

Verbatim Transcript of Monthly Council Meeting
Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
September 18, 2012



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WASHINGTON STATE
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
Richard Hemstad Building
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest
Conference Room 206
Olympia, Washington
Tuesday, September 18, 2012
1:34 p.m.

MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
Verbatim Transcript of Proceeding

REPORTED BY: SHERRILYN SMITH, CCR# 2097

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A P P E A R A N C E S

Councilmembers Present:

- Jim Luce, Chair
- Dick Fryhling, Department of Commerce
- Joe Stohr, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Andrew Hayes, Department of Natural Resources
- Dennis Moss, Commission
- Doug Sutherland, Skamania County (via phone)

Staff in Attendance:

- Stephen Posner, Compliance Manager
- Jim LaSpina, EFS Specialist
- Tammy Talburt, Commerce Specialist
- Kayce Michelle, Administrative Assistant 3
- Amber George, Office Assistant 3
- Kyle Crews, Assistant Attorney General

Guests in Attendance:

- T. Patrick Sanchez, PacifiCorp Energy
- Rich Downen, Grays Harbor Energy
- Travis Nelson, Department of Fish and Wildlife

Guests in Attendance Via Phone:

- Jennifer Diaz, Puget Sound Energy
- Steve McNutt, Energy Northwest
- Eric Melbardis, Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project

1 CHAIR LUCE: Good afternoon. This is
2 the monthly meeting of the Washington State Energy
3 Facility Site Evaluation Council, September 18, 2012,
4 the time is approximately 1:40.

5 Clerk, please call the role.

6 THE CLERK: Department of Commerce?

7 MR. FRYHLING: Dick Fryhling is present.

8 THE CLERK: Ecology is excused.

9 Fish and Wildlife?

10 MR. STOHR: Joe Stohr is present.

11 THE CLERK: Natural Resources?

12 MR. HAYES: Andy Hayes is here.

13 THE CLERK: Utilities and Transportation
14 Commission?

15 MR. MOSS: Dennis Moss for the
16 Commission.

17 THE CLERK: Doug, are you there?

18 MR. SUTHERLAND: I am here on this
19 beautiful day.

20 THE CLERK: Chair?

21 CHAIR LUCE: Chair is here.

22 We will ask the people on the phone to please
23 identify themselves at this time.

24 MR. SUTHERLAND: This is Doug Sutherland
25 representing Skamania County.

1 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you, Doug.

2 Next?

3 MS. DIAZ: Jennifer Diaz from Puget
4 Sound Energy.

5 CHAIR LUCE: Okay, Jennifer.

6 MR. McNUTT: Steve McNutt with Energy
7 Northwest.

8 CHAIR LUCE: All right, Steve McNutt
9 with Energy Northwest.

10 Next?

11 MR. MELBARDIS: Eric Melbardis, Kittitas
12 Valley Wind Power Project.

13 CHAIR LUCE: All right.

14 Others? Going once, twice. Hearing no one
15 else, we will proceed.

16 You have, Councilmembers, the proposed addenda
17 before you. Are there any changes or additions or
18 deletions?

19 Hearing none, the agenda is adopted as
20 proposed.

21 Councilmembers have been provided the verbatim
22 meeting minutes for August 21, 2012. Do you have any
23 changes?

24 Hearing none, I will entertain a motion to
25 adopt the minutes.

1 MR. FRYHLING: So moved.

2 CHAIR LUCE: Is there a second?

3 MR. MOSS: I will second the motion.

4 CHAIR LUCE: We have a motion to second.

5 All in favor of adopting the meeting minutes for

6 August 21, 2012 signify by say "aye."

7 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.

8 CHAIR LUCE: Let the record show that
9 the vote was unanimous.

10 Projects. Kittitas Valley Wind Project.

11 Did anyone ask to go out of turn or do we have
12 any members of the public on the phone for any
13 particular project? Kayce or Amber, do you know?

