Kittitas County
Teanaway Solar Reserve

Comments received after August 3, 2010, submittal to the BOA and before August 11, 2010

1.	John A. Storch	August 5, 2010
2.	Stephanie Hansen	August 5, 2010
3.	Citizens Alliance for Rural Teanaway (CART) by James Brose	August 5, 2010
4.	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation by Philip Rigdon, Deputy Director	August 6, 2010
5.	Bonnie Robbins	August 7, 2010
6.	Robert Robbins	August 7, 2010
7.	Cheri Marusa	August 9, 2010
8.	Rick Hermanson	August 10, 2010
9.	Julie Hermanson	August 10, 2010

-----Original Message-----
From: J Storch [mailto:jstorch@uw.edu]
Sent: Thursday, August 05, 2010 02:36 PM Pacific Standard Time
To: Anna Nelson
Cc: dan.valoff@co.kittitas.wa.us
Subject: Teanaway Solar Reserve - public comment

Hello Ana and Dan,

Please find attached my public comment in regards to Teanaway Solar Reserve project.

If PDF is not acceptable, and I will send via preferred form.

Best regards,

John Storch
(509) 260-0604

August 5, 2010

Kittitas County
Community Development Services
via email

RE: Teanaway Solar Reserve Conditional Use Permit (CU-09-00005)

I am a full-time resident, property tax payer, and registered voter of upper Kittitas County (residing in an unincorporated area) and in support of the Teanaway Solar Reserve project, as presented in their application for Conditional Use Permit.

I too feel we must carefully evaluate every land use project and its impacts on the area and its future. Benefits which will be realized from Teanaway Solar Reserve, far outweigh any conceivable negligible impacts. In particular, benefits as they pertain to economic infusion through jobs, taxes, and the like.

I also believe, Teanaway Solar Reserve, is the best and most viable use for this land. Our County has a rich history of direct and in-direct natural resource extraction (agriculture, mining, and logging to name a few.) We are uniquely situated with infrastructure (Interstate 90, railway, and Bonneville Power Authority distribution.) The better public good is served by this project as it leverages existing infrastructure.

I encourage the County to support the Teanaway Solar Reserve project as it has no negative impact on public health and safety, supports a vibrant economy (especially in upper County,) promotes conservation of natural resources while quietly extracting a needed resource - energy, and is aligned with protecting the environment by TSR's apparent thoughtful and careful planning for siting, development, and operation.

Best regards,

John A. Storch
jstorch@uw.edu

From: Stephanie Hansen [mailto:1thirstyboots@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 05, 2010 8:39 PM
To: CDS User
Subject: In regards to the Teanaway Solar Reserve

To whom it my concern,
There is much uproar in regards to this project as well it should be. I have known about this since its inception in 2009. Why? Because their lower boarder is my upper boarder. I own 20 acres at the end of Cle Elum ridge with my husband, Michael R Hansen, located at 901 Weihl Rd, Cle Elum.

There are many reasons why I am against this so called "green" project. It will not be a green project when it destroys the wildlife once construction begins. The natural migration of the deer and elk will be gone forever. The homes of all the little critters that live here will be gone forever. Oh sure, some will come back well after the construction is over but the migration of the elk and deer will be in our memories.

This also is not a very feasible location for a solar farm of any size, let alone the largest in the nation. This is a freebie for TSR. They are not putting any monies up. Tax Payers and Rate Payers are/will be paying for this. It was with Obama "Stimulus" money that this is being funded. Who is paying for the stimulus? Tax Payers and Rate Payers. Isn't our country in enough trouble as it is with the deficit so high? How can we as Americans pay for this? Our economy is in enough trouble as it is.

Another issue is the fact that the location is not right. The Pacific NW is not by any means wonderful for full sun, which is what is needed for full power. Yes, there will be some energy coming through but not a significant amount. There is a lot of snow fall in the winter here much more than down in town. There is much overcast skies year round with the exception of the summer months. The amount of power that is generated is fractional. A single solar panel will only get 0-2 kWh/m2/day in December while in June it will get 5-6 kWh/m2/day. The best location in my opinion, would be in the deserts where the sun is always shining, and wildlife is not destroyed and tax and rate payers are not charged for this. The Landowners should pay for this.

In regards to the so-called 225 temporary jobs and 35 permanent jobs, in the end, there will more than likely only be 3-4 permanent jobs on the hill filled by Kittitas citizens. These are security positions. The remainder of the permanent jobs will be in Bellevue. In addition, TSR has been unable to lure a solar panel manufacturing plant to relocate to Cle Elum They cannot guarantee any sustainable level of employment, particular from companies that they do not own.

