

**WAC 197-11-965 Adoption notice  
for the  
Windy Flats West Wind Energy Project**

**Adoption for (check appropriate box)  DNS  EIS  OTHER**

**Description of current proposal:** The Windy Flats West Wind Energy Project (the “Project”) is a proposed wind energy generation facility consisting of up to 29 wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure, including access roads and transmission lines. The Project would generate approximately of 67 megawatts of additional renewable energy. The Project is proposed for lands that were previously permitted for wind energy facility development as part of the Windy Flats Project, but never developed.

**Proponent:** Windy Flats Phase III, LLC

**Location of current proposal:** The Project site is in the Columbia Hills, approximately four miles southwest of Centerville, Washington, in Klickitat County.

**Title of documents being adopted:**

- 1) *Windy Flats Mitigated Determination of Non-significance (Klickitat County Planning, September 2007) (see also the accompanying SEPA Addendum issued May, 2010);*
- 2) *Windy Flats SEPA Environmental Checklist, Windy Flats Partners, LLC, (July 2007);*
- 3) *The Windy Flats Environmental Report, Ecology and the Environment, Inc. (July 2007), including technical appendices;*  
*(Documents 1-3 above are referred to collectively as the “Windy Flats Environmental Documents”)*
- 4) *Klickitat County Energy Overlay Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Klickitat County, Aug. 2003);*
- 5) *Klickitat County Energy Overlay Final Environmental Impact Statement (Klickitat County, Sept. 2004; and*
- 6) *Second Addendum to Klickitat County Energy Overlay Final Environmental Impact Statement (Klickitat County, Feb 2010) incorporating by reference Avian, Bat and Habitat Cumulative Impacts Associated with Wind Energy Development in the Columbia Plateau Ecoregion of Eastern Washington and Oregon (WEST, Feb 2010) )*  
*(the draft and final Overlay EISs and this addendum are referred to jointly as the “EOZ FEIS”)*

**Agency that prepared documents being adopted:** Klickitat County Planning Department.

**Date adopted documents were prepared:** Issue dates are provided above.

**Description of documents (or portion) being adopted:**

Windy Flats Environmental Documents. The Windy Flats Environmental Documents include the SEPA decision document issued by the Klickitat County Planning Department to accompany the EOZ permit for the Windy Flats Project. The County issued the MDNS after reviewing the Windy Flats EOZ permit application, expanded SEPA checklist and accompanying Environmental Report. The Windy Flats Environmental Documents identify measures to mitigate potential environmental impacts described therein. The proposed Project is located on western portion of the lands covered by the Windy Flats Environmental Documents. The County issued an Addendum to the MDNS in May, 2010, which confirms the applicability of the Windy Flats Environmental Documents to the Windy Flats West Project.

EOZ FEIS. The EOZ FEIS is a programmatic environmental impact statement that was prepared to examine environmental impacts, alternatives, and mitigation measures for development of energy projects generally, including wind energy projects, at various locations within Klickitat County and under various permitting procedures. Based on the EOZ FEIS, Klickitat County adopted its Energy Overlay Zone ordinance, which designated areas of the County where wind energy projects could be permitted outright through an administrative process subject to specified development, use and construction standards. The Windy Flats Project is located within the designated EOZ area and proposes to incorporate the EOZ standards.

The adopted documents are supplemented by studies conducted to confirm the applicability of the Windy Flats analysis to the Project and to address new affected areas in the limited instances where the Project layout departs from the proposed Windy Flats layout.

**If the documents being adopted have been challenged (WAC 197-11-630), please describe:**

The Windy Flats Environmental Documents were challenged in 2007 in an appeal to the Klickitat County Board of County Commissioners. A hearing was held before the hearing examiner in 2008, and all appeals were denied.

The adequacy of the EOZ FEIS was challenged in 2005 in an appeal to the Klickitat County Board of County Commissioners. The County and the appellants reached a settlement before a decision on the merits, and the appellants withdrew their appeal.

The documents are available to be read at (place/time): Klickitat County Planning Department, 228 West Main Street, Goldendale, Washington. Typical business hours at the Planning Department are 8am to 5pm.

We have identified and adopted these documents as being appropriate for this proposal after independent review. The documents meet our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decision maker.

**Incorporation by Reference.**

Since EOZ FEIS issuance, the County has issued three EIS's for certain wind development projects within the County. The Addendum issued for the Windy Flats MDNS incorporates them by reference, along with several other environmental review documents. The EIS's include:

- Windy Point II Wind Energy Project EIS (March – 2009)
- Harvest Wind Project EIS (March - 2009)
- Imrie Wind Project EIS (June – 2009).

These three projects are located in south Klickitat County, east of SR-97. Windy Point II is a 130 megawatt project southeast of Goldendale and just east of SR-97. Harvest Wind is a 100 megawatt project located the furthest to the east – approximately 21 miles east of Goldendale. The Imrie Wind Project (also known as Goodnoe II) is a 34 megawatt project located roughly between the two other projects. The three EIS's (including both the Draft and Final EIS documents) were all issued in spring of 2009, and not appealed. All are on file with the Klickitat County Planning Department at the address below.

**Name of agency adopting documents:** Klickitat County Planning Department

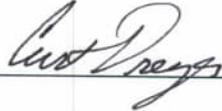
**Contact person, if other than responsible official**  N/A

**Responsible official:**  Curt Dreyer

**Position/title:**  Klickitat County Planning Director  **Phone:**  509-773-5703

**Address:**  228 West Main, MS: CH-17, Goldendale, WA 98620

**Date:**  May 21, 2010

**Signature:**  

Any appeals of this decision should be filed under the County SEPA ordinance's provision for appeals of threshold determinations. Any appeal is therefore due no later than fifteen days from May 27, 2010, that is, on June 11, 2010. Appeals shall be in writing and filed with the County auditor. Appeals shall state with specificity the basis for the appeal and the errors to be asserted to the board. Appeals shall not be deemed complete without payment of a fee of \$175 payable to the Klickitat County Planning Department. Comments may also be submitted during this time period.