



KLICKITAT COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

228 W. Main St., MS: CH-17, Goldendale, Washington 98620
VOICE: 509 773-5703 or 1 800 765-7239
FAX: 509 773-6206

January 15, 2010

Dear Interested Persons:

RE: Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement – Juniper Canyon Wind Project

Pacific Wind Development, a wholly owned subsidiary of Iberdrola Renewables, Inc. proposes to construct and operate the Juniper Canyon Wind Project (Project) in unincorporated Klickitat County, approximately 4.6 miles southeast of the city of Goldendale. Phase 1 would include up to 63 turbines laid along approximately 12 miles of turbine strings in up to 12 segments (12 turbine strings); and 19 miles of new roads. Phase 2 would include up to 65 turbines laid along 26 miles of turbine strings in 15 segments; and 37 miles of new roads.

A draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was issued on September 2009, for a 30-day comment period. The public comment period on the draft EIS began on September 24, 2009 and ran through October 26, 2009. Klickitat County Planning Department has now issued the Final EIS, which reflects departmental consideration of comments received on the draft EIS. The EIS reviews both Phases 1 and 2. No additional review is anticipated for Phase 1. However, the County is taking additional time to consider WDFW comment on Phase 2. Before Phase 2 is permitted, this EIS will be re-issued, as to WDFW's comments on Phase 2, even if no further revisions are made.

The purpose of the final EIS is to identify key, adverse, environmental issues that may result from the proposed Project. The focus of the final EIS is to analyze the issues as they pertain to the proposal and to respond to comments received.

The Department appreciates the contributions made by the reviewers of this EIS. If you would like a copy of the final EIS, please contact the Planning Department at (509) 773-5703 or electronically at planning@co.klickitat.wa.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Curt Dreyer".

Curt Dreyer
Planning Director
SEPA Responsible Official

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF
THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (FEIS) AND
ADOPTION NOTICE FOR
JUNIPER CANYON WIND ENERGY PROJECT**

DATE OF ISSUANCE:

January 15, 2010

PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE:

The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Juniper Canyon Wind Project (Project) is being released for public review. The EIS reviews both Phases 1 and 2. No additional review is anticipated for Phase 1. However, the County is taking additional time to consider Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) comment on Phase 2. Before Phase 2 is permitted, this EIS will be re-issued, as it relates to WDFW's comments on Phase 2, even if no further revisions are made.

PROPONENT:

Pacific Wind Development, a wholly owned subsidiary of Iberdrola Renewables, Inc.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Project would consist of up to 128 wind turbines, each generating between 1.5 and 3.0 megawatts (MW) of electricity, for a total proposed generating capacity of up to 250 megawatts (MW). The final number of turbines (not to exceed 128 wind turbines) would depend on the availability of different turbine types and other factors. The project would be constructed in two phases:

Phase 1 would include up to 63 turbines laid along approximately 12 miles of turbine strings in up to 12 segments (12 turbine strings); and 19 miles of new roads. A project substation would be constructed to increase voltage from 34.5 kilovolts (kV) to 230 kV. Additionally, a 34.5-kV collector cable system would be constructed linking each turbine to the next and to the project substation. This collector system would consist of up to 6 miles of overhead collector lines and 19 miles of underground lines. An estimated 20.4 miles of 230-kV overhead power lines would be constructed, from the substation to the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Rock Creek substation. An operations and maintenance (O&M) facility would be co-located with the substation near the center of the project site on approximately 10 acres of land.

Phase 2 would include up to 65 turbines laid along 26 miles of turbine strings in 15 segments; and 37 miles of new roads. A second substation would be constructed as part of Phase 2. The transmission line routing from the second substation to nearby transmission lines will route south to existing BPA transmission lines. Up to 15 miles of overhead collector lines and 29 miles of underground lines would be constructed as part of Phase 2.

LOCATION OF PROPOSAL:

The Project would be sited on approximately 28,000 acres of land, most of which is privately owned. One portion of the project site is owned by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. The Project would be located south of Bickleton and entirely within the Energy Overlay Zone (EOZ) in unincorporated Klickitat County.

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The final EIS includes a number of updates and revisions made to the DEIS, including corrections and modifications to the draft EIS text in response to comments received regarding the Project and the draft EIS.

ADOPTION AND INCORPORATION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

The Klickitat County Energy Overlay FEIS (Sept. 2004) is adopted as part of this FEIS, as explained in the notice of adoption issued with this notice. The following three additional EISs on wind development within the County are incorporated by reference: (1) Windy Point II Wind Energy Project EIS; (2) Harvest Wind Project EIS; and (3) Imrie Wind Project EIS.

AVAILABILITY OF FEIS COPIES:

Copies can be reviewed at the Klickitat County Planning Department or Goldendale Community Library. Electronic copies are available on CD (compact disk) from the Planning Department for \$5.00.

APPEAL:

Any appeals of this decision must be filed under the County SEPA ordinance's provision for appeals of an EIS. Any appeal is therefore due no later than twenty-one days from the date of final EIS issuance. 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.

APPEAL PERIOD ENDS:

Appeal of an FEIS may be filed until February 11, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

**WAC 197-11-965 Adoption notice
for the
Juniper Canyon Wind Farm**

Adoption for (check appropriate box) DNS EIS

Description of current proposal: The Juniper Canyon Wind Farm (the "Project") is a proposed wind energy generation facility consisting of wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure, including access roads and transmission lines. The Project would have a maximum total generating capacity of 250 megawatts.

Proponent: Pacific Wind Development, a wholly owned subsidiary of Iberdrola Renewables, Inc.

Location of current proposal: The project consists of a 250-MW wind energy facility located in Klickitat County, south of Bickleton, Washington, in Klickitat County.

Title of documents being adopted:

- 1) *Klickitat County Energy Overlay Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Klickitat County, Aug. 2003); and*
- 2) *Klickitat County Energy Overlay Final Environmental Impact Statement (Klickitat County, Sept. 2004) (the draft and final Overlay EISs 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:

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 Point II Project is located within the designated EOZ area and proposes to incorporate the EOZ standards.

The adopted documents are supplemented by an environmental impact statement for the Project.

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

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 during normal business hours at Klickitat County Planning Department, 228 West Main Street, Goldendale, WA or Goldendale Community Library, 131 West Burgen Street, Goldendale, WA 98620

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

This FEIS also incorporates by reference the following environmental review documents:

(1) Windy Point II Wind Energy Project EIS;

(2) Harvest Wind Project EIS; and

(3) Imrie Wind Project EIS

These three EIS's assess wind development impacts within Klickitat County, and were issued in March 2009. The documents are on file with the Klickitat County Planning Department..

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: January 15, 2010 **Signature:** 

Any appeals of this decision should be filed under the County SEPA ordinance's provision for appeals of EIS's. Any appeal is therefore due no later than twenty-one days by February 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.