With such a huge project that would destroy the wildlife and hinder the already fragile aquifer and the countryside of erosion issues, how could there NOT be an Environmental Impact Statement? TSR is skirting around this and has been for months. Who does TSR have in their back pocket where this very important fact is not required by TSR?

I do not wish to see this solar farm every day as I live here full time. It has been quoted in papers that the neighbors here had been notified and that we are for this project. Well, I have not been notified or quoted in the paper as being asked if I was for or against this. I am stating right here and now that I am NOT for this project. I have a beautiful view and it will be destroyed. I will not be able to ride my horse peacefully above my home any longer. My dogs and I will not be able to take hikes up above our property as we do. I will have to hear the construction for 2-3 yrs. This is not why I moved to the country.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Hansen
901 Weihl Rd
Cle Elum, WA 98922

509 674 5280

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message id: 38eb45916c6dcbdac24bb8719d004a14

-----Original Message-----
From: James Brose [mailto:ruralteanaway@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 05, 2010 07:28 PM Pacific Standard Time
To: ruralteanaway@gmail.com
Subject: Spam> Read carefully!

This from one of our many supporters. Just a remionder that your voice needs to be heard this August 11th in Ellensburg at the Fair grounds at 6 PM

Jim

Teanaway Solar Reserve:

12 Reasons It Doesn't Make Sense

1. The Teanaway is a terrible location for a solar farm. It has the lowest solar electricity

production in the United States. Why are alternate sites not being looked at, for

instance, the Lower Kittitas? (See Chart)

2. Public money (you and I) ultimately will pay for the TSR through tax credits, tax grants,

accelerated depreciation, utility rate increases. (See tax incentives.) Do you wonder why our taxes go up and our utility bills keep rising? Somebody has to pay for it. Guess who?

3. Hold our politicians accountable for spending our money wisely!!!! The TSR has a better chance of failing than succeeding without tax and rate incentives. Don't let them waste our money.

4. TSR cannot guarantee that it will be solvent and operational in five years, ten years or 20 years. Who will pay if it fails? Tax Payers and rate payers.

5. Washington State does not need the power in the summer at peak production.

6. The TSR will cut down a square mile of real "green," carbon reducing trees to put in fake green.

7. TSR has worked diligently cut short environmental reviews and jam this through the public process. What are they not telling us?

8. TSR continues to be secretive about their partnership with the American Forest & Land Company. Why?

9. As they advertise, the TSR would be the largest solar farm in the United States. It will have 400,000 solar panels, at least 30,000 tons of concrete, 70,000 concrete footings will be bored into the ground, and it will require a huge 10 acre substation. How do you not have serious storm water runoff, fire hazard, impact to wildlife, when you cut down a square mile of trees and go to this level of construction? Why not get a full ?

10. Concerns have been raised about damage to the already fragile Kittitas County aquifer. Impacts to aquifer recharge by both the construction and operation of TSR have not been studied.

11. TSA's public relations says that this project will bring 225 temporary, 35 permanent, and "hundreds" of manufacturing jobs at the solar panel manufacturing plant they hope to draw to Cle Elum. However, they also indicate that at least half of the temporary jobs will come from Western Washington employees and that the solar farm can be run with 2-4 employees. In addition, TSR has been unable to lure a solar panel manufacturing plant to relocate to Cle Elum They cannot guarantee any sustainable level of employment, particular from companies that they do not own.

12. What we do know is that tourism is a major part of Kittitas County and Cle Elum's economic health. Because there is no EIS, there has been no review of the potential

negative impact TSR could have on the area's tourism dollars – through the reduction of forest and game habitat, through the disruption of the four-year construction period, and through the development of a very large industrial site clearly visible to I-90 and the surrounding area.

Notice: All email sent to this address will be received by the Kittitas County email system and may be subject to public disclosure under Chapter 42.56 RCW and to archiving and review.

message id: 38eb45916c6dcbdac24bb8719d004a14

Confederated Tribes and Bands
Of the Yakama Nation

Established by the
Treaty of June 9, 1855

August 6, 2010

Kittitas County Board of Adjustment
205 W 5th Ave. STE 108
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Dan Valoff, Staff Planner
Anna Nelson, Contract Planner
Kittitas County Community Development Services
411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Subject: Teanaway Solar Reserve Conditional Use Permit (File No.: CU-09-00005)

The Board of Adjustment:

The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation ("Yakama Nation") is a federally recognized Indian Tribe under the Treaty of June 9, 1855 (12 Stat. 951). Under Article III of the Treaty, the Yakama Nation reserved rights to fish, hunt, gather traditional foods and medicines, and pasture livestock across the Yakama Nation's Ceded Lands, including all of Kittitas County.

The Yakama Nation has reviewed the application materials and SEPA review documentation pertinent to the Teanaway Solar Reserve (CUP 09-00005), including the Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS) issued 07/15/2010, the SEPA appeal filed on 07/26/10, and the SEPA appeal staff report dated 08/04/10.

