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The proposed Antelope Ridge Wind Farm that is planned for Craig Mountain from Hot Lake to Telocaset will destroy the beauty of this county all in the name of green power unless we take action...



Horizon Wind Power owned by EDP Renovaveis from Portugal, is planning a 47000 acre wind farm across Craig Mountain in Union County which will destroy the beauty of this area and seriously damage our tourism of the area, not to mention property values.

In addition to the damage to the viewshed, these foreign owned wind farm developers receive huge tax credits and accelerated depreciation. For example, here in Union County the Elkhorn Wind Farm at Telocaset has a real market value of 207 million, but is assessed at only 23 million and taxed at a 9.3% rate which equates to \$335,053 for 2008-2009. We citizens are paying dearly through taxes for an inefficient electric power system at the same time fattening the pockets of offshore companies.

Horizon Wind Power is claiming per their brochure that the Antelope Ridge Wind Farm will generate enough electricity to power 90,000 homes which is a distortion of the facts. The 90,000 homes could only be provided power if the wind blew a 100% of the time at a speed of maximum power production. Statistics show that wind production of these towers is in the range of 10%-21%. The Department of Energy reports prove the inefficiency of wind power since with all the thousands of wind towers scattered across this country, they still do not produce 1% of our power requirements.

Valerie Franklin, a spokesperson for Horizon Wind Power, recently stated that wind energy is a symbol of independence and will help combat climate change which is disputed by many experts in the field.

There is no evidence that industrial wind power is likely to have a significant impact on carbon emissions. Denmark, the world's most wind-intensive nation with more than 6,000 turbines, has yet to

close a single fossil-fuel plant. In fact, it requires 50% more coal-generated electricity to cover wind power's unpredictability, and pollution and carbon dioxide emissions have risen by 36% in 2006 alone.

Flemming Nissen, the head of development at West Danish generating company ELSAM (one of Denmark's largest energy utilities), tells us that "wind turbines do not reduce carbon dioxide emissions." The German experience is no different. Der Spiegel reports that "Germany's CO² emissions haven't been reduced by even a single gram," and additional coal- and gas-fired plants have been constructed to ensure reliable delivery. Aase Madsen, the Chair of Energy Policy in the Danish Parliament, calls it "a terribly expensive disaster."

The U.S. Energy Information Administration reported in 2008, on a dollar per megawatt hour basis, the U.S. Government subsidizes wind at \$23.34 per MWH compared to reliable energy sources: natural gas at 25¢; coal at 44¢; hydro at 67¢; and nuclear at \$1.59, leading to what some U.S. commentators call "a huge corporate welfare feeding frenzy." The Wall Street Journal warns that "wind generation is the prime example of what can go wrong when the government decides to pick winners."

The Antelope Ridge Wind Farm will provide some short term benefits for some of our businesses and construction jobs, of which many will not be local jobs. Union County can certainly use the stimulus, but the long term consequences far override the benefits. There will be a few permanent jobs which will most likely not be from our local area due to the specialization.

These wind towers have an expected life of 15-20 years where they most likely will be obsolete due to technology or they will require replacement or be decommissioned. Will they be removed or just abandoned?

Oregon is being made the sacrificial lamb to provide power to other parts of the country and the greed and benefit of offshore companies. We must unite to stop this project by presenting our dislike for this project to the state siting council.

Please review the attached and you decide if this is what you want for Oregon, especially pristine Union County

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