

Responses to Comments in Letter 246 from Lorraine Finet, Everson Resident

Note: The responses listed below are numbered to correspond to the numbers shown in the right-hand margin of the preceding comment letter.

1. The project would generate approximately 24 permanent full-time jobs. For information on the water issues please see discussion below on aquifer depletion.

Please see General Response D with respect to the potential for depleting the aquifer. The City of Sumas, in their Water System Comprehensive Plan, has determined that there is sufficient water available from their existing water right to accommodate the expected growth and have water left over to sell to SE2. The mayor of Sumas, in a letter to the community, has indicated that the plant would bring needed economic growth and jobs, tax revenue, and a market for unused groundwater. In addition, SE2 has agreed to pay for the cost of a water treatment system in the event that such treatment becomes necessary after they have begun using water (see General Response E for further discussion).
2. Because emissions from the proposed facility would be less than the primary standards developed to protect human health, impacts to agricultural products are not expected.
3. See Letter 163, Response to Comment 6 regarding chemical spills.
4. Please see Letter 3, Response to Comment 1 for a discussion of human health considerations related to air quality emission standards.
5. SE2 would be responsible as required by law for acts of environmental impairment related to ownership and operation of the SE2GF. No set aside from operating funds is proposed for site abandonment. However to the extent site facilities are not otherwise removed, recycled, or salvaged, SE2 would maintain ongoing responsibility for site facilities and site integrity as the site owner. This is described in Section 1.3 of the Application for Site Certification.
6. Thank you for your comments.