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EFSEC to Study the Wallula Energy Resource Center

OLYMPIA – Today the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) received a request to conduct a Potential Site Study of the Wallula Energy Resource Center.

The sponsors of Wallula Energy Resource Center submitted a summary description of their envisioned integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) power project and a check for \$50,000 to enable EFSEC to begin work associated with the Potential Site Study. The sponsors of the project include Wallula Resource Recovery, LLC and Edison Mission Energy, a subsidiary of Edison International.

The Wallula Energy Resource Center is a 915 Megawatt (MW) integrated gasification combined cycle electric generating facility. The facility is planned to generate approximately 760 MW for sale, under long-term contract to regional utilities. It will be constructed near the town of Wallula, Washington on an approximately 759-acre industrial site optioned from the Port of Walla Walla in western Walla Walla County.

The Wallula Energy Resource Center sponsors say the project will be engineered to capture and sequester 65 percent of the carbon dioxide (CO₂) that will be created in the plant's generation of electricity. The project will incorporate a program to sequester liquefied CO₂ collected during the gasification process for injection into the basalt formation at least 3000 feet below the ground surface. The sponsors also explained to EFSEC that the plant's operational sequestration program would enable it to meet the emissions caps recently mandated by the Legislature in Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6001.

A Potential Site Study is an optional preliminary study of the site and project. During a Potential Site Study, the sponsor of a proposed power project consults, under EFSEC auspices, with regulatory agencies and the general public to identify issues in advance of filing a formal Application for Site Certification with EFSEC.

More information on the project can be found at the sponsors' web site: www.wallulaenergy.com.

EFSEC provides a "one-stop" comprehensive siting process for major energy facilities in the State of Washington. If a project is approved, EFSEC specifies the conditions of construction and operation; issues permits in lieu of any other individual state or local agency authority; and manages an environmental and safety oversight program of facility and site operations. Information about EFSEC and projects under review is posted at www.efsec.wa.gov.