

February 15, 2021

Honorable Jay Inslee
Governor, State of Washington
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504

RE: Horse Heaven Hills Wind Project

Dear Honorable Jay Inslee:

Benton County is the home of Columbia Generating Station; the states only nuclear plant. It is also the home of McNary Dam, Nine Canyon Wind Farm, White Bluffs Solar Station, and Horn Rapids Solar, Storage and Training Project. These projects combined create enough energy to power the Puget Sound area.

Benton County is the home of the most contaminated nuclear site in the United States. The Hanford nuclear reservation continues to be cleaned up after its land and water were contaminated in order to help win World War II. This is the location in which the plutonium for the nuclear bomb "Fatman" was created. This bomb was later dropped on Nagasaki, which ended World War II and saved millions of lives.

Just to the south of Benton County the Umatilla Chemical Depot is visible. This location has 1,000 concrete igloo bunkers that protrude from the ground. This was the location in which tons of VX and nerve agents were stored for the World War II effort. At one point 12 % of the countries chemical weapons were stored at this one location. This location has finally been cleaned up and now remains a federally owned eyesore.

Benton County has always stepped up when our country and our state needed us. We understand that in order to meet the states clean energy mandate that wind projects will be built in this state. We just do not believe that a wind project of this magnitude should be built near such a large population center. We do not believe that just because you are able to build a wind project on this location that you must build one. This project would destroy twenty-four miles of naturally beautiful hilltops overlooking the Tri-Cities.

The Horse Heaven Hills are some of the most beautiful hills in our state. They are the home of bald eagles, burrowing owls, Canada geese, and the recently re-introduced prong horned antelope. They are also located in the middle of the Pacific Flyway, which is one of the nation's

largest bird migration flyways. It is not unusual to see flocks of geese and ducks that number in the thousands fly through the proposed wind site heading south for the winter.

Benton County is also the home of the Hanford Reach National Monument that includes Rattlesnake Mountain. The Columbia, Yakima, and Snake Rivers also intersect in Benton County. Benton County is truly an amazing place to live. This location has long been paradise for outdoorsman. The hiking trails are abundant and growing and the hunting and fishing is world class. More recently wine was introduced into this region. Within an hour's drive, the Tri-Cities is home to two hundred wineries. Wine tourism has become a major economic boost for the region. We believe constructing two hundred and thirty-five wind turbines in the middle of this region would be detrimental for tourism.

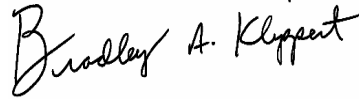
None of the four electrical utilities that are located in the Benton County area have expressed any interest in this project. Local utilities need energy when it is coldest and hottest during the year. The wind does not blow during those times of the year at this location and these turbines will not create the needed energy. We support President Biden's effort to build more offshore wind sites. Generally, these sites are not visible from land and they are much closer to the population centers where the energy is needed.

Scout Clean Energy submitted its application to EFSEC to build two hundred and thirty turbines in the Kennewick area on February 9, 2021. These turbines are not the normal sized turbines that stand 350 feet. These are the massive 500 feet variety. Once considering the issues outlined in this letter, we hope you agree that this is not an appropriate site for this project. Please reject the EFSEC application and ask Scout Clean Energy to build a project in a location closer to the population centers that need the energy.

Sincerely,



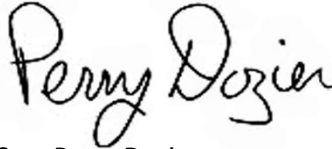
Rep. Matt Boehnke
8th Legislative District



Rep. Brad Klippert
8th Legislative District



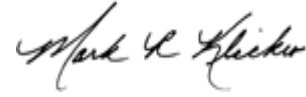
Sen. Sharon Brown
8th Legislative District



Sen. Perry Dozier
16th Legislative District



Rep. Skyler Rude
16th Legislative District



Rep. Mark Klicker
16th Legislative District



Rep. Joe Schmick
9th Legislative District