

# Columbia Gorge Community College

All right. Thank you very much. My name is Daniel Spatz. I'm a Klickitat County resident here in my capacity is Capital Projects and Community Relations Director for Columbia Gorge Community College. I'm pleased to present our institution's workforce training capacity as it relates to the proposed Goldendale Energy Storage Project. Columbia Gorge Community College was established in 1977. The college is a public, two-year institution with campuses in the Dallas and Hood River. We are independently accredited by the Northwest Commission of Colleges and University. CTCC established an electrical engineering technology program in 2001 in response to the urgent need for mainstem hydroelectric operators along the Columbia/Snake system. As wind farms developed beginning around 2006, we modified that program into a renewable energy technology program, encompassing wind and solar, as well as hydroelectric and even geothermal power. This was the a first community college wind technician training program on the west coast. In 2018, we again modified the program, responding to workforce needs in advanced technology industries, while maintaining a renewable energy focus on electronics, hydraulics, mechanical systems, and industrial safety. Students learn theory and the practical application of that theory. They learn to think on their feet, problem solve in the field, and work as a team to maintain complex systems. Our program is now known as electromechanical technology, offering a 43-credit certificate and 99-credit associates degree. Electromechanical technicians use electrical and electronic theory to design, build, repair, calibrate, and modify components, circuitry controls and machinery. In 2021, we opened a new chapter in the history with completion of a regional skill training center and student residence hall. Skills center programs include advance manufacturing, metals fabrication, welding, 3D manufacturing, and construction trades. CTCC offers pre-college instruction, including adult basic education and GED preparation, designed to prepare the older incumbent workforce for credit-level studies. We encourage dual-credit programming with area highschools. Given our experience and proximity of the Dallas campus to proposed project location, Columbia Gorge by Community College is well positioned to provide technical training for the permanent workforce associated with the pump storage project, providing local residents an opportunity to benefit from this project. End of my comments. Thank you very much.