
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2007 11:33 AM
To: BPA Public Involvement
Subject: Cascade Wind Interconnection Project

I am writing to oppose the UPC proposal to connect to the BPA transmission lines for the transference of electrical energy generated by the proposed UPC Cascade Wind Project.

Through the application process with the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) numerous defects and inconsistencies in the UPC application were reported by many residential and business owners who will be directly affected by the proposed wind turbine facility.

Following is a summary of some of these defects and inconsistencies:

1. This is a large industrial facility to be constructed near a residential area in close proximity to homes.
2. This facility will generate known adverse affects to humans and wildlife including noise, shadow flicker, and vibration. Also, the rotation speed of the tips of the turbine propellers extending 400 feet above the ground will exceed 200 miles per hour at 24 revolutions per minute thereby critically endangering the osprey, eagles, geese and ducks known to use the proposed facility site as a flyway.
3. This industrial facility will contaminate the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area by creating a visual pollutant and being the dominant visual focus which is contrary to the fundamental concept of creating a designated scenic area.
4. This industrial facility is proposed in a wildfire area which places the nearby residences in severe jeopardy because of the known difficulty in accessing the area with fire fighting equipment and because of the wind factor which will spread a wildfire to nearby residences in just minutes. There are available data which document this concern and the known cases of turbine fires.
5. The proposed access to the facility site begins in Mosier and extends south on State Road (aka Seven Mile Hill Road) for about 8 miles which at many points along the way are very steep and curved which will considerably slow construction vehicle traffic. Assuming the average speed of a heavy construction vehicle will be about 15 - 20 miles per hour, the trip up State Road will take from 20 to 30 minutes. UPC has estimated that at least 50 trips per day will be needed during the several months of construction thereby substantially impeding normal traffic flow throughout the entire day and night including emergency response equipment. UPC has made no provision to mitigate this disruption.
6. If the shortcomings, misrepresentations, inaccuracies and inconsistencies of the UPC project application as enunciated in prior public comments are indicative of what will henceforth transpire, all Oregon residents will be adversely affected. Many of these same issues are very well known to nearby residents of the Mars Hill facility in Maine, the Cohocton facility in New York, and the Sheffield facility in Vermont not to mention other facilities in other countries.
7. It is counter-productive and counter-intuitive for UPC to propose this wind turbine facility in a national scenic area, in very close proximity to residences, in a wildfire area, and in a wildlife area known for its diversity while submitting an application to the EFSC that misrepresents facts, does not address certain critical issues and makes statements totally contrary to its intentions such as its environmental stewardship while intending to do the least possible to meet DEQ standards.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Wagner