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TCC
Pre-Filed Testimony
Linda Lehman
EXH-5632_R

BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITING EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the Matter of the Application of:

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

DOCKET NO. EF-210011

TCC PRE-FILED REBUTTAL
TESTIMONY:
REBUTTAL OF WADSWORTH
TESTIMONY BY BENTON CITY MAYOR
LINDA LEHMAN

WITNESS STATEMENT

Linda Lehman Response to Rebuttal Testimony of Jessica Wadsworth on Behalf of Scout
Clean Energy

Q: Do you have comments on Ms Jessica Wadsworth’s Rebuttal Submittal?

A: Page 5, Lines 6 to 8, Ms. Wadsworth states that the council received multiple presentations from Tri-Cities Cares. She states: “Later, at City Council, we received multiple presentations from the Tri-Cities CARES group opposing the project, but we never heard the other side. I don’t believe the mayor ever reached out to Scout to speak with us.”

1 The City Council received two presentations from TCC Board member Paul Krupin,
2 one on January 17, 2023 and the other on May 8, 2023.

3 The City Council Meeting Minutes indicate that Ms Wadsworth took an action and
4 agreed to invite Scout to come in and talk to the City Council.

5 A May 30, 2023 email was sent to Ms. Wadsworth asking if she had arranged for a
6 presentation to the City Council meeting on June 6, 2023.

7 As far as I know, Ms. Wadsworth did not reply, was not able to arrange for a guest
8 presentation, and Scout did not give a presentation to the City Council on June 6.

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11 **Q: In her rebuttal, Ms. Wadsworth explains her views of the project. Do you agree**
12 **with her positions and testimony regarding the project?**

13 A: I consider Ms. Wadsworth to be a valuable member of the Benton City Council. She
14 has a right to her opinion, and she has stated it repeatedly during preparation of the Comments
15 delivered earlier. However, the Benton City Council operates by majority vote and the vote
16 was 4 to 1 for submittal of the comments. Mrs. Wadsworth was the one dissenting vote.
17 While I am sensitive to her views and concerns about jobs, employment and the economy, I do
18 not agree with her views on the project, particularly with regard to the employment numbers
19 identified in the Economic Impact Assessment in the Updated ASC.

20 The project must be viewed in total, weighing both the good and the bad. It is my
21 opinion that in the case of the HHH wind project the negatives outweigh the short-term
22 benefits that will be gained in jobs. Fire safety, increased costs of electricity, killing and
23 dislocation of wildlife, loss of recreational areas, and destruction of the natural beauty of the
24 landscape represent substantial concerns that will be with us for decades. This is a huge price
25
26

1 to be paid by eastern Washington communities, with no benefit except for a handful of
2 temporary jobs and a silver lining in the pockets of a few.

3 Furthermore, Ms. Wadsworth did not provide any rebuttal comments on my testimony
4 submitted June 5, 2023.

5 As Mayor of Benton City, my comments on the application still represent my opinions
6 regarding the project.

7 I acknowledge that I may be cross-examined during the adjudication hearings.

8 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that my
9 testimony are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
10

11 Signed this 13th day of July, 2023, in Kennewick WA _____.

12
13 Linda Lehman _____

/s/ _____

14 Printed Name

Signature