dear. Furthermore, this ill-conceived project poses a significant threat to our local wildlife population. Studies have shown that wind turbines can cause harm to birds and bats due to collisions with spinning blades or changes in their habitat caused by construction activities. The construction and operation of these turbines will disrupt natural habitats, leading to a decline in biodiversity in an area already struggling with environmental challenges. Our unique ecosystem cannot afford such irreparable damage.

Additionally, the quantity and height of the wind turbines could severely limit aerial firefighting capabilities. Their towering height could impede firefighting aircraft from effectively combating wildfires that frequently plague our area during dry seasons. This jeopardizes both property and lives as we rely on swift response times during emergencies. Having unobstructed access for firefighting aircraft is vital for protecting lives and properties.

What adds insult to injury is that this project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

To ensure transparency and credibility, here are some relevant facts:

1. According to studies conducted by renowned environmental organizations such as Greenpeace and Sierra Club, wind turbines can have adverse effects on local wildlife populations due to habitat fragmentation.
2. A report published by The National Renewable Energy Laboratory highlights concerns regarding fire safety near wind turbine installations.
3. News outlets have reported extensively on the financial incentives provided by the Federal government for renewable energy projects, including wind turbines.

EFSEC has the moral, ethical, and perhaps legal responsibility to balance the needs and desires of the Tri-Cities with those of the applicant. Instead of allowing this massive wind turbine project to proceed as planned, I propose exploring alternative locations that are farther away from residential areas and wildlife habitats. By doing so, a balance between clean energy generation and preserving our cherished environment can be achieved.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived wind turbine project. I believe that renewable energy is important for a sustainable future; however, it should not come at the expense of our community's well-being and natural beauty.

Submitted by

Denise Wilson, resident of Tri-Cities

From: [Chris wright](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Re: Comments on Horse Heaven Windfarm Adjudication
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:35:50 PM

External Email

I'd also like to add that it's my understanding that the project's financial feasibility hinges heavily on tax subsidies and credits granted to an out-of-state developer. It is unjustifiable for us as taxpayers to bear the burden while an external entity reaps substantial benefits at our expense.

Chris Wright
Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 22, 2023, at 3:04 PM, Chris wright <cswakw@frontier.com> wrote:

I am very much against the proposed Windfarm/"Energy Park". The proposed Windfarm is a roughly 600 foot tall structure atop a 600 foot tall ridge, 24 miles long, that would be not producing any power 75% of the time. The project would only create ~8 full time jobs. This is a stunningly inefficient use of resources.

Reading the Draft EIS for the project, it stated that there multiple severe and unmitigatable impacts to wildlife, migratory birds, open space, cultural resources and the view shed. The applicant has not proposed any alternative that might mitigate these impacts. Nor is there high energy density.

I understand from discussions that the project does not have a realistic water supply. I have heard they have proposed using a farm well? Does the water right for the property allow for water spreading?

On June 13th 2023 there were two wild land fires in the vicinity of the proposed project that needed significant air tanker support to be extinguished. From statements from the Benton County Fire District it's apparent that the proposed Windfarm would preclude the use of air tankers in the Badger Canyon area, making the Windfarm a clear threat to life and property in Badger Canyon. There have been two additional fires in the area that have need tanker support, on July 3rd and August 14th.

This project has been opposed by all local governments and 80% of the people asked when Scout has not been running the surveys.

I believe this project would adversely affect tourism and the wine industry, which does provide actual jobs in the tri cities.

Given these issues, and many others, this project should be immediately rejected.

The US is currently doing 6 billion in direct farm subsidies and 4 billion in indirect subsidies in 2023. Surely this is sufficient for our local wheat farmers.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Chris Wright
5502 Astoria Road
West Richland WA
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Chris wright](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: Comments on Horse Heaven Windfarm Adjudication
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:04:34 PM

External Email

I am very much against the proposed Windfarm/“Energy Park”. The proposed Windfarm is a roughly 600 foot tall structure atop a 600 foot tall ridge, 24 miles long, that would be not producing any power 75% of the time. The project would only create ~8 full time jobs. This is a stunningly inefficient use of resources.