14 THE CLERK: No, I don't think so.

15 CHAIR LUCE: Okay, we will keep with the
16 agenda, then.

17 Kittitas Valley Wind Project, give us an
18 operational update in two minutes or less.

19 MR. MELBARDIS: Good afternoon, Council,
20 Chair Luce. This is Eric Melbardis for the Kittitas
21 Valley Wind Power Project. Our status updates of the
22 project for the month of August, we generated 29,368
23 megawatt hours with winds of 18.8 miles per hour,
24 capacity factor of 39.2 percent. No safety incidents
25 to report. The project is in compliance as of the

1 writing of this update, with no sound complaints, no
2 shadow flicker complaints.

3 Environmental report. Our fire updates. The
4 project has held technical advisory meetings with
5 members of the TAC, Department of Natural Resources
6 and Department of Fish and Wildlife, Ecology and our
7 own internal and external environmental consultants.
8 The project continues to evaluate the condition of the
9 site after the fire, and we will work with our
10 advisors to address modification of our restoration
11 plans as appropriate. The documentation of these
12 efforts and a summary of any changes to our plans will
13 be furnished to EFSEC prior to the next council
14 meeting. We will continue to closely monitor the
15 affected areas in the meantime.

16 Our weed control plan remains active and
17 spraying continues as necessary. Avian and bat
18 fatality monitoring continues with no change. There
19 was no stormwater discharge to report in the month of
20 August, and we are continuing to monitor all
21 stormwater BMPs.

22 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you very much. Do
23 you have anything else to add?

24 MR. MELBARDIS: No, just that the
25 meeting with WDFW, Ecology and EFSEC Staff was just

1 last week, so I need to finalize a report, and that
2 should be our plan going forward.

3 CHAIR LUCE: All right. Thank you so
4 much. We will look forward to that report.

5 Grays Harbor Energy?

6 MR. DOWNEN: Good afternoon, Chair Luce
7 and Council. I'm Rich Downen, I'm the plant manager,
8 Grays Harbor Energy.

9 During the month of July, safety-wise there
10 were no accidents or injuries -- during the month of
11 August, excuse me. We conducted the monthly safety
12 training for August. Environmentally, submitted the
13 July DMR, and we completed the first river water
14 sample for the Receiving Water Study. We took and
15 shipped samples for Whole Effluent Toxicity testing,
16 and we applied for the Hydraulic Project Approval
17 through the Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application
18 process to repair the Outfall piping support bracing.
19 We do an annual inspection of our outfall piping in
20 the Chehalis River. There were a few braces that had
21 come loose and we are repairing those.

22 We operated the plant ten days during the
23 month of August for a capacity factor of 20 percent.
24 We had no complaints received during the month of
25 August. We did have one site visit by Robert Moody

1 from the Olympic Region Clean Air Agency. He did a
2 quarterly site inspection visit.

3 CHAIR LUCE: And the results of that
4 were?

5 MR. DOWNEN: Satisfactory.

6 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you.

7 Do Councilmembers have any questions?

8 Hearing no questions, we will move on to the
9 next item on the agenda, which is the Chehalis Energy
10 Generating Facility.

11 MR. SANCHEZ: Good afternoon, Chair
12 Luce, members of the Council and EFSEC Staff. My name
13 is Patrick Sanchez, environmental analyst at Chehalis
14 Power.

15 The monthly report for August 2012. We had no
16 medical treatments or recordable incidents and we have
17 achieved 3,603 day without a Lost Time Accident. Our
18 stormwater, wastewater and air emissions monitoring
19 results were in compliance with our permit limits in
20 August. We are continuing to work with the Chehalis
21 River -- excuse me, the Confederated Tribes of the
22 Chehalis Reservation on a Chehalis River Basin
23 Project.

