

# Klickitat Public Utility District

Hi, I'm Jim Smith. I am the General Manager at Klickitat Public Utility District. We are a public utility with locally elected public officials that allow for local control by our residents. Our mission is to provide safe and reliable water, waste water, and electric service consistent with sound business principals. If this project moves ahead, we will be providing both water and electric service. I want to express our gratitude for being able to provide public comment on this important document and on this important project. The PUD supports the Goldendale Energy storage Project. As the owner of the water system that would provide water service to the project, we agree with the finding of no significant adverse impact on ground and surface water hydrology. We've provided water services for over 50 years in this community and who have extensive experience. As the local electric utility and as producer of a renewable energy, we also agree with the finding of no significant adverse impact on energy resources. We actually have over 80 years of experience in providing electric service. We have extensive experience in our region -- regional electricity grid and electric markets. As mentioned in the draft EIS, electric load forecasts show increasing electric usage to address climate change through electrification, among other things. Klickitat PUD believes that integrating the necessary renewable resources will require long duration pump hydro storage in addition to the other technologies and strategies to ensure our electric grid is both reliable and affordable. The supply of electricity is of critical importance to our residents' safety during extreme weather events for heating, air conditioning, water supply, and other life sustaining uses. Klickitat PUD believes this project offers safety and environmental benefits that are significant, and should be considered in the draft EIS analysis. In addition to the benefits already mentioned, the project will also provide significant revenues to the PUD for providing water and electricity service, and hence, will provide significant additional benefits to the residents of our county. The project has been deemed a project of state-wide significance as a result of these societal benefits. As a general matter, the PUD is very impressed and supportive with the information that was included in the draft EIS analysis, and the PUD appreciates the obvious careful thought that went into creating a document of this depth. We do, however, have meaningful concerns about the conclusions reached in the tribal resource analysis. While we respect the input and the information that's being considered on these important issues, the PUD does not believe there has been adequate showing that supports the preliminary determination that any adverse impacts cannot be successfully mitigated. We will be providing more detail written comments by the deadline, and perhaps on these issues and other issues within the draft EIS. We appreciate the opportunity to comment. Thank you.