TCC Supplemental Testimony Margaret Hue EXH-5917\_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 MARGARET HUE

- Q: Please state your name and address
- A: Margaret Hue, PhD, 29204 S 816 PR SE, Kennewick WA 99338
- Q: Have you prepared supplemental testimony regarding the Horse Heaven Wind Farm application?
- A. Yes, my supplemental testimony is provided below.
- Q: Please briefly describe your work experience and qualifications.
- A: Badger Canyon farmer for 42 years and a retired educator.
- Q: Please state the address of your home and the name of the neighborhood in which it is located.
- A: 29204 S 816 PR SE, Kennewick WA 99338 this is south of Kennewick in the Badger Valley Road area

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS

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

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

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

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

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

I am opposed to the Horse Heaven Hill Wind Farm Project because the significant impacts the project will have on diversified agriculture in the local area.

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

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| In 1988-89 Battelle Meteorology completed the only meteorology study in Badger |
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| Canyon/HHH explaining how the meteorology and topography conditions on HHH and |
| the numerous canyons draining off HHH into Finley, Kennewick, Badger Canyon,   |
| Kiona and Benton City.   |

I now raise cattle and pasture but want to plant some acreage to wine grapes but am concerned about wind turbulence, weather change and particularly from nighttime temperature changes. The research indicates that wind farms built in grassland and croplands show a larger warming effect than those built on forests.

I have concerns about the impacts on agriculture from the increase in temperature caused by the wind turbines in the area adjacent to the Horse Heaven Hill Wind Project.

A study of NASA data showed that an area in Texas covered by 4 large wind farms warmed at a rate of .72 degrees C per decade relative to nearby regions without wind farms. over a nine year period.1

There is research that indicates that every 1 degree C rise in night-time temperatures cause a 4-10% decrease in crop yields, depending on the crop. Research confirmed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> NASA Satellite measurements Imply Texas Wind Farm Impact on Surface Temperature, Earth 04.30.12 <a href="https://www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/features/tx-wind-">https://www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/features/tx-wind-</a> farm.html

by Arkansas State University, University of Nebraska, Kansas State University, and University of Nottingham (UK) among others.<sup>2</sup>

There are reports that indicate that wind turbines can influence climate and weather downwind for up to 15 miles. Winds turbines have been shown to dry out the soils, change the moisture, remove dew, affecting size, harvest, and impact our diversified ag crops on every level.

Research shows that the warming effect from wind farms is greater than the effect of reduced emissions for the first century of operation because of the localized effect of warming near the wind farm. Wind farms will cause a local average annual temperature rise of 1.5- 2 degrees C with most of the critical effects of the warming occurring at night. Turbines can pull down warmer air from as high as 1640 feet in the air to the surface, causing warming, impacting people, plants, and animals - rising temperatures can be a major problem for animals which use night time temperatures to recover from stress from excessive day time temperatures.<sup>3</sup>

Another study looked at the Impacts of 319 wind farms on surface temperature and vegetation in the United States. It indicates that the LST (land surface temperature)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Tack, Barkley, and Nalley, Effects of Warming temperatures on US wheat yields, PNAS (2014) https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.1415181112

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Climatic Impacts of Wind Power, Joule, Lee M. Miller, David W. Keith,

https://keith.seas.harvard.edu/sites/hwpi.harvard.edu/files/tkg/files/climatic\_impacts\_of wind\_power.pdf?m=1538752648

| 1  | impacts declined with increasing distance from the wind farm, with detectable impact  |
|----|---|
| 2  | up to 10 km (6.214 miles).4   |
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| 5  | Q: Are you providing photographs?   |
| 6  | Yes: They are provided on the following pages 6, 7 and 8.   |
| 7  |   |
| 8  | I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that   |
| 9  | my testimony and reports are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.   |
| 10 | Signed this3_ day of July, 2023, inKennewick WA   |
| 11 | Margaret Hue /s/  |
| 12 | Printed Name  |
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| 23 | 4 Yingzuo Qin , Yan Li , Ru Xu , Chengcheng Hou, Alona Armstrong , Eviatar Bach ,   |
| 24 | Yang Wang and Bojie Fu, Environmental research Latter 17 (2022) 024026 Published 11 February 2022 <a href="https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ac49ba/pdf">https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ac49ba/pdf</a> |

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## **Photographs**

Hue Farm property looking towards Badger Canyon alluvial fan.





PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS
MARGARET HUE - 7



PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF TCC WITNESS MARGARET HUE - 8