

July 18, 2001

Governor Gary Locke
Office of the Governor
P. O. Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Re: Department of Natural Resources' Proposed Powerhouse Project
for Extraction of Sand and Gravel, Sultan, Washington

Dear Governor Locke:

Attached is a letter which is self-explanatory. It details our community's extensive, yet brief and painful experience with the DNR which we believe reflects a clear pattern of purposeful deviation from our laws.

If you review the contents of this letter carefully, we believe you will agree that the proposed project significantly conflicts with the intent of both your salmon recovery program and your plans for trying to alleviate gridlock in major transportation corridors, at the least. At worst, it presents an accurate picture of the DNR as an agency that is compromising and mocking the sincerity of both of those programs, using the façade of fulfilling its fiduciary trust responsibilities as mandated by the Legislature, doing so by means of obfuscation and obstruction of the review process known as the State Environmental Policy Act.

Many of us in the Sky Valley, and perhaps even most of us, have lost significant confidence in this particular government agency. If our government can manipulate and abuse this process by which to justify their desired end result, what example does that set for the citizens you lead?

We urge you, or a valued member of your staff, to review this letter carefully. We look forward to your written response.

Respectfully,

Loretta Storm

Ray Kistenmacher

Enclosure

GARY LOCKE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 2, 2001 ^{P.O. Box 40002} • Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 • (360) 753-6780 • TTY/TDD (360) 753-6466

Loretta Storm
Ray Kistenmacher
33520 116th SE
Sultan, WA 98294

Dear Loretta:

Thank you for contacting the my office about mining issues issues. I appreciate the time you took to let me know your opinion on this issue.

As you know, the Commissioner of Public Lands, Doug Sutherland, is in charge of the Department of Natural Resources. The people elect the Commissioner; therefor as governor, I have no jurisdiction over him or his agency.

Thank you again for your message. We will keep your comments in mind as we work to create better laws to help preserve our environment.

Sincerely,

Gary Locke
Governor

G.R.I.T.
(Governmental Responsibility, Integrity and Truth)

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August 6, 2001

Governor Gary Locke
Office of the Governor of the State of Washington
P. O. Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Re: Powerhouse Project near Sultan, Washington
Proposed DNR Auction of Rights to Extract Mineral Resources on 600-acre Parcel

Dear Governor Locke:

Thank you for your succinct response to our letter dated July 18th regarding the subject project.

We request your indulgence in attending to this issue in greater detail. We wrote to you not only as governor of this state, whose direct policies on salmon and transportation are endangered by this project, but as a member of the Board of Natural Resources. And although Mr. Bob Nichols is your surrogate on that body, you are the legal member of that Board.

We can only surmise that neither you nor any trusted member of your staff reviewed the letter that was attached to my cover letter to you. Otherwise, you would not have responded in such a cursory and inappropriate manner.

Our concern goes far beyond simple "mining issues issues [sic]" and "creating better laws to help preserve our environment." Our deep-seated concerns are based on the apparent lack of government accountability, at the least, as well as the contradictory nature of the Trust's proposal which directly contradict two programs in which you personally -- and as our governor - - have invested such significant effort; i.e., salmon and the environment, and transportation. This project will, at the least, destroy ESA habitat, have extensive and widespread, possibly "fatal" impacts to the area's local hydrological base, and add the equivalent of between 3,200 and 7,200 PCE's (Passenger Care Equivalents) to one of two major east-west through highways in Washington State, located in one of the fastest-growing growth corridors, which is already overcrowded. (This highway has seen several deaths this past year, with the body count growing weekly.)

I entreat you to investigate this issue further. Your own policies compel closer examination.

Respectfully,

Loretta Storm

Ray Kistenmacher