The proposed project site of the Teanaway Solar Reserve is an extremely valuable landscape that supports diverse habitat types and species, many of which are significant to the Yakama people. In addition, the 982-acres of forested lands contribute to the timber industry and to carbon sequestration. Compromising the value of these resources for a solar facility that is ill-sited (based on climate conditions and the resources that stand to be impacted) is unconscionable. For these reasons, the Yakama Nation does not and will not support the development of the Teanaway Solar Reserve or any other solar facility of this magnitude in the Teanaway Basin.

Archaeological and Cultural Resource Protection

The Yakama Nation commented on the archaeological resources aspects of the Teanaway Solar Project in April 2010. The Yakama Nation recommended that the archaeological contractor's recommendations be followed to conduct sub-surface sampling of 85 acres and that ground disturbance be monitored. The County SEPA staff report section 13.3 is titled "Voluntary Mitigation for Historic & Cultural Resources" (p.35). Mitigation should be mandatory, not voluntary.

If the project is approved sub-surface sampling for archaeological resources should be mandatory. The 85 acres of high probability areas should be sampled at a frequency of 4 shovel probes per acre and a sample of medium and low probability areas should be tested also. The sub-surface testing methodology and rationale should be submitted to the Yakama Nation and Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation for approval prior to a beginning the testing.

If the project is approved all ground disturbing activity should be monitored by personnel qualified to recognize archaeological resources with the authority to stop operations in the immediate vicinity to any archaeological discoveries until the discovery is assessed and protection measures are implemented if needed.

Natural Resource Protection

The Yakama Nation operates a spring chinook acclimation facility on the North Fork Teanaway. This facility, in operation since 1999, acclimates about 1/3 of the 780,000 spring chinook fry from the Cle Elum Hatchery. Redd counts in the Teanaway increased from less than ten to as high as 100+ through these efforts. Any developments within the Teanaway River Basin must take into account the efforts and expenditure of the Yakama Nation and others in the Teanaway Basin to restore sustainable fisheries.

The Teanaway River has documented populations of spring chinook, coho, summer steelhead and bull Trout. Both steelhead and bull trout are listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Recovery for fisheries, including threatened bull trout and steelhead, requires reducing threats to the long-term persistence of populations and their habitats, ensuring the security of multiple interacting populations, and providing habitat conditions and access to them that allow for the expression of various life-history forms.

All developments must take sensitive fisheries and their habitat into consideration and develop strategies to improve aquatic, riparian and floodplain habitat.

Priority Habitats and Species

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife publishes a Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) list. The PHS list is a catalog of habitats and species considered to be priorities for conservation and management. Priority species require protective measures for their survival due to their population status, sensitivity to habitat alteration, and/or recreational, commercial, or tribal importance. Priority species include State Endangered, Threatened, Sensitive, and Candidate species; animal aggregations considered vulnerable; and species of recreational, commercial, or tribal importance that are vulnerable.

A review of the PHS list indicates a number of species, including Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive species, and habitats are located in the Teanaway Basin.

Critical Areas Ordinance

Both the SEPA appeal filed on 07/26/10, and the SEPA appeal staff report dated 08/04/10 discuss Kittitas County's Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO). Kittitas County's CAO update was due on or before December 1, 2007. It is inappropriate to base mitigation measures on a CAO that does not protect all critical areas required by the Growth Management Act, including threatened, endangered and sensitive species, additionally the CAO has not been reviewed for conformance with best available science or given special consideration to conservation or protection measures necessary to preserve or enhance anadromous fisheries (RCW 36.70A.172).

Unless an action is categorically exempt, when a proposal has "a probable significant, adverse environmental impact" SEPA requires an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be developed (RCW 42.31C.031). "Significance" is defined at WAC 197-11-794, as "a reasonable likelihood of more than a moderate adverse impact on environmental quality." The proposal will require the clear cutting of approximately 600 acres of timberlands that contain an array of environmentally sensitive areas. The Yakama Nation believes that proper environmental review of a proposal with such a considerable amount of development can only be accomplished through the development of an EIS. The County is attempting to piecemeal an MDNS without looking at the broader, landscape level analysis that an EIS will accomplish. The Yakama Nation supports the MDNS appeal and asks the Board of Adjustment to vacate the MDNS, issue a Determination of Significance and direct the applicant and Kittitas County to begin the EIS process.

Thank you for taking the time to fully consider the proposed project and our comments. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (509) 865-5121.

