



## Washington State Senate

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Bill Lynch, Chair  
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council  
P.O. Box 43172  
Olympia WA 98504-3172

Dear Bill,

I am greatly concerned about the excessive delays that have already occurred in EFSEC's processing of the Vancouver Energy application and ask for some specific assurance that these delays won't continue.

The recent announcement that the expected public release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the project has been extended from May to July, and the fact that there is no publicly available project review schedule, doesn't provide much confidence.

State agencies have legal standards and obligations they are expected to meet. EFSEC is clearly falling short of fulfilling its responsibilities by failing to ensure timely consideration of this proposed project.

The application and impacts need to be fully examined. At the same time, this project is an opportunity to build important energy infrastructure, create great jobs, generate an estimated billion dollars in economic benefits, and help our country use domestic resources to move closer to energy independence.

Washington needs jobs, its refineries need assurance of stable crude oil supplies, our entire economy runs on petroleum products, and our environment and public safety need to be protected. These things are not incompatible with each other. I do have confidence that with appropriate consideration of all the factors relevant to the Vancouver Energy proposal, it can be developed into a major asset for our state, region and country.

I look forward to seeing a project review schedule that will help ensure accountability for the timely completion of this project's review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Ericksen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" at the beginning.

Senator Doug Ericksen, Chair  
Senate Energy Environment & Telecommunications Committee