

CORR CRONIN LLP

A Limited Liability Partnership

LAW OFFICES

JOSHUA J. PREECE

1001 Fourth Avenue, Suite 3700
Seattle, Washington 98154-1127

Direct Dial: (206) 621-1562
Telephone: (206) 625-8600
Facsimile: (206) 625-0900
Internet Email: jprece@corrchronin.com

VIA FACSIMILE AND HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Ernest A. Heller
Senior Administrative Law Judge
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
925 Plum Street S.E., Building 4
Olympia, WA 98504

Re: Cross Cascade Pipeline Project
EFSEC Application No. 96-1

Dear Judge Heller:

Olympic Pipe Line Company is disappointed by the Council's decision on Wednesday to deny Olympic's request for a continuance of the adjudicative hearings in this matter. Given the extraordinary and tragic circumstances of the Bellingham incident, a continuance appears to be entirely appropriate. Nevertheless, Olympic respects EFSEC's jurisdiction and authority to decide such issues, and will abide by that decision.

Olympic's application for the Cross Cascade Pipeline was filed on February 6, 1996. The revised application was filed on May 13, 1998. Over the past three years, Olympic has endeavored to proceed through EFSEC's siting process in a thoughtful and meaningful manner. Olympic has provided abundant technical and environmental analysis, as well as significant evidence and testimony which, in our view, demonstrates the public need, benefit and utility of a petroleum products pipeline connecting Western and Eastern Washington.

However, the Bellingham incident and Olympic's commitment to devote all of its resources in response to that incident, must take precedence over the adjudicative hearings regarding the proposed Cross Cascade Pipeline. Given the urgency of the Bellingham incident and Olympic's full and complete commitment in response to that incident, it is simply not possible to proceed with adjudicative hearings on Tuesday. Therefore, absent the requested continuance, Olympic is left with no alternative but to withdraw its application at this time. This will allow Olympic to continue to respond to the Bellingham incident in an effective, comprehensive and complete manner -- which would otherwise not be possible unless a

June 25, 1999
RECEIVED

JUN 25 1999

ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL

The Honorable Ernest A. Heller
June 25, 1999
Page 2

continuance were granted. Simply put, in Olympic's view, meeting the needs of the Bellingham community is much too important and Olympic cannot be distracted in any manner from that commitment. Accordingly, Olympic hereby withdraws Application No. 96-1. We will continue to evaluate the existing circumstances to determine an appropriate time to resubmit the Application.

Olympic and its legal counsel appreciate the courtesy and efficiency with which EFSEC has conducted the application process and adjudicative hearings to date. We look forward to resuming this process in the future.

Very truly yours,

CORR CRONIN LLP



Joshua J. Preece

cc: All Counsel of Record (via fax)