

1 TCC  
2 Pre-Filed Testimony  
3 Margaret Hue  
4 EXH-5621\_R

5 BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON  
6 ENERGY FACILITY SITING EVALUATION COUNCIL

7 In the Matter of the Application of:

DOCKET NO. EF-210011

8 Scout Clean Energy, LLC, for  
9 Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC,  
Applicant.

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF TCC  
WITNESS MARGARET HUE

10  
11  
12 Q: Please state your name and address

13 A: Margaret Hue, PhD, 29204 S 816 PR SE, Kennewick WA 99338  
14

15 Q: Have you prepared testimony regarding the Horse Heaven Wind Farm  
16 application?

17 A: Yes, my testimony is provided below.  
18  
19

20 Q: Please state your name, employer (if relevant) and home address.

21 A: Margaret Hue, PhD, Retired, 29204 S 816 PR SE, Kennewick WA 99338  
22

23 Q: Please briefly describe your work experience and qualifications.

24 A: Badger Canyon farmer for 42 years and a retired educator.  
25  
26

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS  
MARGARET HUE - 1

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1 Q: Please state the address of your home and the name of the neighborhood in which  
2 it is located.

3 A: 29204 S 816 PR SE, Kennewick WA 99338 this is south of Kennewick in the  
4 Badger Valley Road area

5  
6 Q: Please state how long you have lived at this address and why you chose to live  
7 here.

8 A: My husband and I have lived and farmed in Badger Canyon since 1978.  
9

10 Q: Please describe your opinion on the effect this project will have on the property  
11 value of your home and other homes in the area.  
12

13 A: The project will significantly reduce the value of residential homes and acreages  
14 with families, single or senior citizens and people all levels of income who live in close  
15 proximity to the proposed turbines.  
16

17 I am 1 ½ miles from the turbines proposed but at the base of the largest watershed  
18 drainage canyon in Benton County that will carry the sound and echo into my farm  
19 and livestock. This is another concern for health and property values.  
20

21 I am supporting the Tri-Cities Cares position and adding concerns regarding the  
22 significant impacts that will occur from the project due to damage to diversified  
23 agriculture, health problems, property value loss and damage to animals and pet  
24 health.  
25  
26

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MARGARET HUE - 2

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1 We began raising cattle and sheep in 1980-1981. In 1982 we began raising alfalfa  
2 and in 1984 noticed our yields decreasing. In 1986 we realized our yields kept  
3 decreasing in the entire Badger Canyon valley from Kennewick to Kiona so in 1987  
4 we diversified crops to asparagus, commercial flowers along with alfalfa, pasture, and  
5 cattle. In 1988 we learned our crops were damaged from repeated herbicide drift off  
6 the HHH wheat farms that killed 75% of our asparagus, a 20-year crop just one year  
7 old and 100% of our commercial flowers for the next 3 years.  
8

9 In 1988, drift from 840 acres off HHH wheat fields sprayed with Paraquat drifted over  
10 400 square miles of the Tri-Cities from Kiona to Richland to Highway 395 and Wells  
11 Road out of Pasco across toward east Kennewick to HHH, Clodfelter Road and into  
12 Badger Canyon, which was damaged the worst.  
13

14 In 1988-89 Battelle Meteorology completed the only meteorology study in Badger  
15 Canyon/HHH explaining how the meteorology and topography conditions on HHH and  
16 the numerous canyons draining off HHH into Finley, Kennewick, Badger Canyon,  
17 Kiona and Benton City are not only unpredictable but sensitive to herbicide drift due to  
18 aloft winds picking up particles of herbicide and dropping into the canyons and Tri-  
19 Cities communities over the 400 sq. miles, as the WSDA witnessed and investigated  
20 from the late 1940s thru 1988.  
21

22 After 16 WAC changes in Benton County, the WSDA finally adopted regulations in  
23 1993 to remove aerial application of herbicides. After 5 years, in 1998, the reduction  
24 of the residues from these wheat herbicide products in our soils downwind of HHH  
25 allowed the diversified agriculture crops to not only flourish but to restore grapes.  
26

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MARGARET HUE - 3

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1  
2 The wine industry began to flourish after being damaged or killed for 50 years. From  
3 1988-present, I have been the Spokesperson for Tri-Citians Against Chemical  
4 Trespass to protect diversified ag and our communities.  
5

6 Our property values with herbicide drift in 1988-95 dropped 60 percent.  
7

8 What guarantee do you give this won't happen again?  
9

10 Q: Please describe your opinion of any other issues or concerns you have about the  
11 project.  
12

13 A: I now raise cattle and pasture but want to plant some acreage to wine grapes but  
14 am concerned about wind turbulence, weather change and temperature nighttime  
15 changes.  
16

