

Greater Goldendale Area Chamber of Commerce 903 E Broadway Goldendale, WA 98620

Department of Ecology State of Washington Re: Comment on Goldendale Energy Storage Project

August 9, 2022

Good day,

Several years ago, the Goldendale Chamber decided to focus on long term economic development that would bring companies and industries to Goldendale with the goal to generate sustainable, long-term employment and prosperity to our community. The Goldendale Energy Storage Project is just such an opportunity.

Klickitat PUD had started the preliminary Federal Energy Regulatory Council (FERC) permit process with goal of bringing in additional partners to finish the permit process. Rye Development in Portland and National Energy stepped up. Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners CIP has taken over National energy's roll and is a better fit for this project.

The Goldendale Energy Storage project is designed to capture renewable energy produced by solar and wind generation when there is an excess amount of it. This is accomplished by pumping water from the lower reservoir that will be located near the old aluminum smelter plant, to upper reservoir which is located due north at the top of bluff. The lower reservoir will be visible from the highway 14 the upper reservoir will not be visible, nor will the pump house or piping that connect the two reservoirs.

This initial public comment period on the environmental impact statement is a major milestone in the process. This project will provide 3000 construction jobs over the build period with 50 to 70 long term jobs once it is complete. The local college is setting up to help with apprenticeship training to help provide skilled labor for this storage project. This will bring money into our community. It will help our local merchants prosper. It will provide tax revenue to Klickitat County.

The more one considers this project, the better it looks for our community.

Sincerely,

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Nicole D. Lundin Executive Director Greater Goldendale Area Chamber of Commerce