24 Authorized staffing at the plant is 19 with 19
25 positions filled. We recently hired a maintenance

1 manager. In the month of August, the plant generated
2 133,127 megawatt hours at a capacity factor of
3 37.4 percent. Year to date, the plant has generated
4 586,864 megawatt hours at capacity factor of 20.2
5 percent. The 2012 twenty-day outage is scheduled to
6 begin October 26, 2012.

7 We had no spills, stormwater or wastewater
8 exceedances to report, and there were no air emissions
9 exceedances reported in the month of August. We had
10 no Critical Infrastructure Protection Standards
11 violations during that period, and there were no noise
12 complaints to report for that period.

13 CHAIR LUCE: Great. Thank you very
14 much.

15 Councilmember questions?

16 That will be it.

17 Wild Horse. Jennifer, you are on the phone.

18 MS. DIAZ: Yes, thank you, Chair Luce
19 and Councilmembers. For the record, my name is
20 Jennifer Diaz, I'm the environmental manager for Puget
21 Sound Energy at the --

22 CHAIR LUCE: Could you speak up just a
23 little bit, Jennifer? Maybe it is our mikes, I don't
24 know, but --

25 MS. DIAZ: No, I think it's mine. How's

1 that?

2 CHAIR LUCE: Okay, that's great.

3 MS. DIAZ: Okay.

4 So for the record, Jennifer Diaz,
5 environmental manager for PSE at the Wild Horse Wind
6 Facility.

7 The August report. August generation totaled
8 46,966 megawatt hours for an average capacity factor a
9 little over 23 percent. The Solar Demonstration
10 Project generated 100 megawatt hours. There were no
11 lost-time accidents or safety incidents to report in
12 August. PSE site staff received OSHA 10 general
13 industry health and safety training and confined space
14 training in August. Under environmental, Outback
15 Sprayers have been on site providing weed control in
16 accordance with the Post-Construction Habitat
17 Restoration Plan.

18 That concludes my report.

19 CHAIR LUCE: Great.

20 Anything on the fire?

21 MS. DIAZ: The Taylor Bridge fire
22 currently is burning about 2400 acres. It's quite far
23 from the Wild Horse facility. We did have a small,
24 about a 408-acre fire a couple of weeks ago. That was
25 about two miles from the western edge of the project

1 boundary. The winds were blowing west at that time
2 and did not approach the facility.

3 CHAIR LUCE: Great.

4 MS. DIAZ: It was put out within a week.

5 CHAIR LUCE: Good news.

6 MS. DIAZ: Yeah.

7 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you so much.

8 Councilmember questions?

9 Hearing none, let's move on to the Columbia
10 Generating Station.

11 MR. McNUTT: Good afternoon, Chair Luce,
12 Councilmembers. For the record, my name is Steve
13 McNutt, I'll be sitting in for Shannon Khounnala today
14 to provide you with the status update for Columbia.
15 Columbia is operating at 100 percent power,
16 generating 1,114 megawatts and has been online for 111
17 days. It has been another uneventful month, which is
18 good news. We have no events, safety incidents or
19 regulatory issues to report.

20 Is there any other questions on the CGS status
21 before moving on to WNP 1/4 status?

22 CHAIR LUCE: Hearing none, move on.

23 MR. McNUTT: We'll talk about water
24 rights. We have a team of Energy Northwest technical
25 staff that are continuing to work with the Department

1 of Energy towards a resolution of our water rights
2 request. In late August, the Department of Energy
3 outlined a number of terms and conditions, so to
4 speak, under which they would support Energy Northwest
5 water rights application to Ecology. Since receiving
6 the terms and conditions from the Department of
7 Energy, Energy Northwest staff has been meeting with
8 our senior management to discuss the terms and path
9 forward. Energy Northwest and the Department of
10 Energy have a follow-up meeting scheduled for
11 September 26th. Energy Northwest is committed to
12 providing a response to the terms outlined by the
13 Department of Energy at the September meeting, and we
14 will continue to keep the Council informed of our
15 progress.

