In the Matter of Initiating Amendment to Wind Power Generation Facility Siting Standards Allowing for Adjustment Criteria for Rural Residence Setbacks

WHEREAS on May 20, 2003, the Board of Commissioners adopted Ordinance No. 2002-02, establishing requirements for the siting of wind power generation facilities, codified at Section 152.616 (HHH) of the Umatilla County Code of Ordinances;

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners on June 28, 2011, adopted Ordinance No. 2011-06, amending the wind power generation facility siting requirements, including a 2 mile setback from a turbine tower to a rural residence;

WHEREAS the county would like to provide for an adjustment process for the 2 mile rural residence setback.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners orders that:

1. Pursuant to Umatilla County Code of Ordinance Section 152.750, the Board of Commissioners is initiating a proposed amendment to Section 152.616 for Commercial Wind Power Generation Facility siting requirements.

2. The following is proposed to be added to Section 152.616 under the setbacks standards from a turbine tower to a rural residence:

   The rural residence landowner may apply for and receive an adjustment for a reduced distance between a turbine tower and a rural residence under the following approval criteria:

   A. The proposal will not significantly detract from the livability of the rural residence; and
   B. Any impacts to the livability of the rural residence resulting from the adjustment are mitigated to the extent practical; and
C. If an adjustment affects a Goal 5 resource, the wind facility application must consider the effect of the adjustment on the Goal 5 resource; and

D. All other requirements of the wind facility application remain satisfied.

An adjustment under this section shall be processed as part of the wind facility application.

3. This matter is remanded to the Umatilla County Planning Commission pursuant to Section 152.752, to conduct a hearing on the proposed amendment and to forward its recommendation on the amendment to the Board of Commissioners for final action.

DATED this 28th day of February, 2012.

UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

W. Lawrence Givens, Chair

Dennis D. Doherty, Commissioner

William S. Hansell, Commissioner

ATTEST:
OFFICE OF COUNTY RECORDS

Records Officer

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