Reading the Draft EIS for the project, it stated that there multiple severe and unmitigatable impacts to wildlife, migratory birds, open space, cultural resources and the view shed. The applicant has not proposed any alternative that might mitigate these impacts. Nor is there high energy density.

I understand from discussions that the project does not have a realistic water supply. I have heard they have proposed using a farm well? Does the water right for the property allow for water spreading?

On June 13th 2023 there were two wild land fires in the vicinity of the proposed project that needed significant air tanker support to be extinguished. From statements from the Benton County Fire District it's apparent that the proposed Windfarm would preclude the use of air tankers in the Badger Canyon area, making the Windfarm a clear threat to life and property in Badger Canyon. There have been two additional fires in the area that have need tanker support, on July 3rd and August 14th.

This project has been opposed by all local governments and 80% of the people asked when Scout has not been running the surveys.

I believe this project would adversely affect tourism and the wine industry, which does provide actual jobs in the tri cities.

Given these issues, and many others, this project should be immediately rejected.

The US is currently doing 6 billion in direct farm subsidies and 4 billion in indirect subsidies in 2023. Surely this is sufficient for our local wheat farmers.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Chris Wright
5502 Astoria Road
West Richland WA
Sent from my iPhone

August 17, 2023

Richard Yrjanson

212 EB Browning Drive

Centralia, WA 98531 Phone 509-492-6691 dyrjanson@hotmail.com

Members and Council Staff

Wish to comment in person at the Horse Heaven Adjudication Hearing to be held on August 23, 2023
5:30 pm to 8 pm Comments below and additional related referral included.

I have lived in the state since 1968 in Renton and Kennewick WA and worked in Valley General Hospital while they built the new hospital In our travels about the state we stopped at the gas stations to get gas before going over the bridge to go to Yakima, I asked the attendant "what are those 3 towers on the Hills headed toward Goldendale—He replied "Boeing built them, they are testing wind for the production of electricity" and that was my introduction to wind generated electricity 53 years ago. Today the hills on the Columbia River and Snake Rivers are covered with 600ft plus towers. What have I learned and agree with about wind and solar energy are covered in attachments.

1 and 2 .Wind and Solar electrical are the most expensive way to produce unreliable electrical power, which has added increased rates to the users. The green house gas GHG will not be met by more wind and solar Towers because the tax incentives and money made on 20 year life of the towers it is to entrenched in politics,. The question I have will Scout remove the concrete which is producing CO2, it will run into millions of tons on the whole project and will render the land worthless for expansion of the city's health of the area.

3. Wind and solar will not be the answer for dam removal and their removal should not even be considered they do not reach peak demand.

4.Scout having value of 5 million sold out to Brookfield Renewables for 1 billion dollars. Everybody is making money except the residents and small business.

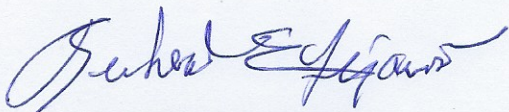
5.Weyerhaeuser would lease out their land to Scout or similar business so they could use the tax credits to make money. Scout recently wanted Lewis county to remove the "forest use only" to allow them to do a study. 1 commissioner held

presentation on Scout on what the community members thought and 95 out 100 said no.

6. The country is looking at other means to replace wind and solar because they can't provide ramp up power of demand. Small Modular Reactor are being built and other solutions are far better than wind and solar.

7, I bought a house in Centralia last year and I thought the view of MT Rainer was great like I had in Renton but my telephoto lens brought out the wind electric towers and blinking lights and noise if you live close to them. The green house gas push is only meant to enrich a very large segment of our country and increase our rates there are better ways to produce electricity and reduce the cost unreliable and expensive.

Thank you.



