

Klickitat County
Determination of Significance (DS) and
Request for Comments on Scope on EIS

Miller North Wind Project
EOZ2008-06 AND SEP2008-55

Notice is hereby given that Klickitat County issued a Determination of Significance (DS) and Request for Comments on Scope of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on January 26, 2009 under SEPA Rules (Chapter 197-11 WAC) and the Klickitat County Environmental Ordinance Number 121084 for the following proposal:

SEP2008-55: Northwest Wind Partners LLC proposes to develop and operate Miller North Wind Project, a wind power facility in eastern Klickitat County, WA. The City of Goldendale is approximately 30 miles southwest of the Project site. The proposed facility will utilize REPower MM92 2.0 turbines or GE 1.5 SLE turbines, and will produce up to 150 megawatts (MW) of electricity total. The turbines will be arranged in strings and connected by an underground and overhead electrical collector cable system. An underground electrical feeder system will collect electricity at 34.5-kilovolt (kV) from each turbine and deliver it to the Project substation. At the substation, the voltage would be increased from 34.5-kv to 230-kV. The project anticipates approximately 8.3 miles of 230-kV Transmission line on H-frame wood poles. The line will travel South to the approved Miller Ranch Wind Project Substation, which would be connected by overhead 230-kV lines to the KPUD White Creek Substation. The Project would include the improvement of approximately 26 miles of existing roads and the construction of approximately 15 miles of new access road.

The Project area is located approximately 6 miles southeast of Bickleton, Washington, in eastern Klickitat County and at its closest, approximately 11 miles north of the Columbia River. Portions of the transmission line will cross land leased by Iberdrola Renewables under agreement with Iberdrola Renewables and its landowners.

The Applicant has elected to prepare an EIS for the project. Two Alternatives will be addressed in this EIS: (1) A "No Action" alternative, under which the proposed project would not occur and (2) An "Action" alternative will address the effects of the proposed Project development.

The EIS is likely to include the following topics: project description, land use, vegetation and wildlife, critical areas, visual resources, cultural resources, noise, transportation, construction, and cumulative impacts. The project will also address the development standards outlined in Chapter 19.39 of the Klickitat County Code. The applicant will prepare special technical studies addressing wildlife and habitat (including avian resources), cultural resources, traffic and geotechnical study, grading and stormwater management.

Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. You may comment on alternatives, mitigation measures, probable significant adverse impacts, and licenses or other approvals that may be required.

The completed application form, copies of the DS and Request for Comments on Scope on EIS are available for review at the Klickitat County Planning Department during normal business hours or online at <http://www.klickitatcounty.org/Planning/>.

Comments on the scope of the EIS will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. February 20, 2009. Comments shall be submitted to the Klickitat County Planning Department, 228 West Main, MS: CH-17, Goldendale, WA 98620.

Appeals on the Determination of Significance (DS) will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. February 13, 2009. Appeals shall be filed with Klickitat County Auditor's office with an appeal fee of \$175, made payable to Klickitat County Planning Department.