17 I raise questions about the wind turbines as the research provided by the developer  
18 regarding properties outside of the wind farm boundary is lacking.  
19

- 20 • WARM TEMPERATURES DOWNWIND, mostly nighttime from 4 pm – 10  
21 am can affect quality of fruit, size of fruit and color. This can impact fruits in  
22 orchards, including stone fruits, apples, and wine grapes.
- 23 • INCREASED WIND TURBULENCE AND WEATHER PATTERNS  
24 DOWNWIND FOR UP TO 15 MILES can dry out the soils, change the  
25 moisture, remove dew affecting size, harvest, and impact our diversified ag  
26 crops on every level.

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MARGARET HUE - 4

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- After 50 years of losses to diversified agriculture, the lack of research on the above issues impacts the economic growth to diversified ag and to the Tri-Cities' economy. The wine industry impacts tourism and the risk to the wine industry and its future can devastate our community and hamper expansion. In Badger Canyon and Kiona there are about 150 turbines proposed above our valley. The turbine-produced wind drains down and bounces off the opposite canyon wall. There are approximately 4000 acres of wine grapes with wineries within 2 miles of the wind farm boundary. There are also cattle, alfalfa, vegetables, corn, herbs, potatoes and other specialty crops.
- RESEARCH needs to be gathered on the ag crops we raise in the same meteorological and topographical conditions regarding the above concerns to prove our crops and residents will not be harmed before our community is experimented with for 35-70 years.
- I have hawks -- protected 20 years ago -- that nest near our area and fly above the hills where the proposed turbines are sited. The Pacific Flyway should be protected.
- Herbicide drift can damage our wine industry and diversified ag crops. We should be questioning what impacts are of wind turbines blades mixing with aloft winds in the air 1650 ft above and blades traveling 120 mph at the tip. The wind turbine air movement, acting like an airplane moving air, has the potential to cause herbicide damage and the WSDA can't prove or disprove that it will not happen. But if problems occur, what recourse do we have considering that 22-50 years ago, the burden of proof was on the victims of damage?

1  
2 This wind farm should not be located next to our community so close to so many  
3 residents, 2200 people within 2 miles.  
4

5 There SHOULD be a buffer where the 1993 WSDA regulations were put in to place  
6 due to meteorological concerns, and turbines should not be in this restricted area.  
7

8 Q: Do you have any comments about the recent fire and other fires in the past in this  
9 area?  
10

11 A: Yes. Badger Canyon Valley has experienced repeat fires. The creek at the bottom  
12 of Badger Canyon flows into it. It was named because there were so many Badgers  
13 that used to live here when it was sheep grazing area before the Kennewick Irrigation  
14 Canal was built in the 1950's.  
15

16 I am extremely concerned about the wildfires and the difficulties the responders and  
17 planes face putting them out.  
18

19 Like the fire above Kiona it burned all around towards Prosser past the orchards and  
20 blueberries owned by Bauders. I saw the planes dropped retardant down to stop it in  
21 areas but it was near orchard trees and blueberries to damage from intense heat for  
22 sure on outer rows.  
23

24 I've seen the hillside from I82 to behind us almost 6 miles burn 3 times since 1997.  
25 The water plane came from Boise to pick up from Columbia River and helicopters  
26

1 picked up from KID canal behind us. The fire kept jumping fire lines. When it would  
2 reach canyons the fuel from tumbleweeds would inflame and their power would jump  
3 canyons and fire lines. So airplanes are essential to fighting these. The last fire  
4 burned up into the wheat fields that are in the proposed wind turbine locations closest  
5 to us in the southwest curve of Badger Canyon Valley  
6

7 Q: Are you providing photographs?

8 Yes: They are provided in the Attachment.  
9  
10

11 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that  
12 my testimony and reports are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.  
13

14 Signed this \_\_\_3\_\_\_ day of July, 2023, in \_\_\_Kennewick WA \_\_\_\_\_.  
15

16 \_\_\_\_\_Margaret Hue\_\_\_\_\_ /s/\_\_\_\_\_  
17

18 Printed Name  
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25  
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MARGARET HUE - 7

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## Margaret Hue Attachment

August – September 2017 Fire in Badger Canyon south of Badger Valley Road in Kennewick WA

My son, Todd Hue took these from his place on Spirit Lane. He is one road east of my place but the fire was directly burning behind my place and it is Badger Canyon off Horse Hills that is burning and to the south at the top of the ridge where the closest turbines are proposed. The helicopter is filling from the KID canal behind my place 29204 S 816 PR SE, Kennewick and within Badger Canyon.

Margaret

Photographs























