

April 28, 2000

Public comment regarding Sumas 2 Generation Facility – Application No. 99-1 DEIS

MAY 01 2000

To Whom It May Concern:  
Attention Allen Fiksdal, EFSEC Manager, WSEFSEC.

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

Dear Sir,

I am writing in response to the public comment period extension regarding the proposed Sumas Energy2 Site and project.

I attended the public hearings, and am OPPOSED to the building of the plant!

It is a BAD project to build in Whatcom County, Washington, near the city of Sumas, for a great number of reasons as was presented to you during the period of public comments.

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I want to be placed on record as OPPOSING this plant being built and its proposed future operation in Whatcom County.

I am opposed for a great number of reasons among which are:

1. The great amount of pollution introduced into the air of the surrounding area.
2. The tremendous amount of ground water it would take to cool the systems in the generating process.
3. The potential flooding hazards it would cause for sites immediately upstream the plant fill area.
4. The environmental damage it would cause while dumping its cooling and effluent water into the nearby streams and rivers.
5. The high levels of noise generated in the vicinity of the plant by its process and machinery.
6. The potential spill hazard of its reserve diesel fuel tank to surrounding soils, streams, fish and wildlife.
7. The plant is not necessary due to adequate power sources already available.
8. The huge amount of natural gas consumed would curtail the amount available for the private sector.
9. The proposed routing of the modified power lines through Whatcom County and British Columbia.

In general, this is a BAD PROJECT for Whatcom County! It would provide very few jobs except during its construction period of the first year or two.

Canadian citizens and their public officials have voiced strong and unanimous opposition to this project. The Governor of the State Of Washington Mr. Gary Locke has already rejected any tax break for this project stating it is not the type of project, which should benefit from such legislation. The Washington Legislation has confirmed his Veto action also!

The greatest impact to me personally would be the routing of the power over an existing route, which passes past my house. If the power poles were replaced with the higher poles designed to carry the high voltage over the existing right of way; I would be adversely affected in several ways. I own a series of OLD GROWTH FIR TREES, WHICH ARE SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS OLD, which are located on my property adjacent to the proposed right of way. They are about 130 to 150 feet tall, and are the hallmark of our residence. It is one of the main reasons we decided to purchase our property in 1966, and decided to live at this location. Although they are not on the power right of way, I am relatively sure they would be cut or trimmed severely causing immeasurable damage or death to the trees. This would NOT be acceptable to me! I would NOT consider any amount of compensation in exchange for the trees! There will be NO compromising on the potential damage to these grand trees! They were left standing when this homesite was homesteaded many years ago, and they deserve to live unscarred by an unnecessary power plant distribution line!

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I am also an Amateur Radio Operator, who would be affected by the noise generated by the power leaking over the insulators of the high voltage lines. It is well known that the high voltage causes a corona of power, which, while leaking over insulators, causes high noise generation to the general area of the lines, affecting all types of radio reception. This Radio Frequency Interference (or RFI) would make it impossible

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to communicate in the manner I am now accustomed to enjoy my hobby, or to provide vital communication in case of National or Community disaster. This would also be unacceptable, and an encroachment on my personal rights to enjoy this aspect of my personal life.

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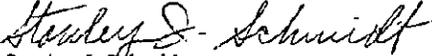
Allen let me personally tell you that I want you to disapprove of the plant being built or operated as proposed, and that I am extremely opposed to the project in any way or form. Do not allow it to be approved! We do not need the power at this time or any time in the foreseeable future! It would be bad for the residents of Whatcom county and British Columbia. Very few individuals would benefit at the expense of many local U.S. and Canadian residents, but the owners of the proposed power generating facility would reap huge profits without replacing but a small token of their investment into the local economy.

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Thank you for extending the Public Comment period. It is my desire that this might allow many more individuals to voice their disapproval for the construction of the Sumas 2 Energy Generating facility.

PLEASE, DO NOT APPROVE THIS PROJECT.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

  
Stanley J. Schmidt  
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Custer, Washington  
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