

**ORDINANCE NO. [\_\_\_\_]**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SNOQUALMIE ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON NEW BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM FACILITIES AND ESTABLISHING A WORK PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF REGULATIONS**

**Section 1. Findings**

The City Council of the City of Snoqualmie finds:

1. Battery energy storage system (BESS) facilities are an emerging land use with evolving siting, safety, and operational considerations.
2. The City's current development regulations do not specifically address BESS facilities.
3. The City is undertaking the development of appropriate regulations addressing:
  - o siting and location
  - o safety standards
  - o design and operational characteristics
  - o compatibility with surrounding land uses
4. Establishing a temporary moratorium will allow the City to complete this work and adopt regulations that provide clear standards for future consideration of such facilities.
5. A temporary moratorium is necessary to ensure that development decisions made during this period are consistent with the City's goals for public safety, land use compatibility, and community character.

**Section 2. Moratorium Established**

A moratorium is hereby established on the acceptance, processing, and approval of applications for new battery energy storage system facilities.

**Section 3. Duration**

This moratorium shall take effect immediately upon adoption and shall remain in effect for a period of twelve (12) months, unless repealed or extended by the City Council.

**Section 4. Exceptions**

This moratorium shall not apply to:

- routine maintenance or repair of existing facilities
- legally established uses existing as of the effective date of this ordinance

### **Section 5. Work Program**

During the moratorium period, the City shall undertake a work program to develop appropriate regulations addressing battery energy storage system facilities, including:

1. Review of regulatory approaches used by other jurisdictions
2. Consideration of applicable state and regional standards
3. Evaluation of:
  - siting criteria
  - safety and emergency response considerations
  - development and performance standards
  - compatibility with surrounding land uses
4. Consideration of public input
5. Preparation of proposed code amendments for City Council consideration

### **Section 6. Public Hearing**

A public hearing shall be held within sixty (60) days of adoption of this ordinance, in accordance with applicable law.

### **Section 7. Severability**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

### **Section 8. Effective Date**

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.