16 Are there any questions?

17 CHAIR LUCE: Questions?

18 Hearing no questions, that will be it.

19 MR. McNUTT: Thank you.

20 CHAIR LUCE: Whistling Ridge,

21 Mr. Posner.

22 MR. POSNER: Good afternoon, Chair Luce,
23 Councilmembers. Just to update you on what's
24 happening. The Friends of the Columbia River Gorge
25 and Save Our Scenic Area group, SOSA, filed an

1 objection to the administrative record. That was
2 filed on August 31st. We are working with the
3 Attorney General's office on developing a response to
4 their objection. On the 28th of September, there will
5 be a hearing before the Thurston County Superior Court
6 to hear the petitioner's objection to the record.

7 That's all I have.

8 CHAIR LUCE: All right.

9 When that filing is completed, Kyle, you will
10 make it available to councilmembers as soon as the
11 filing is complete?

12 MR. CREWS: I will actually do that.

13 CHAIR LUCE: So do you want to tell us a
14 little bit more about what the objections are from the
15 Friends of the Gorge and SOSA to the record?

16 MR. CREWS: Well, some that I can talk
17 to are very direct page numbers, a more searchable
18 record. They want minutes from past meetings
19 concerning -- that have Whistling Ridge in it. I'm
20 trying to think of some of the other simple things.

21 They actually also wanted some things that
22 were rejected during the hearing. In particular, they
23 want a full copy of a Wyoming energy site agency
24 report, as it pertains to radar for lights, warning
25 lights on the turbines. They want something from

1 Cowlitz County. They want some information from
2 Cowlitz County dealing with our past application that
3 is no longer in existence. They want some --

4 CHAIR LUCE: That was the PMAC
5 [phonetic] application?

6 MR. CREWS: The PMAC, yes, application.

7 They wanted some material from the -- actually
8 from Skamania County on their moratorium ordinances
9 that were rejected originally by the board during
10 adjudication.

11 Many of the things -- some of the things they
12 want were just flat out rejected. We are making -- we
13 are putting in an opposition to that at this time.
14 There are some other things. As soon as we get that
15 out, I will have it sent up to the board.

16 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you.

17 Councilmembers have any questions?

18 MR. SUTHERLAND: Hey, Jim.

19 CHAIR LUCE: Go ahead, Doug.

20 MR. SUTHERLAND: This is Doug.

21 Part of Steve's comments were cutting out as I
22 was trying to listen. Steve, can you give me your
23 phone number and I will call you after the meeting and
24 you can describe -- we can have a conversation on what
25 their objections were in a little more detail, so that

1 I've got it? Would that be all right?

2 MR. POSNER: Certainly. Do you want me
3 to call you? I can call you.

4 MR. SUTHERLAND: Let me give you a ring.
5 So it would be --

6 MR. POSNER: 664-1903.

7 MR. SUTHERLAND: 1903.

8 MR. POSNER: Right.

9 MR. SUTHERLAND: Great. Thank you very
10 much, Steve. I appreciate it.

11 Thanks, Jim.

12 CHAIR LUCE: Thank you. And Kyle will
13 sit in on that conversation.

14 MR. SUTHERLAND: That's good.

15 CHAIR LUCE: So the next item on the
16 agenda, having completed all the project reports, is
17 the Chair's update. The Chair has no update, other
18 than the fact that I have sent out a document for
19 councilmembers to review, and I would appreciate any
20 comments you've got when you have a chance to give
21 them. I hope to complete that document here in the
22 next several weeks.

23 Anything else to come before the Council,
24 Mr. Posner?

25 MR. POSNER: Nothing that I'm aware of,

1 Chair Luce.

2 CHAIR LUCE: Anyone on the phone wish to
3 raise anything else?

4 Members of the public?

5 We are adjourned.

6 (Council meeting adjourned 1:49 p.m.)

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF KING

I, Sherrilyn Smith, a Certified
Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Washington,
do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is
true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill
and ability.



Sherrilyn Smith

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