Sincerely,

Philip Rigdon, Deputy Director
Department of Natural Resources

Cc: Dawn Vyvan, OLC
Johnson Meninick, Cultural Program
Kate Valdez, THPO
David Powell, TFW Archaeologist
John Marvin, YKFP Biologist
Kristina Proszek, Environmental Coordinator
Gretchen Kaehler, DAHP

RECEIVED
AUG 09 2010
KITTITAS COUNTY
CDS

August 7, 2010

Board Of adjustment
Kittitas County Community Development Services
411 North Ruby Street, Suite 2
Ellensburg WA 98926

Dear Board Members,

As a landowner of Pine Hills Ranch, Cle Elum, I am writing to protest the proposed Teanaway Solar Reserve, (TSR). The proposed solar farm on the Cle Elum Ridge would have a drastic, adverse impact on one of Washington State's most scenic watersheds. It is a completely unreasonable proposition for some of the following reasons.

1. No Environmental Impact Statement is being required even though this 2 mile layout of 400,000 large, solar panels is being proposed on 600 acres of mountainous land zoned for forest use only, not industrial use. Here there are numerous species of wild animals and birds who live in the heart of this land. The erosion which will occur because of the clear-cut land and wall of impervious solar panels will contribute a tremendous additional impact on the natural occurring flooding down the mountain to the valley and streams. The visual impact and glare from the panels will be seen up to 8 miles distant inspite of what the developer claims. The disturbance to the land with roadbuilding, vehicles, workers and huge equipment is unimaginable in what is now a unique, pristine forest land. Tourism will decline in this now growing, attractive area for visiting city dwellers.

2. Because of the heavy snows in winter and frequent cloud cover, the panels will be ineffective much of the year compared to a sunnier location such as farther east in the county.

RECEIVED
AUG 0 9 2010
KITTITAS COUNTY
CDS

3. I see this development based upon greed of the developers in forcing their way into using a "cheap" commodity of their already logged forest land and receiving huge tax credits for developing a so called "green" energy. They don't care about ruining one of Washington State's most beautiful valleys.

I urge your Board to consider the radical impact such a proposed development would make on your beautiful county and the residents who live here.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Robbins

Bonnie Robbins

I am sending this via e-mail and a copy of it by letter.

154 Lake Washington Blvd. E., Seattle WA 98112 (206)323-6019

RECEIVED
AUG 09 2010
KITTITAS COUNTY
CDS

August 7, 2010

Board of Adjustment
Kittitas County Community Development Services
411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Dear Board of Adjustment,

The Teanaway Solar Reserve (TSR) is a project for generating electric power that should not be permitted to proceed to construction. This project fails to avoid serious negative impact on the environment as it affects wild animals, water, fire hazards and neighbors. It poses economic risks to all citizens of the State of Washington if approved without adequate bonded protection against economic failure and for the restoration to forest land in the event it proves to be economically unsupportable.

As an owner of a neighboring property for the past forty years my family has enjoyed sharing our land with elk and deer as well as large and small predators and scavengers such as coyotes, cougars, bear, and foxes. The TSR, if constructed, will create a barrier to the migration of this natural wildlife and negatively impact a large area for both animals and humans.

Many locations in Eastern Washington would be far superior to build this industrial power development. Areas with minimal visual impact, much lower wild animal impact, no forest land loss, and lower economic risks. I strongly recommend that you withhold permission for the TSR project to proceed.

Richard J. Robbins

Richard Robbins
154 Lake Washington Blvd E
Seattle, WA 98112-5034

-----Original Message-----
From: cheri marusa [mailto:cmmarusa@inlandnet.com]
Sent: Monday, August 09, 2010 02:51 PM Pacific Standard Time
To: Anna Nelson; dan.valoff@co.kittitas.wa.us
Subject: TSR board of adjustment hearing

Attached is my letter of support for the TSR hearing August 11th.

Regards,
Cheri

August 6th, 2010

To: Kittitas County Community Development Services

Re: Teanaway Solar Reserve
Kittitas County Board of Adjustment hearing Conditional Use Permit.

I would like to add my voice and my support to the request being put forward by Teanaway Solar Reserve (TSR), a solar energy technology start up.

TSR has brought Kittitas County with an economic growth opportunity. They have attracted millions in investments and have established a reputation as a leader in developing clean energy technologies. TSR is exactly the sort of company and job creation that Kittitas County should be trying to attract and support, not drive away.

On Wednesday, August 11th, you the Kittitas County Board of Adjustment will have an opportunity to do the right thing by supporting clean and renewable energy resources. The future of renewable energy is found above ground, and PV solar energy is emerging as a respected contributor to this ecologically smart consortium of solutions.

TSR is in the right place as the sun literally rises on the dawn of a new era in worldwide energy production and consumption. And to site this inaugural project here in Kittitas County artfully demonstrates this juncture. Only the foot prints of positive impacts will be made on Kittitas County from TSR. I encourage your support.

