

Schrepel, Eric

From: Jenkins, Kris
Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2004 9:11 AM
To: Lapworth, Heather
Subject: FW: Comments on NWPCC's Fifth Power Plan

-----Original Message-----

From: Madhuri Hosford [mailto:]
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2004 9:16 PM
To: Jenkins, Kris
Subject: Comments on NWPCC's Fifth Power Plan

Mark Walker
Director of Public Affairs
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
851 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204-1348
Dear Mr. Walker,

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fifth Power Plan draft. I appreciate the thoughtful approach the Council has taken in designing the plan, scheduling hearings in various Northwest locales, and receiving these comments.

I also appreciate the emphasis in the draft Fifth Power Plan on Renewables and some future-facing energy technologies offering more efficiency. However, I was concerned and distressed when I saw that the Plan includes permitting for constructing more coal-fired plants within the near-term (10 years) and more gas-fired plants within the long-term (20 years).

I urge the Council to take a more aggressive stance and a stronger leadership role in challenging our region to find other more efficient, less damaging technologies for energy production that will inflict less harm not only on our region, but on the entire world.

From a climate change and climate risk point of view, I respectfully submit that the *cost* and the *risk* of depending on and investing in carbon-based energy generation is *too high*. Climate change data is fast being amassed to show that it will take centuries and lifetimes to offset the damage already done -- if we even can offset that damage -- by such declining technologies and their carbon emissions and other pollutants.

I submit that it's unconscionable to look backward, and that we need to look forward to cleaner technologies for energy production. Such technologies exist, and public support is growing for cleaner, smarter choices for energy production in this country, just as the same has taken hold in parts of Canada, in Europe, and on other continents.

I urge the Council to be more progressive and to set goals and guidelines for the region based on a "no looking back" attitude. We must face the fact that fossil fuels have no place in a portfolio of sustainable, "true cost-based" energy production. Please include in the Plan that no additional coal or gas-fired plants will be permitted for the Northwest region, and that newer, cleaner technologies must be relied upon to produce the balance of the Northwest's growing power needs in the near and long term.

Thank you,

~ mh

Madhuri R. Hosford
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11/23/2004

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