January 30, 2015

Elliot Mainzer, Administrator
Bonneville Power Administration
905 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232
eemainzer@bpa.gov

Amy M. Gardner, Project Manager
Bonneville Power Administration - TEP-TPP-1
P.O. Box 61409
Vancouver, WA 98666-1409
amgardner@bpa.gov

Katey Grange, Environmental Protection Specialist
Bonneville Power Administration - KEC-4
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, OR, 97208-3621
kggrange@bpa.gov

Re: Whistling Ridge Energy Project
Skamania County, Washington

Dear Mr. Mainzer, Ms. Gardner, and Ms. Grange:

Please find enclosed a petition of citizens opposed to the Whistling Ridge Energy Project (WREP), proposed in Skamania County, Washington, in the heart of the Columbia River Gorge. Friends of the Columbia Gorge and the 1,120 citizens who have signed this petition respectfully ask that you deny the WREP generation interconnection request.

Friends of the Columbia Gorge supports renewable energy, but only when it is proposed in a responsible manner and sited to ensure the protection of important natural and scenic resources. The proposed Whistling Ridge Energy Project is neither and should be denied.

Since the creation of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area in 1986, few projects have threatened Gorge resources like the controversial Whistling Ridge Energy Project. Proposed along the boundary of the National Scenic Area and within an area designated for the protection of the endangered northern spotted owl, the Whistling Ridge Project would mar world-class scenery and harm endangered species habitat, with little to no benefit to Columbia
Gorge citizens. Furthermore, the site has never been surveyed for birds during key migratory periods. The project would also harm the tourism economy in the Gorge, cause substantial traffic and road damage along local roads during construction, and harm property values in surrounding communities.

In addition, the project is not needed. The average power capacity of the Whistling Ridge project would be 25 megawatts or less, and the total capacity would be 75 megawatts or less. This is a drop in the bucket compared to the more than 17,000 megawatts of current wind power capacity (including all built, approved, and proposed projects) in Washington and Oregon. In addition, the project details for the proposed WREP are currently unknown, making any generation interconnection approval premature and inappropriate. The Applicant has failed to disclose the number, size, layout, locations, capacities, and manufacturer(s) of the turbines proposed for the site, nor the total nameplate capacity of the Project as a whole.

As exemplified by the attached signatures, the public overwhelmingly opposes this project. Eighty-six percent of public comments have opposed or expressed concerns about the project. Concerns have been raised by numerous public resource management agencies, tourism groups, and environmental organizations, including the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the Washington Department of Natural Resources, the Washington Counsel for the Environment, the Skamania County Agri-Tourism Association, Sustainable Travel International, Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Save Our Scenic Area, Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway, Seattle Audubon Society, Vancouver Audubon Society, Kittitas Audubon Society, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society, American Bird Conservancy, Conservation Northwest, and the Gifford Pinchot Task Force.

Icons of the Northwest like the Columbia River Gorge should be off-limits to large-scale energy development. We can combat global warming without having to sacrifice our most special places and our core values. The requested interconnection for the Whistling Ridge Energy Project should be denied.

Please add all petition signers to BPA’s mailing list for the WREP. An Excel spreadsheet of their names and contact information is available upon request.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ryan Rittenhouse
Conservation Organizer

