



September 20, 2023

Good Morning! It's Wednesday and we want to update you on what's going on. -

1. The adjudication is almost over.

Benton County, the Yakima Nation and Tri-Cities CARES are filing objections on critically important issues in anticipation of taking the case to the Washington Supreme Court. Closing briefs will be filed soon.

We are fighting to remove turbines to protect property values and the economy, to allow aerial firefighting for public safety, and to protect wildlife and cultural sites.

What's happening:

- The judge has yet to set the date for the final supplemental adjudication hearing.
- EFSEC has yet to announce the date for the publication of the Final EIS although it will likely be right before Christmas. There is no additional public comment on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)-

EFSEC and the Judge's many delays and bias have complicated the process greatly increasing TCC's legal fees.

Why It Matters: If the HH Wind Project is approved without modifications, the Tri-Cities is going to get hurt badly, very quickly, and the region will change forever:

2. Property Values Will Fall 20 to 30 percent or more.

Economic devastation? Homes and properties within sight of the wind farms face 20 to 30 percent loss of value.

Tri-Cities Cares property appraisal experts testified that the wind turbines will reduce the value of real estate by 20 to 30 percent or more.

Duh. People pay more for a nice scenic view. People don't pay as much for a view of an energy industrial complex.

- Properties in close proximity (one to two miles) may not even be sellable.
- Expensive and ambitious property development initiatives may simply fall part once people realize that there are several dozen wind turbines in plain view.
- And when they do sell, they usually sell at less than current market value. Sales will take more time and will be more difficult to sell.

Distance to turbines may not be the only factor. Neighboring places where wind farms will be visible will be affected. The number of households affected by the visual impacts is much larger than just homes in close proximity. Everyone will be impacted.

Spread the word quickly to your friends and neighbors. We are all going to feel this if 244 turbines are approved.

Learn more about stunning warning TC CARES property appraisal experts presented in their **[testimony on the impact the wind farms will have on property values \(click here\)](#)**.

3. Aerial firefighting will be restricted

This summer's stifling heat wave turned dangerous in several areas in the Horse Heaven Hills near Benton City and south Kennewick.

Fast moving fires were contained only with the capabilities of the aerial firefighters.

The Chairman of the Aerial Firefighters Association voluntarily offered expert witness testimony that this project will create a 25 mile long “no fly zone” that will restrict aerial firefighting in the adjacent residential areas.

You can't fly a DC-10 or a 727 and drop fire retardant on a fire 150 feet off the ground with 500-foot-high wind turbines in your flight path!

4. Benton County Issues a Resolution of Opposition

The Benton County Commissioners issued a formal statement of their opposition to the Horse heaven Hills Wind Project. **You can read the resolution here.**

What Can You Do?

Help us fight. Tell your neighbors what is happening. Get engaged.

We are willing to talk to anyone. Throw a meeting at your house invite your friends and neighbors. We will speak and share what you need to know.

Help us network in the community. Give us the names of your real estate agents, property developers, insurance agents, financial planners and any organizations you may belong to. Share this message and tell them to call us.

Donate.

We need an estimated \$100k more to finish adjudication and file the lawsuit to the Washington Supreme Court.

This will go on well into 2024.

Please donate by clicking here:

<https://www.tricitiescares.org/donations>

or send a check to

Tri-Cities C.A.R.E.S.

1360 N. Louisiana St. #A-175

Kennewick, WA 99336

Your help and financial support keep us going. Thank you!

Paul Krupin, Pam Minelli, Karen Brun, and Dave Sharp

Board Members of Tri-Cities CARES.