Thank you,
Cheri Marusa

Cheri Marusa
PO Box 433
808 Lincoln Ave
South Cle Elum, WA 98943
cmmarusa@inlandnet.com

From: Beth Chandler [mailto:bchandler@hermanson.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2010 2:08 PM
To: Kittitas County Commissioners Office; CDS User
Cc: Rick Hermanson
Subject: For Submittal to the Board of Adjustment - Teanaway Solar Reserve (CU-09-000005)

Attached please find Rick Hermanson's letter regarding the SEPA Appeal and Conditional Use Permit for the Teanaway Solar Reserve (CU-09-000005).

Beth Chandler

HERMANSON COMPANY, LLP
1221 2nd Avenue North
Kent, WA 98038
206-575-9700 / fax 206-575-9800
bchandler@hermanson.com
09-000005)

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message id: 38eb45916c6dcbdac24bb8719d004a14

August 10, 2010

Kittitas County Board of Adjustment
205 W. 5th Ave., Suite 108
Ellensburg, WA 98926-2887

Dear Sirs and Madam:

My name is Rick Hermanson and my address is 903 Wiehl Road, Cle Elum. Our property borders the proposed Teanaway Solar Reserve.

As I understand it, the job of the Board of Adjusters includes the following:

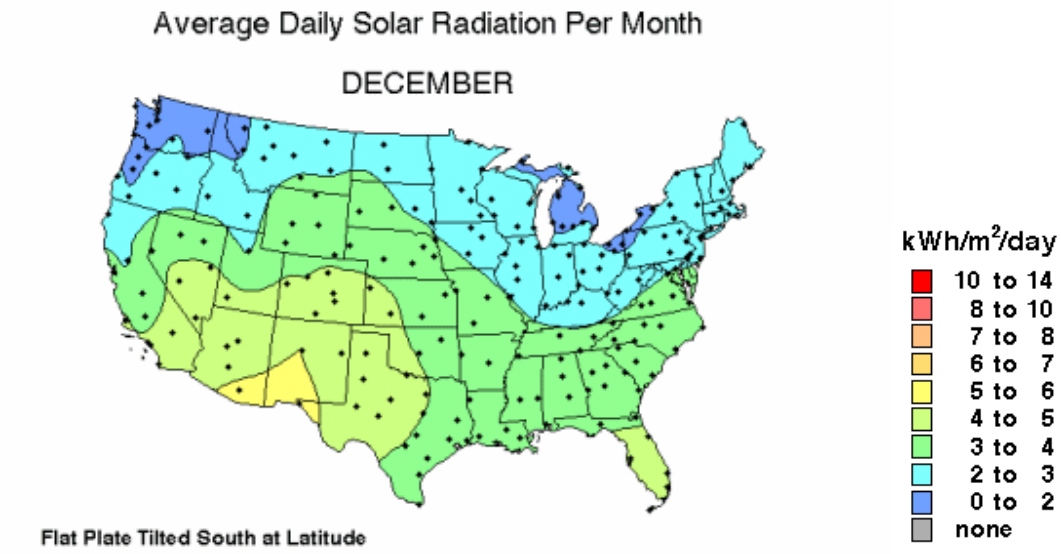
"To review permit applications to assure that permit approval will not:

- Be detrimental to the public health, safety, and general welfare;
- Adversely affect the established character of the surrounding vicinity and planned uses; nor
- Be injurious to the uses, property, or improvements adjacent to, and in the vicinity of, the site upon which the proposed use is to be located.
- That all conditions necessary to mitigate the impacts of the proposed use are conditions that are measurable and can be monitored and enforced."

