



February 3, 2021

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Sage Park  
1250 West Alder Street  
Union Gap, WA 98903-0009

RE: Goldendale Energy Storage Project

Dear Ms. Park,

As Executive Secretary of the Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council representing approximately 80,000 construction workers here in Washington, I want to offer our support to the Goldendale Energy Storage Project.

Our organization serves as a voice of workers in the building and construction trades across the state, and as that voice, we understand the importance of economic development and security in Washington's rural areas. The Goldendale Energy Storage Project would not only provide economic opportunities to thousands in the areas that need them but would do so with the mission of achieving Washington's CETA clean energy goals.

The Goldendale Energy Storage Project would serve as a job creator and a community builder – generating over 3,000 family wage jobs over its four-year construction cycle and infusing over \$2 billion in the economy of rural Washington and Oregon. Klickitat County and communities along the Columbia River gorge would receive millions in tax revenue.

The Project would also play an integral role in achieving Washington's 100% clean energy goals by 2045 by supplying reliable non-emitting electricity. The Goldendale Energy Storage Project will enable utilities to balance the demand of electricity with the rapidly changing energy supply. Furthermore, the project will provide the state with a local, clean energy source that will leave behind minimal environmental impact.

It should also be noted that the Goldendale Energy Storage Project is considered a "Project of Statewide Significance" by the Washington State legislature due to its investment in environmental improvements and innovation activities.

Like our state legislature, the Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council believes that this project would serve as an example of how investment in renewable energy projects can make our communities stronger, our region cleaner, and our state more prosperous.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark L. Riker".

Mark L. Riker, Executive Secretary  
Washington State Building & Construction Trades Council

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