From: <u>Logan Darrow</u>

To: Chace Pedersen; Cory Wright
Subject: Schnebley Coulee Solar Farm
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 4:26:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Kittitas County network. Do not click links, open attachments, fulfill requests, or follow guidance unless you recognize the sender and have verified the content is safe.

Hello,

I am a homeowner on Sage Hills Drive and it is with distress I have learned of the plans by Invenergy to install a large solar panel facility that will wrap halfway around the neighborhood of Sage Hills.

Approximately 80% of Washington's original shrub steppe ecosystem has been lost or degraded due to development. The small percentage remaining should be preserved for the health of the ecosystem at large for today and future generations. Something this important should not be handed over for destruction by a private Chicago-based corporation looking to make a profit.

Our shrub steppe provides habitat for several species found nowhere else in the state, including the greater sage-grouse, sagebrush sparrow and burrowing owl. Additionally, other birds like chukar, common ravens, black-billed magpies, Swainson's hawks, red-tailed hawks, horned larks and west meadowlarks thrive in this landscape. And because no hunting is allowed in the Sage Hills neighborhood, a herd of elk frequently passes through this area.

Along with the loss of the valuable ecosystem, a project this size will increase the threat of wildfire, endanger residents' health by introducing dust and pollutants into the air due to frequent high winds, and lower the value of the abutting private homes. Additionally, the process of disturbing the soil will invite an invasion of cheatgrass and other weeds that pose a danger to the Kittitas Valley's valuable hay crops.

Please deny this project that will benefit no one but the out of state corporate developer.

Thank you,

Logan Darrow

293 Sage Hills Drive

Ellensburg WA 98926