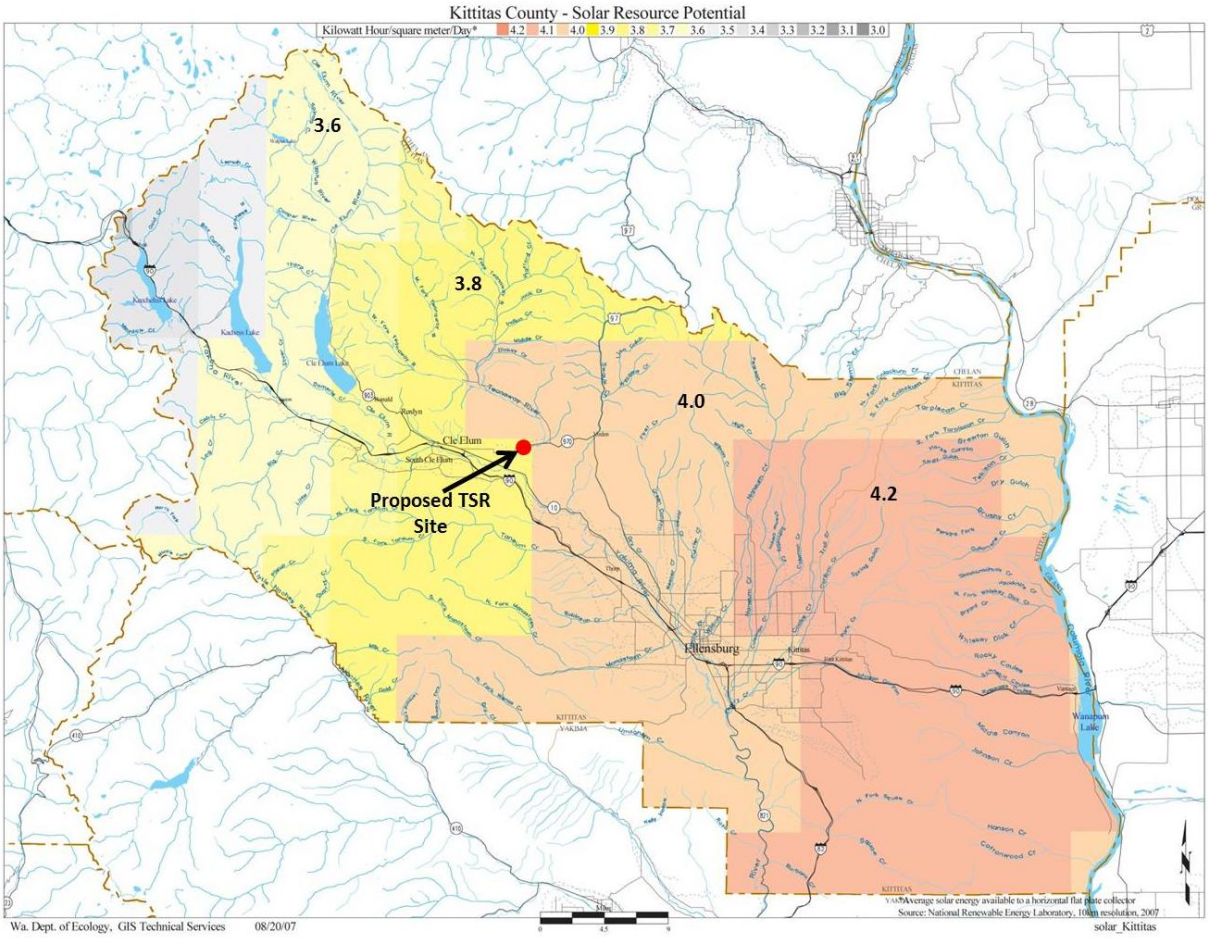
Without a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), there is no possible way that the Board can assure us that these basic mandates are met in regard to the Teanaway Solar Reserve. I am baffled as to how this project could even be considered without a full EIS! Without a full EIS, we have no basis for understanding the impact that the TSR will have on wildlife, on the aquifer, on wildfire danger, and, perhaps most importantly for the citizens of Kittitas County, on the recreation and tourism industry. I have to ask myself, "Why?"

Why? – because of John Rudy, the American Timber Company and TSR have figured out how to take advantage of the tax benefits and incentives supplied by the federal government. In the end, whether seeded with private money or not, it is our tax dollars and power rates that will pay for this development.

We have done some research and have found that, nationally, the Pacific Northwest offers the lowest potential for solar energy.



Within the State, there are numerous sites that could offer a better return on investment. But if Kittitas County is determined to lead the way on solar energy, wouldn't it make more sense to locate it in the optimum area of Lower Kittitas County where this development has a 10% greater solar production than the proposed site?

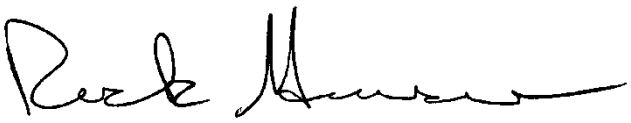


Why have they not looked at other sites? If it were my money – and it ***is*** mine, and yours, isn't it? – I would demand that it be spent in the most efficient way possible.

The Teanaway – Greater Cle Elum area is one of the most pristine and beautiful areas in the State of Washington. People come from hundreds of miles to visit, to buy vacation homes, and to admire its natural beauty. The Teanaway is a textbook example of the working forests, the outstanding wildlife habitat, and the fragile and rapidly disappearing rural environment that makes Central Washington so very wonderful.

How are the thousands of visitors a year going to feel about visiting Cle Elum with the visual impact of an industrial site in the middle of the forest? How many jobs will that destroy? Do you know for sure that there is not increased chance of or risk to public health in the case of a wildfire? What kind of impact will this have on the "character of the area?" How can you assure that the TSR will "not be injurious" to the surrounding properties? You can't tell us – and that's the problem. You haven't done your job. It's time to fulfill your obligations and demand a full EIS.