Enclosure
Dear Administrator Mainzer,

We, the undersigned citizens, oppose the Whistling Ridge project, adjacent to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. We believe that wind energy should be an important part of the Northwest's energy future but poorly planned projects like Whistling Ridge should not be allowed.
The following people signed this letter. Their addresses have been removed to protect their privacy.
Abel, Shirlijeanne  
Acheson, Sheryl  
Alexander, Val  
Alford, Steve & Ruth  
Alpern, Amerinda  
Amen, Barbara  
Amero, Joan  
Amy, Stephen  
Anderson, Brian  
Anderson, Judy  
Anderson, Leigh  
Anderson, Lyle  
Angell, Kristin  
Arabasz, Claudia  
Arcana, Judith  
Archer, Bill  
Archer, Kathleen  
Armentrout, Barry  
Arndt, Natalie  
Arnold, Patricia  
Arnold, Sarah Burr  
Askins, Susanna  
Aspros, Mike  
Aszman, Jan  
Atkinson/Mather, Martha & B.D.  
Atwood, Shelby  
Aue, Nicole  
Austin, Mauricio  
Avila, Mayra  
Bachelor, Cathy  
Bachhuber, Stephen  
Bader, Suzanne  
Bagatta, Joanna  
Bailey, Joan  
Bailey, Mary  
Baird, Leslie  
Baisden, Fred  
Baker, Charles  
Baker, Randy  
Bakke, Krista  
Bakos, Cyndi  
Balmer, Louis  
Baltz, Barbara  
Banks, Adrienne  
Bard, Holly  
Barham, Lee Anne  
Barnes, Tyler  
Barrett, Brian  
Barrows, Flora  
Bartel, Barbara  
Bartholomew, Mary  
Bayley, Grace  
Beamer, Carol  
Beamer, Kelley  
Beard, Anne  
Beauclerk, Carole  
Bech, Tyler  
Becht, Bill  
Beck, Carol  
Beck, Judith  
Becker, Lisa  
Beers, Barbara  
Beinlich, Brian  
Bejarano de Kiraly, Evelyn  
Benedict, Susan  
Bennett, Henry  
Berezibar-Bennett, Miren G.  
Berger, David  
Bergeron, Scot & Rebecca  
Berlly, Michael  
Besant, Linda  
Biltoft, Cyndi & Pete  
Binegar, Marv  
Birch, Tom  
Bishop, Evy  
Bisset, Dave  
Bitner, Patricia  
Bjornstad, Linda  
Blackburn, Ruth  
Blakeslee, TJ  
Blanchard, Glenn  
Blanchette, Yvette  
Blanke, Sarah  
Blauvelt, Margaret  
Bleakley, Kent  
Bledsoe, Glen  
Blenn, Julie  
Bloch, Will  
Block, Jeffrey  
Bloom, Steve  
Boatsman, Carolyn and Mark  
Boenke, Rebecca  
Boesch, Becky  
Boescht, John  
Bolen, Candace  
Bolinger, Jackie  
Boone, Lynette  
Bosch, Clement  
Bostwick, Gary  
Bott, Kristin  
Botvinik, Jill  
Bourland, David  
Brabich, Joanna  
Branch, Peter  
Brandow, Kim  
Brasher, Charles  
Bratsch, Jody  
Braun, Pamela  
Brentlinger, Eric  
Bresin, Ronda  
Bretsch, Katie  
Brewer, Roger  
Brigham, Gary  
Britt, Julie  
Brodahl, Jean  
Brody, Regina  
Bronsom, Ann & Dave  
Bronson, Charles  
Brooks, Sarah  
Brown, David M  
Brown, Jon  
Brown, Gary  
Brown, Louise  
Brown, Keith  
Browning, Linda  
Bruckner, John  
Brumfield, Cort  
Bruner, Rick  
Bruning, Julie  
Burpo, Gail  
Burton, Lily  
Busby, Maureen  
Bush, Brad  
Bushberg, Sandy  
Bushman, Gary  
Bushman, Laurel
Buslach, Patty
Butcher, Jean
Butler, Karin
Byrne, Mark
C. Switzer, Earl
Cadmus, Dan
Camp, Kelly
Campbell, Patricia
Cannard, Sue & Dan
Cannon, Charlie
Cantwell, Bruce
Carley, Jim
Carlock, Lesia
Carlson, Amy
Carr, Karen
Carroll, Justin
Carter, Joan
Carvalho, Chris
Casey, Mary
Cathey, Diana
Ceglie, Adriane
Chaimanis, John
Charles, Susan
Chase, James
Chase, Randee
Chaumeton, Amy
Cherry, Jackie
Chor, Patricia
Christ, M'Lou
Christ, Peter
Christensen, John
Christensen, Judy
Christian, Steven
Christopherson, Elvina
Clague, Cynthia
Clark, Elisabeth
Clausen, Phyllis
Clayton, Adriana
