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Help Save Oregon

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Oregon Department of Energy
Energy Facility Siting council

Reference: Antelope Ridge Wind Farm

In reviewing the Horizon proposal and recently encountering the enclosed drainage map it is obvious there will be a significant loss of wetlands on Craig Mountain by construction of the project. Horizon is attempting to mitigate the issue by contributing to the Grande Ronde Model Watershed. Horizon is also attempting to provide significant benefit to the Heffernan's Ranch which will be an undo reward to one private party while at the same time destroying the watershed and wetlands of Craig Mountain. Neither of these proposals by Horizon will provide an adequate solution to the issue.

It is a known fact there are **156 wetlands** in the area of the project and to allow for Horizon to trade one area for another is not in the best interest of the wildlife, environment, and the people close to the area. As they destroy more wetlands and clear forest and brush on Craig Mountain, there will be serious snow melt issues along with runoff and erosion, since once the environment is destroyed that helps hold the late snow melt, early runoff issues will be the norm.

The drainage map clearly shows the potential damage that can occur once the proposed site is cleared of underbrush and timber due to run off into the Catherine Creek and Powder River drainage area. This will have a serious affect on fish, some that are protected, and agriculture irrigation; in addition serious erosion problems will be created.

There have not been enough protective measures included in the Horizon proposal or the RAI to make sure these issue are addressed.

Respectfully,

Dennis Wilkinson