

Goldendale School District #404 Dr. Ellen Perconti, Superintendent Dean Schlenker, Business Manager 604 E. Brooks St., Goldendale, WA 98620, phone (509) 773-5177, fax (509) 773-6028

June 5, 2022

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

Re: Goldendale Energy Storage Project

Dear Ms. Park,

On behalf of the Goldendale School District, I am writing to share our support for the proposed Goldendale Energy Storage Project. Klickitat County is home to many renewable energy projects, which contribute significantly to our tax base while also providing benefits to our power system. The Goldendale Project will enable our region to harness the power of renewable resources so that homes, businesses and schools have access to power when they need it.

The Goldendale Project has the potential to generate up to 3,000 high-quality, family-wage jobs over its four-year construction period. Our community will benefit from the economic activity those jobs will bring. Many of those workers may relocate to Goldendale and surrounding areas, contributing to our local economy in many ways. In addition to the additional jobs, an economic analysis by our local chamber of commerce indicates that the project could contribute \$3 million to our local schools in annual property taxes. These additional funds would be used to improve our buildings and fund important programs such as expanding our Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) opportunities for students. Currently, our STEM offerings are limited by our facilities and ability to recruit staff.

The impact of the Goldendale Project will be broader than just our schools. Klickitat County families will also benefit from another \$11 million in annual property taxes the project will generate for roads, emergency services, parks, our library, our local hospital and more.

I am very encouraged to see this project coming to fruition.

Sincerely,

J. L.

Ellen S. Perconti