



Attachment A

## **DECLARATION OF COOPERATION**

### **Christmas Valley Backscatter Site June 2008**

#### **Project Conveners**

Brad Winters, Lake County Commissioner

Jim Walls, Executive Director Lake County Resources Initiative

#### **Objective**

Governor Kulongoski designated Christmas Valley as an Oregon Solutions project in April 2007. The governor's designation letter describes the project as having "the potential to meet many of the State's environmental, economic and social objectives." To meet that end, the project team developed an objective *to preserve the value of the infrastructure of the Christmas Valley site for military training purposes in a way that benefits public welfare and safety, enhancing energy security, and ensuring community benefit.*

#### **Background**

The Christmas Valley Back-scatter site consists of 2,622 acres of BLM land withdrawn for use by the U.S. Air Force to provide national security information during the cold war. The site was made obsolete by satellite technology, and is scheduled to return to BLM management in September 2009. It is surrounded by thousands of additional acres of federal BLM land. In the absence of a subsequent user, the property would need to be restored to its original state, at a significant cost, so that BLM is not responsible for the maintenance or liability connected to constructed facilities.

The Oregon Military has expressed significant interest in the site and the infrastructure to support existing and new training missions. Proposals have been developed and shared for consideration within the Air Force. In addition, the Christmas Valley Back-scatter site has several potential advantages for development of alternative energy: two 115 KV lines leading to the site, potential to use existing road systems and other infrastructure, and a sparse but supportive local population. The site has known solar resource and potential wind and geothermal resources.

**Project Description**

The Oregon Solutions team held its first meeting in May 2007. At that meeting, the team developed a basic understanding of the back-scatter site, the existing infrastructure, and the land transfer options. Following that meeting, the group developed a short-term workplan and subteams to address the following:

- Define the existing infrastructure of the backscatter site.
- Define and analyze options for land transfer.
- Define military options for use of site.
- Define renewable energy options and approach to development.

Through the work of these subteams, the Oregon Solutions Team developed a deeper understanding of the issues involved, the order by which actions needed to take place, and developed a phased approach for meeting the overall project objectives:

*Phase 1 Land Transfer May 2007 – June 2007*

The purpose of the first phase is to provide a long-term solution for the issues of real property transfer and infrastructure management. This Declaration of Cooperation captures the actions already taken and the future commitments necessary to assure a transfer of real property.

*Phase 2 Additional Uses for Site June 2007 – June 2008*

The second phase of this project will assess the feasibility and approach to additional uses of the site. One potential use of the site is development of renewable energy to meet the Oregon Military needs at the site. This Declaration of Cooperation captures the commitments necessary to begin the feasibility work that will be part of this phase of the project.

**Commitments**

The following team members provide the following commitments in support of Phase I of this project.

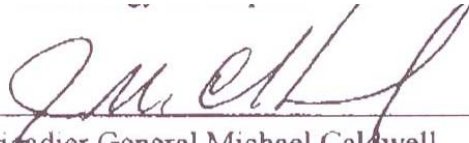
***Headquarters Air Combat Command Acquisition Management and Integration Center/Over-the-Horizon Backscatter (HQ ACC AMIC/OTHB) Radar Program***

- Contingent upon availability of funds, continue stewardship of the land and maintenance of the infrastructure until transfer of land or relinquishment of the withdrawal with BLM.
- Communicate with the group on progress related to the relinquishment of the withdrawal, to the best of its ability.
- Work with BLM and Oregon Military, as appropriate, in developing and assessing options for meeting Agency interests.
- Begin conversations with the Oregon Air Guard on site security.

  
Lt Col Elizabeth Pangrac, HQ ACC AMIC OTHB Program Office

**Oregon Military**

- Develop and submit a proposal that will help to benefit public welfare and safety needs with use of the 2622 acres of land currently under Air Force withdrawal.
- Maintain communication with the Oregon Solutions team on the development of and progress of the real property transfer.
- Work with the Oregon Solutions team to evaluate the potential to meet Oregon Military energy requirements through renewable energy development.

  
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Brigadier General Michael Caldwell

**Bureau of Land Management**

- Continue to provide information to the Oregon Solutions team regarding BLM process requirements.
- Assist U.S. Air Force and Oregon Military, as appropriate, in developing and assessing options for meeting Agency interests.
- Provide technical assistance, as necessary, regarding management of local resources and the evaluation of renewable energy development.

  
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Shirley Gammon  
Bureau of Land Management

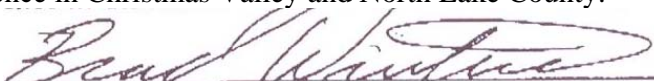
**Midstate Electric Cooperative**

- Cooperate with the Oregon Solutions team by providing technical coordinators or advisors to share any relevant available information when necessary, and/or respond to development proposals.

  
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Bill Kopacz  
Midstate Electric Coop

**Lake County**

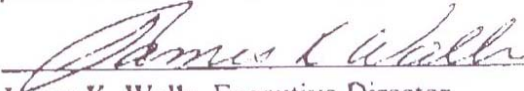
- Actively participate in Backscatter project throughout the Oregon Solution process and through the implementation stage.
- Maintain County Sherriff presence in Christmas Valley and North Lake County.

  
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Brad Winters, Commissioner  
Lake County

**Lake County Resources Initiative**

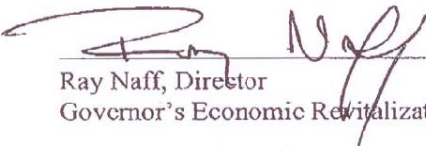
The Lake County Resources Initiative (LCRI) has placed renewable energy projects in Lake County as our number one priority and commits the following support for the Backscatter Radar Site:

- Actively participate in Backscatter project throughout the Oregon Solution process and through the implementation stage.
- As it deems appropriate, assist in seeking funding opportunities at the foundation, state and federal level.
- Inform the public on the development of the site for public welfare.

  
James K. Walls, Executive Director  
Lake County Resources Initiative

**Oregon Economic Revitalization Team**

- Provide coordination, as appropriate, within the Governor's office.
- Provide updates, as necessary, to State Economic Revitalization Team Department Directors on the project.
- Provide coordination, as appropriate, with the South Central Economic Revitalization Team (SCERT).

  
Ray Naff, Director  
Governor's Economic Revitalization Team


**The South Central Oregon Economic Development District (SCOEDD)**

- Actively participate in Backscatter project throughout the Oregon Solution process and through the implementation stage.
- Identify economic development opportunities, barriers and implementation actions related to the project, and
- Continue to seek funding opportunities at the state and federal level.

  
Betty Riley, Executive Director  
SCOEDD

**Oregon Department of Energy**

- Actively participate in the project throughout the Oregon Solution process and through the implementation stage.
- Technical assistance: provide data, analysis or help finding others with information necessary to employ international best practices to assess renewable resource potential at the site.
- Communications: upon request, assist with communications, education or co-negotiation with federal, state or local government, utilities, consumers or the neighboring public.

  
Michael Grainey, Executive Director  
Oregon Department of Energy