

KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE



411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2, Ellensburg, WA 98926 Fire Marshal (509) 962-7000 Deputy Fire Marshal (509) 962-7657

January 18, 2023

To: Whom It May Concern Re: RU-22-00006 Harmon

Regarding the above, the KCFMO does not see any issue with approving the proposed project so long as the mitigation plan is applied and installed with diligent regard to applicable laws and codes. The project itself adds a slight increase of fire danger to the area since it would be adding additional electricity and other sources of ignition to where there previously was none.

The proposed structure will receive a WUIC Evaluation and be expected to comply with the requirements set therein. A portion of these requirements is a defensible space. The defensible space requirements shall be applied with the greatest detail and shall not be applied to the critical areas buffers any more than absolutely necessary. IWUIC Chapter 202; DEFENSIBLE SPACE. An area either natural or man-made, where material capable of allowing a fire to spread unchecked has been treated, cleared or modified to slow the rate and intensity of an advancing wildfire and to create an area for fire suppression operations to occur.

As the commentary of the 2018 IWUIC states "it is not the intent for the defensible space to be void of vegetation; the vegetation must be thinned and maintained. Trees are allowed within the defensible space, but they are to be removed or trimmed to provide a clear separation of 10 feet from the crown to other trees and to the structure."

When the PSA is submitted the official WUIC documents explaining the requirements will be delivered as well. The building construction materials requirements must be strictly adhered to in order to protect the future structure and the surrounding environment.

Thank you for your time.

Deputy Fire Marshal, Joseph A Dietzel