

## **Kittitas County Board of Adjustment – Meeting Aug. 11, 2010**

### Questions and Concerns regarding the TSR Project:

1. The first and most obvious question is why here? Why is it necessary to deforest 400 plus acres of timber to put up the solar project on this ridge? The vantage wind farm seems much more suited – no timber, power grid already in place, more sun hours per average day, less snow, etc. The solar projects off Hwy 97 and 10 could even be better as the promised jobs could still be in Cle Elum.
2. What other sites were seriously considered? There seems to be no logical reason for the project here except for the benefit to the land owner. This is a very poor reason and is a disservice to the people live in the Cle Elum/Teaway area to not seriously review other options.
3. What studies have been done that are independent of the project sponsors? Has the Board commissioned any through, independent studies? This would include economic, habitat, infrastructure requirements, etc.
4. I respectfully ask the Board what are your qualifications to rule on a project of the sweeping a magnitude? Have you formally studied deforestation, municipal economic effects of projects of this size and type, etc. etc.?
5. The Mitigation Agreement between TSR and WA St. F&W looks to be the most incredible deal I've seen in many years. TSR was allowed to pay just \$1,450 per acre to satisfy its mitigation obligations. I live in the Teaway Valley and even in this depressed real estate market you cannot buy acres on a cliff for \$1,450. Has anyone on the Board looked into this? It seems to be a clear violation of due process as *proper* appraisals need to be done to set the price per acre. If this kind of activity happened in this instance, does it not raise concern as to how all the claims that have been made by the developer will be fulfilled?
6. Who is going to buy the power from this site and what is the rate. Is it the rate I pay from Kittitas PUD of \$.079 per KWH or it a higher supported rate?
7. These questions and concerns are but a few of many that relate to this proposed project. The downside of what is before us could impact the county negatively for decades.

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Cle Elum, WA