



May 2, 2000

Energy Facility Site  
Evaluation Council  
925 Plum Street SE, Bldg. 4  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

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MAY 02 2000

Attention: Allen Fiksdal

ENERGY FACILITY SITE  
EVALUATION COUNCIL

VIA FACSIMILE: (360) 956-2158

Dear Mr. Fiksdal:

Re: Sumas Energy 2 Generation Facility

Thank you for making the documents on this project available to my colleagues and myself. I understand that you are accepting comments from a number of agencies. I have three areas of concern, and I would ask you to request answers to questions on these areas these from the proponent.

The first concern is air quality. Please ask the proponent to indicate how emissions from the proposed facility relate to the Greater Vancouver Regional District Air Quality Management Plan. Given the health hazard already resulting from the compromised air quality in the Lower Mainland airshed, it is extremely important that there be a full understanding of the impact of the extra emissions that will be generated from the proposed Sumas 2 facility.

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The second concern is the water draw from the Sumas-Abbotsford aquifer. Please ask the proponent to indicate the effect of the proposed draw on the dynamics of the aquifer.

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The third question pertains to the power transmission lines. Please ask the proponent to provide an estimate of the risk arising from low flying aircraft striking the lines, not only to the aircraft, but to nearby ground installations such as medical facilities. Particular attention should be given to the Abbotsford International Airshow, and to emergency approaches, approaches under conditions of poor visibility, etc. Attention should also be paid to possible growth in the use of the airport. Please indicate the precision of the risk estimate using a standard measure such as a confidence interval or the expected margin of error (e.g. +20%, - 30%). Please also ask the proponent to indicate stability of the towers under conditions such as major earthquake, and extremely high velocity windstorm in combination with ice accumulation. In the event of a tower

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**Letter to Allen Fiksdal, EFSEC**  
**Dated May 2, 2000**

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collapse, how would damage to structures and harm to people within the strike zone of the tower collapse be prevented?

The proponent should provide topographic maps (on paper and transparency, if possible) of the area, indicating the location of existing and proposed power transmission lines as well as:

- airport runways and takeoff points for ultralights or gliders within 10 km of the proposed transmission line, as well as common flightpaths (about 1:50,000);
- major local features such as airports, hospitals and medical facilities, and residential areas within 10 km (about 1:50,000);
- all airports within 100 km (about 1:500,000).
- the area from which the towers will be visible

If you have any questions, please call me at (604) 556-5060, or Dr. Terry Peace at (250) 952-1516.

Thank you very much.

Yours truly,



Gillian Arsenault, MD FRCPC  
 Medical Director/Medical Health Officer

- c: Steve Sakiyama, Senior Air Quality Analyst, Air Quality Analysis and Forecasting, BC Ministry of Environment  
 Dr. Terry Peace, Provincial Coordinator, Hazard Impact Assessment, BC Ministry of Health  
 Bob Smith, Manager, Environmental Health Programs, BC Ministry of Health  
 Andrew Hazlewood, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public and Preventive Health, BC Ministry of Health  
 Richard Danzinger, Director of Development Services, City of Abbotsford  
 Gerry Kingston, Administrator, Fraser Valley Regional District  
 Hu Wallis, Manager, Air Quality Assessment, BC Ministry of Environment  
 Morris Minnel, Administrator, Air Quality, Greater Vancouver Regional District  
 Doug Pope, Regional Manager, Pollution Prevention, BC Ministry of Environment  
 Mike Wei, Head, Aquifer Assessments and Monitoring Unit, BC Ministry of Environment  
 Dr. Perry Kendall, Provincial Health Officer, BC Ministry of Health  
 Larry Percival, Regional Director, Environmental Health, Fraser Valley Health Region  
 Bill Koberstein, Deputy Chief Environmental Health Officer, Fraser Valley Health Region  
 George Peary, Chair, Fraser Valley Health Region Board  
 Michael Marchbank, Interim CEO, Fraser Valley Health Region

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