

**RESOLUTION 2023 638**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BENTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
IN THE MATTER OF THE HORSE HEAVEN WIND AND SOLAR PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the Scout Clean Energy LLC, applied for site certification with the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (Council) for the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project on June 8, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project is a wind and solar energy generation facility proposed to be located in unincorporated Benton County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project is situated in an area with unique geological features, comprised of naturally vegetated steep slopes, native habitat, commercially significant agricultural land, and visual resources; and

**WHEREAS**, during the Council's public comment periods for the land use consistency and the draft environmental impact statement, the Board of County Commissioners emphasized the County's concerns and opposition to the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to WAC 463-30-050 and WAC 463-30-0660 (2), Benton County was deemed to be a party in the adjudicative proceeding for the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project; and

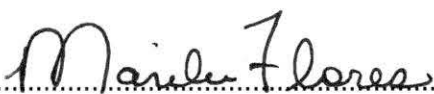
**WHEREAS**, Benton County participated in the adjudicative proceeding to determine whether the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project satisfies Benton County's conditional use permit criteria by submitting briefing and providing pre-filed and live testimony; and

**WHEREAS**, the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project will negatively impact and conflict with the Horse Heaven Hills viewshed, critical areas, agricultural lands of long-term commercial significance, and cultural resources while increasing the risks associated with fire and wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project's industrial use, project size, and location makes the project inconsistent and incompatible with the required outright permitted uses in the Growth Management Act Agricultural Zoning District (BCC 11.17.040), the Washington State designation of long-term commercially agricultural lands, and the required conditional use permit criteria (BCC.11.50.040); **NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Benton County Commissioners hereby opposes the Horse Heaven Wind Farm Project.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023.

Attest...   
Clerk of the Board  
Cc: BCC, PLN,

**WILL MCKAY - ABSENT**  
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Chairman of the Board  
**Jerome Delvin**  
**Approved Telephonically**  
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Commissioner  
**Michael Alvarez**  
**Approved Telephonically**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner  
Constituting the Board of County  
Commissioners of Benton County  
Washington.