Sincerely,



Rick Hermanson
903 Weihl Road
Cle Elum, WA 98922

August 10, 2010

Kittitas County Board of Adjustment
205 W. 5th Ave., Suite 108
Ellensburg, WA 98926-2887

Dear Sirs and Madam:

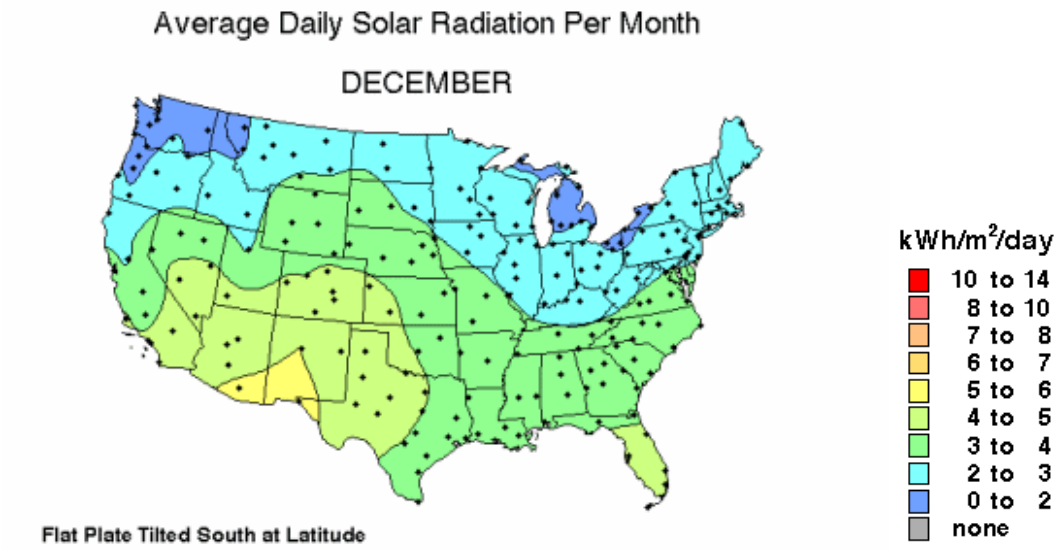
My name is Julie Hermanson and my address is 903 Weihl Road, Cle Elum. Our property borders the proposed Teanaway Solar Reserve.

As I understand it, the job of the Board of Adjustment includes the following:

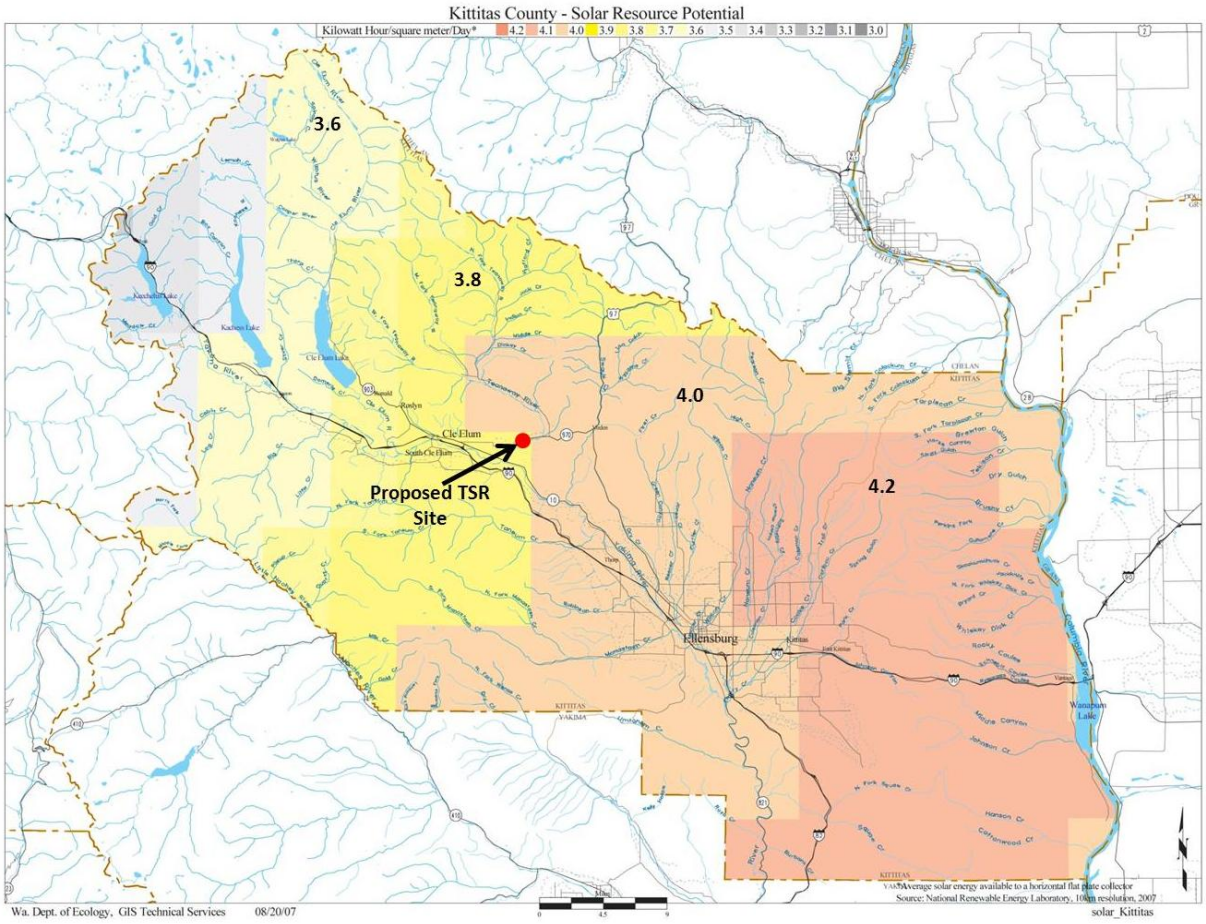
"To review permit applications to assure that permit approval will not:

