

Ellie Myers

From: Homer Smith <hsmith1648@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2026 12:16 PM
To: Ellie Myers
Subject: PUD Kittitas Hwy proposed HQ project comment

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I have happily lived on the property that abuts the west side of the proposed PUD headquarters for 22 years. Last year my neighbors and I were informed of the proposed project when the PUD was exploring the idea of using our driveway for entry to their property. While I politely listened to their ideas, I was in no way in favor of the project either then or now. I had understood there would eventually be signage on the highway to solicit community feedback on the proposed project. I don't believe such ever occurred. Rather, a letter was sent very recently with an overview of the plans but with very little time allowed for responses. It appears that so much time and money has been spent that the decision to build has already been made, but with little, if any, community input. I hope the PUD will reconsider this location.

I am personally opposed because of the noise, the dust, the increased traffic, the loss of habitat, the loss of land to farm, the stress on birds and wildlife, and the massive amount of lighting required. People live in this area for many reasons, some of which are to farm, to raise children in a peaceful setting, have animals, to enjoy peace and quiet and open spaces, to enjoy the wildlife, birds and the lovely night sky. This project will forever change the rural nature of this area for the worse. I understand the PUD needs more space, but destroying farmland for this project is wrong. It would be much better to find a site in a light industrial area that is already developed.

One of the joys of living in this part of the Kittitas Valley is the wildlife. Deer often visit. Hawks and owls are common. For the last year, a flock of turkeys have decided this is home. They roost each night high in a big cottonwood near my kitchen. I've recently discovered they visit other properties in the neighborhood, much to everyone's delight. I fear they will not survive the PUD project.

If this project must move forward, I ask the PUD to do more than the Dark Sky laws require. Use state of art baffles to direct light downwards, and only downwards. This is not only for the neighbors sake, but for birds and all critters that navigate by the stars.

I urge the PUD to find a more appropriate place for their headquarters and to preserve this farmland for the future.

Sincerely,

Homer Smith

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Ellie, could you please let me know this email was recieved. Thanks! Homer

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