

BULL MOUNTAIN LAND COMPANY, LLC

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CNCL , MBRS
LB DW
JB SC
HS MW
SL JH
KP CW
BH JS

November 18, 2004

Mr. Mark Walker
Director of Public Affairs
Northwest Power & Conservatory Council
851 S.W. 6th Ave., Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97204-1348

RE: Comments Draft 5th Power Plant

Dear Mr. Walker:

I am President of Bull Mountain Land Company, a natural resource development company located in Billings, Montana. Bull Mountain Land Company has been involved in the development of the Bull Mountain Energy Project in Musselshell County, Montana. The Bull Mountain project has a new 780 megawatt power permit along with right-of-way access for transmission lines to the main substation at Broadview, Montana. Also, the producing Bull Mountain Coal Mine #1 has secured from the State of Montana the largest underground mine permit in the United States.

We appreciate having the opportunity to review the Northwest Power Council Draft 5th Power Plan and to provide comments for your consideration. I trust the interaction between the Council, the public and industry results in a meaningful power plan.

We are of the opinion that more coal generation is justified in the plan than the 400 megawatts currently referenced in the draft. In that regard, we support the Wesco Resources Development project near Ashland, Montana. We feel this project would be good for Montana, good for the Northwest, and good for the United States.

It has come to our attention that Westmoreland Coal Company has protested the Wesco Resources Project. They have good reason, too. They are a high cost producer, their coal product is well known in the marketplace as some of the worst quality coal marketed in the United States. In other words, they do not want the competition that other low cost and better quality coal projects in Montana would bring to the marketplace.

Please support this project.

Sincerely,



John Baugues

JB/ti

Fifth Power Plan/November 2004/Comments/099