

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF KITTITAS
STATE OF WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION NO. 2017- 027

A Resolution Enacting a Moratorium on Accepting Proposals for Solar Projects That Qualify As Large Scale Alternative Energy Systems within the Kittitas County

- WHEREAS,** Strong interest has developed in the creation of solar projects within the Kittitas County and its agricultural areas; and
- WHEREAS,** Agricultural industry provides a large portion of the economic base within Kittitas County; and
- WHEREAS,** Major Alternative Energy Facilities include hydroelectric plant, solar farm, or wind farm as indicated within KCC 17.61.010(9)
- WHEREAS,** Concern has been expressed in public hearing and public comment that solar projects that would qualify as major alternative energy facilities are planned for siting within lands used for agriculture; and
- WHEREAS,** Kittitas County is in the process of updating its current Comprehensive Plan and development regulations; and
- WHEREAS,** Advisory groups meeting on issues in the update of the Plan have expressed interest and concern over the rising number of major alternative energy facilities siting; and
- WHEREAS,** The update of the Comprehensive Plan and implementing regulations is expected to occur in 2017.
- WHEREAS,** RCW 36.70A.390 allows adoption of a moratorium on land use activities for sixty (60) days without holding a public hearing; and
- WHEREAS,** Public hearing must be held within sixty (60) days of the moratorium's enactment and findings of fact must be made to support the action. A moratorium may last six (6) months and be extended for up to one (1) year when accompanied by a work plan for moratorium research; and


WHEREAS, The Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners finds the need for such moratorium on solar projects that qualify as alternative energy system development during its comprehensive plan development cycle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that all application for solar projects that would qualify as major alternative energy systems not be accepted for at least six months from January 10th, 2017 or until the Comprehensive Plan and the implementing regulations for the County are adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

ADOPTED this 7th day of February, 2017.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Paul Jewell, Chairman


Laura Osiadacz, Vice-Chairman


Obie O'Brien, Commissioner




Julie A. Kjorsvik

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Neil Caulkins,
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney