



FRANKLIN COUNTY

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May 25, 2021

Mail Processing Center
Federal Aviation Administration
Southwest Regional I Office
Obstruction Evaluation Group
10101 Hillwood Parkway
Fort Worth, TX 76177

Email: Lan.norris@faa.gov

Re: Aeronautical Study No. 2020-WTW-3845-OE

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced Aeronautical Study. Franklin County has reviewed the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project submittal to construct and operate 248 wind turbines with a minimum proposed height of 499 feet above ground level. It is our understanding that the applicant's original submittal to the State of Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council includes two layout options: option one proposes 244 turbines with a maximum height of 499 feet; option two proposes 150 turbines with a maximum height of 671 feet above ground level.

The State of Washington Growth Management Act and the Franklin County Comprehensive Plan recognize the important role and consideration that must be provided to aviation and military training areas when evaluating new development activities. When planning for new development, the Franklin County Comprehensive Plan limits incompatible development and/or construction that is not consistent with aviation activities, military training routes, or those activities that impact or hinder the function and viability of aviation and military activities. Franklin County is home to the Tri-Cities Airport (PSC) which handles a multitude of commercial, military and private aircraft traffic. It is the principal commercial airport in the region, the 4th largest airport in Washington and is home to the Battelle Hangar, which is the base of operations for the recently developed U.S. Department of Energy's Atmospheric Radiation Measurement aerial facility operated by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

Upon a review of the Horse Heaven Wind Farm application, including the 248 wind turbines, Franklin County has determined that the location, size, and scope of this project, with its significant adverse environmental impacts, is not consistent and does not comply with the goals and needs of these critical aviation operations and related activities.

The County supports the safe and efficient use of navigable air space. The construction of 248 wind turbines at this location, lacks the necessary compatibility with both the needs of land use and air space.

We respectfully request that the FAA deny the request to exceed obstruction standards as being described in Aeronautical Study No. 2020-WTW-3845-0E.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Clint Didier, Chair

Rocky Mullen, Pro Tem

Brad Peck, Member