Sevens Baertsch Kovalchick

As a resident of washington who wants the government to make good rational decisions that will steward our state into a sustainable, equitable future, I urge Ecology to deny the permit for proposed diesel generators in Quincy. Approving the permit would be a decision made with no regard to the well being of Quincy's ecosystem and the futures of the people who live there. The application underestimates real-world particulate emissions, fails to account for startup and shutdown pollution, and continues a pattern of piecemeal permitting that ignores cumulative and lifecycle impacts in a community already nearing NAAQS limits.

Quincy faces disproportionate air-pollution burdens, raising serious environmental-justice and public-health concerns. Ecology has the authority to require Best Available Control Technology or cleaner backup power alternatives, such as battery storage, instead of locking in long-term diesel pollution. Approving new diesel infrastructure also conflicts with Washington's Climate Commitment Act and the state's emissions-reduction goals. If these protections cannot be guaranteed, this project should not be approved.

There is no reason not to be thorough with the permitting process and ensure that the project truly is in the best form it could be and fulfills the requirements that Washington's constituency has agreed upon. Create a renewable emergency generator that will serve the community cleanly for generations, or don't build it at all.