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## **EFSEC Begins IGCC Application Review**

OLYMPIA – The Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) received an application from Energy Northwest, a joint operating agency comprised of 20 public utilities, to site the Pacific Mountain Energy Center. This project is proposed as a 600 megawatt electrical generation facility located on 95 acres at the Port of Kalama, in Cowlitz County, about 8 miles south of Longview, Washington.

The Pacific Mountain Energy Center will consist of two integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) units, each producing about 300 megawatts. Fuel such as petroleum coke and/or coal is combined with high purity oxygen in gassifiers to form a synthesis gas (syngas). The syngas is then burned in combustion turbines to generate electrical power.

The project will also include an enclosed fuel handling and storage terminal with access to a rail system and deep-water port. The project will require a short natural gas pipeline and electrical transmission lines.

This is one of the first projects to propose IGCC technology for electrical generation on the west coast, with only two similar operating facilities elsewhere in the United States.

EFSEC has begun an extensive review the Pacific Mountain Energy Center application, including preparing an environmental impact statement. A public information meeting will be held on November 6, 2006 at the Kalama Community Building, 126 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Kalama, Washington, to inform residents about the project, describe the EFSEC review process, and hear initial public comments about the project. An open house will be held at 6:00 p.m., followed by the information and comment meeting at 6:30 p.m. EFSEC expects to complete its review late next year.

Under state law, EFSEC is responsible for reviewing applications to site, construct, and operate a variety of energy facilities in Washington State. In addition to the development of an environmental impact statement, EFSEC's review includes public comment opportunities and meetings, and formal adjudicative hearings. At the end of its review, EFSEC submits a recommendation to the Governor. The Governor makes the final decision to approve or deny a project.

EFSEC is a state board with a chair appointed by the Governor, and representatives from five state agencies. When an application is submitted to EFSEC for review, representatives from the local government(s) and port district in which the project is proposed are appointed to serve on the Council.

Information about EFSEC and projects under review is posted at [www.efsec.wa.gov](http://www.efsec.wa.gov). Copies of the Pacific Mountain Energy Center application are available for review at the EFSEC office in Olympia and at local libraries in Kalama and Longview, as well as on EFSEC's Web site.