Richard E. Yrjanson



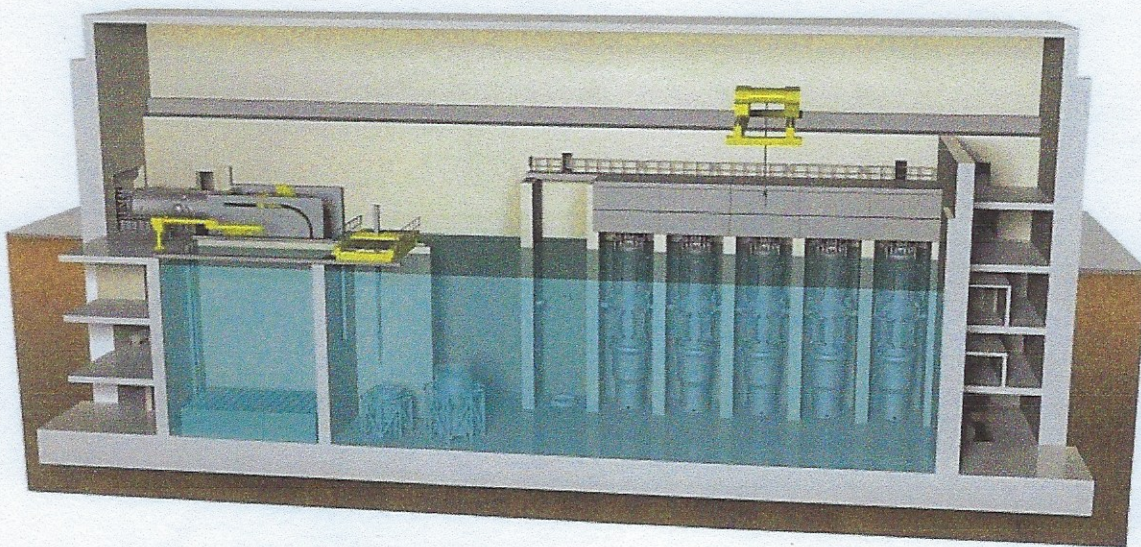
Office of
NUCLEAR ENERGY

REACTOR TECHNOLOGIES ▼

Advanced Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)

Office of Nuclear Energy

Office of Nuclear Energy » Reactor Technologies » Advanced Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)



NuScale Power Reactor Building

NuScale Power Reactors. ©NuScale Power, LLC, All Rights Reserved

5

Weyerhaeuser Recent Statement:

We manage millions of acres of timberlands to make a wide range of products that meet society's needs. But with a growing world population, our lands also offer the opportunity to not only provide sustainable products but clean, renewable energy too, such as wind and solar power.

To harness wind and solar potential, we partner with reputable industry leaders who take the lead identifying, evaluating, permitting and building projects. After a thorough evaluation and permitting process, we grant easements on our lands to qualified third-parties who use our property to create power and allow us to develop additional revenue.

[Projects](#)[Community](#)[Sustainability](#)[Company](#)[News](#)[Work With Scout](#)

With the House voting in favor of gutting the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), clean energy tax credits and other investments that are driving America's biggest economic boom in decades, Scout CEO Michael Rucker joined the Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2) and its members on Capitol Hill to make sure lawmakers understand how this misguided plan could impact businesses, investments and jobs across the country. E2 is a national, nonpartisan group of business leaders, investors and others who advocate for smart policies that are good for the economy and good for the environment.

Michael spoke at a press conference at the Capitol that featured Rep. Mike Levin (CA-49), Sen. Tina Smith (D-MN), Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01) along with clean energy workers, The League of Conservation Voters (LCV), Climate Power, Clean Energy for America, and Rewiring America.

Michael Rucker, CEO of Scout Clean Energy said, "I've been in this industry for more than 25 years now, and during that time we've rarely, if ever, had a consistent policy framework that allowed us to plan and build projects like we are about to embark on now. The IRA gives us the longest time horizon for planning than we've ever had, allowing us to bring jobs to communities across the country."

