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Comments Regarding the Energy Chapter Updates

2 messages

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Wed, Jan 18, 2012 at 12:39 PM

To: "wcplanning@co.wasco.or.us" <wcplanning@co.wasco.or.us>

Re: Comments Regarding the Energy Chapter Updates

From: John Silvertooth-Stewart
PO Box 68
Antelope, Or. 97001
541-325-6145

First, thank you for continuing the hearing set today because of the weather and posting that information on the web-site early enough to save us the trip from Antelope. Several of us are watching this now and even though the hour is late we want to register some concerns because we were unaware earlier of the direct impacts that this community is facing as a result of E-On's proposed Brush Canyon Project.

You may not be aware that 5 other County Seats are actually closer to Antelope than our own county seat of the Dalles. It is quite a trip in the snow and ice.

Generally, although I only speak for myself and this time, a number of us are concerned about these proposed set-backs. While we understand that these county set backs are likely to be superseded by state standards, we feel both sets of standards are inadequate. In our case these setbacks do not protect our livability and quality of life. Additionally, the setbacks proposed would allow development that we feel will impinge upon other community economic development, especially tourism and housing.

Generally I would support the comments of Rick Till with Friends of the Gorge in his letter of 1-17-12 re LUDO Chapt. 19 and support the setbacks he proposes although even these seem very inadequate he probably is aiming for a realistic goal.

One thing I noticed was Till argues for increased set-backs from residences. I would suggest also that these be incorporated for our small cities. This would allow for greater flexibility in future development and also help us in terms of promoting our tourist industry which for some time has been identified as the best potential for economic growth.

A number of us that discussed this concluded that we would suggest a five-mile set back from city limits. I know this is a big jump from what has been proposed but in your small cities these towers will have an overwhelming impact. Today while this industry is relatively new in many ways the towers are somewhat of a novelty but I guarantee as time moves on and they become part of the status quo I can see that people will wonder how these facilities could have been sited in such haste. You read of the contentious fighting about these projects around the state and nation and I only can wonder if the industry and local governments are mobilizing opponents through over-reaching inspired by ambition and greed.

We will watch for the rescheduled hearing.

John Silvertooth

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Wed, Jan 18, 2012 at 12:50 PM

To: John Roberts <johnr@co.wasco.or.us>

Energy Comments

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—

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