- Be detrimental to the public health, safety, and general welfare;
- Adversely affect **the established character of the surrounding vicinity** and planned uses; nor
- Be **injurious to the uses, property, or improvements adjacent to, and in the vicinity of, the site upon which the proposed use is to be located**.
- That all conditions necessary to mitigate the impacts of the proposed use are conditions that are measurable and can be monitored and enforced."

One concern I have is WHY THIS LOCATION? I know that that is not part of your duties in determining whether to grant the Conditional Use Permit, but the location is not in anyone's opinion ideal. We have done some research and have found that, nationally, the Pacific Northwest offers the lowest potential for solar energy.



Within the State, there are numerous sites that could offer a better return on investment. But if Kittitas County is determined to lead the way on solar energy, wouldn't it make more sense to locate it in the optimum area of Lower Kittitas County where this development has a 10% greater solar production than the proposed site?



TSR states that they had lots of offers for property for the project, but they decided on this property because of proximity to power lines, 300 days of sunshine per year, and a willing landowner. Why did they turn down other sites? Are there any other sites? I don't think so, because they won't answer those questions, except to say that they don't have to without an EIS. The willing landowner and the TSR are related companies. To what extent, they are unwilling to disclose.

This site is not ideal, and it brings me to a point that maybe you CAN consider when you rule on the CUP.

The Teanaway – Greater Cle Elum area is one of the most pristine and beautiful areas in the State of Washington. People come from hundreds of miles to visit, to buy vacation homes, and to admire its natural beauty. The Teanaway is a textbook example of the working forests, the outstanding wildlife habitat, and the fragile and rapidly disappearing rural environment that makes Central Washington so very wonderful.

How are the thousands of visitors a year going to feel about visiting Cle Elum with the visual impact of an industrial site in the middle of the forest? How many

tourism and recreational industry jobs will that destroy? That is an “established character” of our area. What about the people who purchase land in order to live in a rural area, with wildlife, open spaces, and forests; this will change that “established character” of the area.

The Responsible Official for the MDNS states that the project will not change the character of the neighborhood because there are only a few homes, and there are existing BPA power lines in that area. First of all, I **disagree** that it won’t change or be injurious to our immediate neighborhood, and there are at least 20 homes in that area, not including property for sale, so that is definitely more than a “few”. Yes there are existing power lines and they are visible in some areas, but not in others. However**, I would like to submit that the character of the surrounding area that could be “changed” or “injurious” to would be the entire surrounding area of Cle Elum, Teanaway, Lookout Mt., Peoh Point, etc. That is truly the surrounding area.** You do not have to accept the determination that the “surrounding areas” are only the adjacent property owners.

Without a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), there is no possible way that the Board can assure us that these basic mandates are met in regard to the Teanaway Solar Reserve. How could this project even be considered without a full EIS! Without a full EIS, we have no basis for understanding the impact that the TSR will have on wildlife, on the aquifer, on wildfire danger, and, perhaps most importantly for the citizens of Kittitas County, on the recreation and tourism industry.

I am asking you to **please require the TSR to do a full Environmental Impact Statement, including alternative site selection.** I am planning to attend the hearing tomorrow night.

Sincerely,

Julie Hermanson
903 Weihl Rd.
Cle Elum WA 98922
509-674-3789
liverpool97@comcast.net