Cleary, Edward
Cleaver, Caroline
Cliffton, Merle
Clymer, Sharon
Coe Grewenow, Melissa
Cohen, Leslie
Cohn, Sharilyn
Cole, Roger
Cole, Jeff
Collins, Alan
Colonna, Ann
Combe, Emile
Conaway, Kenneth
Conroy, Jim
Cook, Scott
Cooper, Maurice
Copeland, Becky
Corcoran, Sean
Cornelison, Peter & Jill
Costa, Demelza
Craig, Edward
Crimi, Richard
crouch, paul
Croy, Tricia
Crump, Rebecca
Crumpacker, John
Csizmazia, Maryanne
Cuevaz, Tonya
Culver, Jake
Cumming, Cheyne
Cummings, George
Cummings, Patrick
Cunningham, Chadwick
Cunningham, Lyndee
Curran, Claudia
Cynkar, Robert
Cynkar, Donna
Daily, John
Dameier, Margo
Darling, JoEllen
Davee, Pam and Bob
Deems, Lydia
Degenhardt, Barbara
Dehaven, Ann
Dehmel, Ruth
DeKay, Lloyd
DeKay, Loretta
Deloff, D.
Dennis, Lori
Dennis, Kelly
Denton, Jim
Deschene/Sawyer, Patricia & Grant
DeSmith, Julie
Devine, Jo-Ann
Dianich, A Michael
Dickinson, Kelly
Dittmer, Rod
Dixon, Trish
Dlugonski, Melba
Dobrey, Shahira
Dondlinger, Rebecca
Doolen, Sue
Dooley, Dheila
Dooley, Sheila
Dorner, catherine
Dornfeld, Susan
Douglass, Carol
Drach, Robert
Drach, Loreley
Drapela, Ernest
Drapela, Merlene
Drew, Susan
Duckwall, Richelle
Dukes, Aaron
Dunbar, Keith B
Duncombe, Jane
Dunn, Laura
Dunn-Dixon, Jennie Sue
Dupere, Susan
Duran, Christopher
Dusk, Amber
Duvall, Sarah
Eakins, Carrie
Eastwick, Joyce & Michael
Eckel, Carolyn
Edmundson, John
Edwards, Karen K.
Edwardsen, Chris
Efoli, Elena
Elgin, Janet
Elischer, Carol
Elken, Jayne
ellen, mary
Ellen Legg, Jo
Ellis, Cyndi
Ellis, Jody
Elmi, Ali
Emmons, Stuart
Ensign, Dianne
Erbeck, Christopher
Erickson, Steve
Ernst, Susan
Ernst, Susan
Eslinger, Branden
Estes, Cass
Traylor-unis, Cathy
Trenter, James
Trythall, Marian
Turner, Laurie
Turner, Maggie
Turnoy, David & Geri
Tvedtd, David
Twilley, Robert
Twombly, Mary
Tyler, John
Tyler, Shirley
Uffelman, Kylie
Uhlir, Marie
Underwood, Leslie
Van Dyk, Marilyn
Van Osdell, James
VanCott, David
Vandal, Carol
Vandegriend, Renee
Vaughan, Ron
Vayu, Satya
Velez, Martin
Venture, Heidi
Vernhes, Laurence
von Christierson, Peter
Vrabec, Serge
Vranizan, Ed & Mary
w, Jill
Waag, David
Wadsworth, John
Wagner, Steven
Walenta, John
Walker, Jaymes
Wallace, Peny
Wallsmith, Sandy
Walsh, Charles
Wanderer, Christine
Warbington, Ruth
Ware, Chuck
Warneke, Lothar
Warren, Eleanor
Waugh, Ann
Webber, Paul
Webster, Charlie
Wehrley, Tom & Donna
Weigel, Richard
Weinman, Robert
Weinman, Bob
Welch, James
Welsh, Bob
Wenzel, Kenneth
Werttemberger, Dorothy
West, Jepson
West, Jack
West, Judy
Westcott, Richard
Wheeler, Steven B.
Wheeler, Steven
White, Maria
White, Hal
White, Bonnie
White, Scott
Whetcotton, Robbie
Whitley, Skip
Whitsell, Bill
Whitten, Saundra
Wilcox, Alan
Wiley, Mary
Williams, Kyenne
Williams, Sandra
Williamson, Alice
Wilmot, Beth
Wilson, Paul
Wilson, Michael
Wilson, Paula
Windom, Bob
Wirth, Shauna
Witmer, Rachel
Witt, Joseph
Wolfe, Phyllis
Wolfe, Linda
Wood, Kelly & Roger
Wood, Jon
Wood, Karen
Wood, John
Wood, John and Polly
Wood, Polly
Wood, Rheaman
Wood, John
Wood, Wendell
Woodsong, Paul
Woolpert, Steven
Workmeister, Bob
Wright, Colleen
Wuest, Tim
Wyman, Jean
Yarnell, Richard
Yettick, Jesse
Young, Dr. Delton
Young, Harold
Young, Michael
Young, Maria
Young, Steven
Yun, Christine
Yuska, Joseph
Zachman, John
Zakrzewski, Chapin
Zee, Gabe
Zegar, Catherine
Zeman, Ken
Zettergren, J.G.
Zilla, Francis
Zimmerman, Ben
Zonana, Jon
Zucker, Marguery Lee