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TCC
Supplemental Testimony
John Christensen
EXH-5914-S

BEFORE THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITING EVALUATION COUNCIL

In the Matter of the Application of:

DOCKET NO. EF-210011

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

SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF TCC
WITNESS JOHN CHRISTENSEN

Q: Please state your name and address

A: John Christensen. My home address is 3802 W. 43rd Ave. Kennewick, WA 99338.

Q: Please briefly describe your work experience and qualifications.

A: I am a farmer and have farmed in the Horse Heavens for 54 years. Our farm is about 3,000 acres in size.

Q: Please state the location of your farm and the area in which it is located.

A: My farm is located south and north of Locust Road and west of Interstate I-82 in Benton County.

Q: Please state how long you have lived here and why you chose to live here.

A: Early in the 1900's my grandfather purchased the Amon homestead in Benton County. We have always lived in the south Kennewick area. I was raised on the farm at 39505 S. Amon Road, Kennewick, WA. My son lived at this address and now my

SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS

JOHN CHRISTENSEN - 1

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Telephone (206) 625-9515
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1 grandson still lives on the farm at this address. As of now, five generations of my
2 family have enjoyed the scenic vistas and wildlife of this area. It is just a wonderful
3 place to raise a family.

4 Historically, we owned approximately 2,800 acres of farmland. Today we own
5 approximately 2,300 acres. We lease from others approximately 600 acres. In the
6 1980's and 1990's it was approximately 1200 acres. Since the late 1940's the farm
7 has raised wheat. In 1988 we began enrolling some of the acres into the Conservation
8 Reserve Program. Today, we are removing acres from the Conservation Reserve
9 Program and will be returning those acres into the production of wheat.

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

13 A: Long term farm home values will decline as no one chooses to live their lives
14 looking at and listening to wind turbines. Farmland values will decrease as wind
15 turbine access roads, connection lines, solar arrays, and turbine pads dissect large
16 fields into smaller inefficient parcels as evidenced by the solar and turbine layout
17 grids.

18
19 Q: Please describe your opinion of any other issues or concerns you have about the
20 project.

21 A: I have major concerns regarding the one hundred plus miles of gravel access
22 roads. Miles of access roads means more traffic which leads to more dust, more
23 illegal dumping of garbage, more theft and vandalism, more poaching of wildlife, and
24 more fires from increased traffic.

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SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS

JOHN CHRISTENSEN - 2

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1 I also have concerns and disrespect for the farmers involved by this project. As
2 a farmer of some 54 years my oath is to be a steward of the land. To nurture the soil
3 and provide an environment favorable for wildlife. Not to desecrate these precious
4 prime agricultural lands with solar panels and wind turbines while destroying wildlife
5 and farmland.
6

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

9 A: Wildfires will always be a threat in the Horse Heavens. In past years and today the
10 most efficient way to fight a large fire has been by air. Wind turbines will only hamper
11 aerial efforts to combat fires in these areas.
12

13 Q: Are you providing photographs?

14 Yes: They are provided on the following pages 4-8. The photos were taken by me in
15 and around the farm over the past several years. They are from farm property or
16 looking out from farm property to other lands.
17

18 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that
19 my testimony and reports are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
20

21 Signed this 2nd day of September 2023, in Kennewick, WA.

22 JOHN CHRISTENSEN /s/ John Christensen
23
24
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SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS

JOHN CHRISTENSEN - 3

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1 Christensen Farm - Viewing Southeast from Christensen Section 5/T7N/R29E



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SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS

JOHN CHRISTENSEN - 4

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1 Christensen Farm - Viewing South from Christensen farmhouse Section 30/T8N/R29E



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SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS

JOHN CHRISTENSEN - 5

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1 Christensen Farm - Viewing north from Christensen Section 7/T7N/R29E



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SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS

JOHN CHRISTENSEN - 6

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1 Christensen Farm - Viewing northwest across Christensen Section 29/T8N/R29E
2 toward Kennewick.



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SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS

JOHN CHRISTENSEN - 7

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1 Christensen Farm - Viewing West from Christensen farmhouse Section 30/T8N/R29E
2 (sunset without wind turbines)
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SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS

JOHN CHRISTENSEN - 8

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