

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center Enters Final Stages of Permitting with Release of Final Environmental Impact Statement

Kennewick, WA – (November 1, 2023) – Scout Clean Energy (Scout), a national utility-scale renewable energy developer-owner-operator, announced today that the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) has recently released its final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center (HHCEC), a proposed 1,150 MW wind, solar and energy storage project in Washington State.

The FEIS release is a significant step in the approval process and follows a six-month adjudication period that resulted in substantial changes to the project design. These changes were made in response to comments received on the application, input from the EFSEC council, tribes, state and local regulatory agencies, changes to applicable regulations, and information provided by local utilities.

Scout's commitment to working constructively with EFSEC and project stakeholders on avoidance and minimization measures further reduces anticipated impacts, while still providing significant generation capacity for meeting the state's electricity needs and decarbonization goals. This commitment has led to the incorporation of the following changes from the project's original Application for Site Certification submitted in February 2021:

- **Removing 22 total turbines**, including 13 turbines near Benton City and others throughout the project layout, to reduce impacts to visual and cultural resources as well as potential disturbances to ferruginous hawk historical nesting areas.
- **Reduced nighttime lighting and visual impacts** of concern to residents through the installation of an Aircraft Detection Lighting System, as required by HB 1173.
- **Requiring all turbines to be sited at least half a mile away from all non-participating residences for noise and shadow-flicker mitigation.**
- **Provided enhanced mitigation for various wildlife concerns, including state endangered species.**
- **A reduction of 1,100 acres of solar arrays**, in response to stakeholder concerns regarding impacts to wildlife, priority habitat, and visual resources.
- **Elimination of 19.1 linear miles of overhead transmission line.**

Scout Clean Energy

1805 29th Street, Suite 2050

Boulder, CO 80301

“We appreciate EFSEC’s diligent work and thank all those who provided feedback during adjudication and have attempted to be responsive in our reduced project size,” said Dave Kobus, Senior Project Manager. “We look forward to working through the final stages of the permit process.” said Kobus.

With the release of the FEIS, EFSEC will now enter deliberations. Per EFSEC’s Certification Process description: “If the Council determines the project should be recommended to the Governor, it develops an administrative order on recommendation and a draft Site Certification Agreement (SCA) to be signed by the Governor. The SCA has all the environmental, social, economic, and engineering conditions the applicant must meet for construction and operation throughout the life of the project.” The Governor will have 60 days to review and issue a final decision.

Once approved, HHCEC will begin generating significant energy, environmental, and community benefits. The project is expected to create nearly 1,000 jobs during construction and contribute over \$250 million in local tax revenues over its 35-year operating lifespan. A June 2022 agreement between the project developer and Tri-Cities union crafts ensures that the project will be built with local union labor.

For more information about the FEIS release, please visit [Horse Heaven SEPA | EFSEC - The State of Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council](#).

###

About the Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center

The Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center is designed to combine wind and solar generation, with battery storage components to deliver up to 1,150 MW of renewable energy to the region and the State of Washington. This hybrid approach will help stabilize grids, increase efficiencies, and lower power costs while creating significant economic opportunities in the form of jobs, development, and new revenue.

The Horse Heaven Clean Energy Center is being developed by Scout Clean Energy, a utility-scale clean energy developer with an extensive track record developing large-scale projects and is supported by local experts and project managers with deep experience in the Tri-Cities.

For more information, please visit www.horseheavencleanenergy.com

About Scout Clean Energy

Scout Clean Energy is a renewable energy developer and owner-operator headquartered in Boulder, Colorado with approximately 1,200 MW of operating and under construction wind and solar assets, and a pipeline of over 19,000 MW of wind, solar and storage projects across 22 states, including more than 2,300 MW of advanced-stage projects. Scout has expertise in all aspects of renewables project development, permitting, power marketing, finance, construction, 24/7 operations, and asset management. Scout is a portfolio company of Brookfield Renewable. For more information, please visit www.scoutcleanenergy.com