

Goldendale Chamber of Commerce

Good evening, and thank you. I am here representing the Goldendale Chamber of Commerce. Rick Lundeen (phonetic), our past president who is ill and not able to attend, so I agreed to read his statement. What the Goldendale Chamber -- what he took president of Chamber, they decided to focus on long-term economic development that would bring companies and industries to Goldendale, with a goal to bring sustainable long-term employment and prosperity to our community. The Goldendale Pump Storage Project is just such an opportunity for our community. Klickitat PUD had started the preliminary FERC permit process with goals of bringing in additional partners to finish the permit process. Development in Portland and National Energy stepped up. Copenhagen -- excuse me -- Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners had taken the energy role and is better fit for the project. The Goldendale Energy Storage Project is designed for renewable energy produced by solar and wind generation, and there is excess amount of it. This is accomplished by pumping water from the lower reservoir that will be located at the old aluminum smelter plant, to the upper reservoir, which is located on the north -- due north at the a top of the bluff. The lower reservoir is visible from the Highway 14. The upper will not be visible, nor will the pump house or piping that connects the reservoir. The initial public comment period on the Environmental Impact Statement is a major milestone to the process. This project will provide 3,000 construction job over the building period, with 5,270 long-term jobs once it is completed. The local college is setting up to help with apprenticeship training to 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 for our county. If you need more information on the project outside this meeting, please feel free to call the Goldendale Chamber of Commerce. Thank you.