



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

June 15, 2009

Dear Interested Persons:

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

Northwest Wind Partners, LLC (NWP) proposes to construct and operate the Imrie Wind Project (Project) within the existing Hoctor Ridge EOZ permit boundary in addition to approximately 320 acres of land owned by State of Washington, Department of Natural Resources (Parcel number 04-18-3600-0002/00) in unincorporated Klickitat County. The Project would include up to 17 2-MW wind turbines and the energy capacity of the added turbines will not exceed 34 MW.

A draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was issued on March 16, 2009, for a 30-day comment period. The public comment period on the draft EIS began on March 16, 2009 and ran through April 20, 2009. Klickitat County Planning Department has now issued the Final EIS, which reflects departmental consideration of comments received on the draft EIS.

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
IMRIE WIND ENERGY PROJECT**

DATE OF ISSUANCE:

June 15, 2009

PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE:

The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Imrie Wind Project, formerly known as the Goodnoe II Wind Project (Project) is being released for public review.

PROPONENT:

Northwest Wind Partners, LLC

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Project would include up to 17 2-MW wind turbines (energy capacity of the added turbines will not exceed 34 MW): 14 of the wind turbines are proposed for location within the approved Hocter Ridge EOZ permit boundary, and 3 wind turbines are proposed for location on the DNR property that is surrounded by the Hocter Ridge EOZ permit parcels. The combined electricity output for Hocter Ridge will increase from 60 to 94 MW.

LOCATION OF PROPOSAL:

The Project is located in the Columbia Hills, southeast of Goldendale, in Klickitat County, Washington. The Project consists of approximately 2217 acres. The project is within the existing Hocter Ridge EOZ permit boundary in addition to approximately 320 acres of land owned by State of Washington, Department of Natural Resources (Parcel number 04-18-3600-0002/00). The entire project area lies within the Klickitat County Energy Overlay Zone (EOZ).

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 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.

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 July 9, 2009, at 5:00 p.m.

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

Adoption for (check appropriate box) DNS EIS

Description of current proposal: The Imrie Wind Farm (the "Project") is a proposed wind energy generation facility consisting of up to 17 wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure, including access roads and transmission lines. The Project would have a maximum total generating capacity of 34 megawatts.

Proponent: Northwest Wind Partners, LLC

Location of current proposal: The Project site is in the Columbia Hills, southeast of Goldendale, 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 Imrie Wind Project is located within the designated EOZ area and proposes to incorporate the EOZ standards. Klickitat County is using phased review (WAC 197-11-060(5)) to evaluate the Project.

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.

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: June 15, 2009

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 July 9, 2009. 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.