

Military Economic Advisory Committee  
December 7, 2017  
SAGE Center, Boardman, Oregon

Attendees: Bob Guertin, Kym Erevia, Larry Lindsay, Melissa Lindsay, Carla McLane, Jeff Maffuccio, Jerry Rietmann. By Phone: Courtney Crowell, Debbie Langford, Kim Peacher, Kellen Tardaeweather.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. Introductions were made. Meeting notes were reviewed and accepted as written.

Project Updates:

B2H BLM Record of Decision (ROD) - The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued Record of Decision (ROD) on November 17, 2017.

The United States Forest Service (USFS) ROD - USFS indicated that they would issue an independent ROD, but there is no known estimated time of release, and it has no real influence in Morrow County. Waiting for NAVY ROD, particularly the easement piece.

Navy ROD and Easement - The Navy focus now is on receiving BPA Course of Action (COA) as it applies to section 106, how it is integrating with Idaho Power, and trying to limit to one transmission line on naval property. Tribal consultation still needs to be completed, the plan is to do it as soon as possible (6-18 months is typical, but will try to do sooner), knowing that the ROD needs to be completed prior to the easement process. Jerry Rietmann believes there is a proposal on the table between the two cooperatives that offers a compromise in order to satisfy the land owners, but final outcome of that proposal is still pending. Commissioner Lindsay shared that Columbia Basin gave a project update presentation to the Morrow County Board of Commissioners (BOC) that honors the corridor and also accommodates the Navy and developer. Commissioner Lindsay also shared that there are growing concerns by the landowners effected by mitigation of crops to relocate when there are already production concerns for that property (second 7 miles). According to Bob Guertin there is also a concern for land owners (by the developers) that buyers may be lost if this process is not completed in a timely manner.

Energy Project Updates:

B2H - Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) is still going through the state and federal application elements, with approximately 18 months out estimated for completion of that review.

Wheatridge - The conditional use application is at the Morrow County Planning Department; estimated completion of review is sometime in January. Kim Peacher will be providing a letter of support for coordination of this project.

Orchard Wind - Not starting construction until 2018.

Boardman Solar - Draft Proposed Order (DPO) is out and the hearing is next week at City Hall in Boardman. Conditions of approval are similar to Wheatridge.

Carty Solar - Traffic impacts will be different from initial intended projects that included I & II. A Traffic Impact Analysis will be completed based on the “then” traffic, not the “now” traffic. The amended application will be submitted sometime after the new year.

Nolan Hills - Will have no real impact to Morrow County other than to the SE boundary. At this time the Planning Department is just watching the project.

EFSC Rulemaking - The amendment to the rulemaking is almost completed. Health & Safety was reviewed in early November, with a result of no changes to the standard. A report on the amendment will be presented to the Siting Council next week.

Good of the order:

Larry Lindsay shared that there are tribal concerns that might continue to block progress. Melissa Lindsay asked Idaho Power when the final corridor will be determined on the south end of the bombing range. Jeff Maffuccio said the route through Baker Produce property was unclear prior, but has been worked out. The confusion was due to another project survey being sent out before this project corridor was confirmed. Jeff will provide a map to Melissa that outlines the final corridor and will share shape files with the Planning Department. Carla said the green line application has not been received yet; entity that will be filing has not yet been decided.

Meeting dates for next year are all set with the Sand Hollow Room in the Riverfront Center, Boardman, Oregon reserved for all meetings, barring any conflicts with the Port of Morrow. A Word version of the white paper will be sent out to the appointed members within the week. The focus of the paper was initially very specific, but with the change of the committee to an economic perspective the paper may need to be modified to accommodate revised focus. Carla advised that revision submissions be withheld until this focus can be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.