The IRA includes \$370 billion in clean energy tax credits and investments that is turbocharging America's clean energy transition while reducing carbon emissions which are driving climate change. Just since the law was passed in August, there have been more than 150 clean energy projects, more than \$75 billion in private-sector investments, and 65,000 jobs announced across 34 states.

Rucker and other E2 members from California, Washington state, and elsewhere met with seven members of Congress, including three Republican offices, to show them the true value of these game changing policies, regardless of political party.

As E2's Bob Keefe put it, "We're in the middle of the biggest economic boom in generations because Congress last year finally got America in the game in the global clean energy revolution. Now some members of Congress are doing their best to roll back the very policies that are driving billions of dollars in investments and tens of thousands of jobs? It just doesn't make sense."

August 2023



Orca pod. Photo by Larry Workman



Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

Being Frank

Tell the truth, trust the science about orca recovery

By Ed Johnstone - NWIFC Chairman



My mentor Billy Frank Jr. always said that it's going to take all of us working together to recover salmon.

He also said, "Tell the truth."

The truth is that sometimes we have to change our thinking when new information comes to light. Several years ago, everyone became very concerned about how the decline in Pacific chinook salmon was affecting endangered southern resident orcas. We were told they ate only wild chinook, which sparked misguided campaigns to save orcas by boycotting chinook salmon.

ing the impacts of climate change, they're pointing their fingers in the wrong direction.

One misguided campaign claims, "Every bite of king salmon you eat means less food for starving orcas," before inviting supporters to make a generous donation.

This statement is baseless because most salmon harvested for human consumption already have passed through the waters where orcas might feed on them. The entire campaign is dangerous because it misleads and divides the people who care about the environment and want to do the right thing.

A better way to feed starving orcas is to increase the number of salmon produced in hatcheries. This is one of the recommendations from the state's Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force and aligns with the National Marine Fisheries Service's short-term risk reduction measures.

(A couple of years ago, research revealed that southern resident orcas will eat salmon other than chinook, such as coho and chum, as well as steelhead, halibut and cod—and they eat both hatchery and natural-origin salmon.)

All along, tribal and state managers have been managing chinook harvest sustainably—along with our Canadian counterparts through the Pacific Salmon Commission—in compliance with the Federal Endangered Species Act. Only a small percentage of returning salmon are harvested and humans represent a tiny fraction of the competition for salmon. By comparison, seals and sea lions take six times as many chinook as the entire fishing industry.

We know that fishing is not to blame for our declining salmon runs or starving orcas, and that the best thing we can do is protect, restore and create new habitat. Tribes have thousands of years of experience managing salmon. We have been doing everything we can to rebuild chinook salmon stocks, but we can't do it through harvest reductions alone.

We need all hands on deck. Everyone who cares about salmon should support efforts to protect and restore salmon runs.

However, some people are having trouble changing their way of thinking. Instead of doing the hard work of fixing our broken ecosystem or address-

That's why it is unfathomable to see anti-hatchery groups attempting to interfere with state and tribal co-management—and recovery efforts for both salmon and orcas—with lawsuits that misrepresent the science behind hatcheries.

These groups are as ill-informed as the calls for a chinook boycott. They imagine that halting hatchery production will miraculously recover natural-origin salmon. This just isn't true.

Salmon populations can't recover to sustainable levels unless we restore their spawning and rearing habitat. Meanwhile, stopping hatchery production is a far greater threat to starving orcas than human consumption. Most of the salmon that return to our region come from hatcheries.

Misinformed campaigns like these, no matter how well meaning, are harmful to salmon recovery and tribal treaty rights. They are divisive distractions that take time, money and resources away from the hard work ahead.

We need to focus on preventing development from destroying habitat, protecting streams and rivers from high temperatures and low flows, managing marine mammal predation of salmon, and increasing hatchery production.

The worst thing you can do for salmon and orcas is to support one of these organizations working against tribal harvest and hatchery management. We need you on our side so we can all walk the same path toward salmon recovery.

2. 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.

175

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).

14
Renewable 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, require absurdly 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



“Imagine what 200 + more Wind Electrical Generators would have with their blinking lights?”