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TCC
Supplemental Testimony
Lonnie Click
EXH-5912_S

BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITING EVALUATION COUNCIL

<p>In the Matter of the Application of:</p> <p>Scout Clean Energy, LLC, for Horse Heaven Wind Farm, LLC, Applicant.</p>	<p>DOCKET NO. EF-210011</p> <p>SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF BENTON COUNTY FIRE CHIEF LONNIE E. CLICK IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM CHAIR DREW</p>
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On August 23, 2023, Judge Torem forwarded to TCC’s attorney two questions from EFSEC Chair Drew, which were in turn provided to me:

Subject: Question for Chief Click

In your testimony you indicate concern about creating optimal wildfire containment lines on wind farms. Do you think the gravel roads built within a wind facility could become a fire containment line? Do you know of any instances in Washington where firefighting has used wind facilities during fires for that purpose?

Kathleen Drew, Chair

This supplemental testimony responds to Chair Drew’s questions.

Q: Could (gravel) roads of the project themselves become fire containment lines?

1 A: The steep sloped hillsides tend to burn unimpeded to the ridgelines. Fighting
2 fire along the gravel access roads may help contain the fire from burning on to
3 the project ag lands, but it will have little to no effect on fire burning towards the
4 properties in the valley below. Aerial firefighting resources have proven to be
5 the most effective method for fighting the fires and preventing damage to
6 properties in the valley below.
7

8 Q: Any instances in WA where fire-fighting has used roads for that purpose (in
9 the context of wind farms)?

10 A: I only have local knowledge and experience. The wind farm roads on Jump-
11 Off Joe and Hatch Grade have been previously used for access during fires.
12 The effectiveness of using those roads to contain fire was varied and
13 inconsistent. Some were used unsuccessfully and some were used
14 successfully.
15

16 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that
17 my testimony is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
18
19

20 Signed this 3RD day of AUGUST, 2023, in Kennewick WA
21 _____
22

23 Lonnie E. Click

/s/

24 Printed Name

Signature

25
26
SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF BENTON
COUNTY FIRE CHIEF LONNIE E. CLICK IN
RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM CHAIR
DREW - 2

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