

## Ann Dorsey

I urge you to deny the permit for the East Wenatchee Sabey Diesel Generator Expansion.

The 15 large diesel generators Sabey wants to add to its East Wenatchee data center would increase pollution output by approximately 35 tons of NO<sub>x</sub>, 6.96 tons of CO, 2.1 tons of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and 0.64 tons of diesel engine exhaust particulates every year, among other pollutants. Wenatchee and East Wenatchee are already overburdened communities highly impacted by air pollution. The CDC has found that Wenatchee and East Wenatchee have higher rates of chronic health conditions, including asthma, heart disease, COPD, and diabetes, compared to the rest of Washington state. This chronic health burden puts these communities at higher risk than most to the negative health impacts of diesel pollution.

Every diesel generator represents additional fossil-fuel infrastructure. Washington has committed to reducing climate pollution, including through the Climate Commitment Act. Approving substantial new diesel infrastructure should therefore be consistent with the state's broader transition away from fossil fuels. Decades of diesel infrastructure should not be approved without first demonstrating that cleaner alternatives cannot provide the required reliability.

Data centers privatize the benefits of development while communities are left with the costs: pollution, noise, climate emissions, and health impacts. If Sabey needs reliable backup power, they should be required to provide it in a way that minimizes harm to the people and ecosystems around it.

Please take a stand and protect these communities. Use this as an opportunity to protect all Washington communities going forward. I urge you to:

1. Do not approve the permit as currently proposed. Require stronger health protections, cumulative-impact analysis, monitoring, and alternatives analysis before approval.
2. Fully evaluate cumulative health impacts. Give serious weight to Sabey's own HIA findings concerning DEEP, NO<sub>2</sub>, and modeled cancer risk. Account for existing data centers, diesel generators, wildfire smoke, agricultural burning, transportation, wood smoke, and other pollution sources.
3. Apply environmental justice principles. East Wenatchee's designation as an overburdened community should result in stronger protections, not merely an acknowledgement of existing pollution. East Wenatchee should not be expected to absorb another pollution source simply because the project technically complies with a baseline standard.
4. Require cleaner alternatives. Require Sabey to demonstrate that diesel is necessary, and that battery storage, hybrid systems, and other lower-emission technologies have been meaningfully considered. Require the strongest feasible pollution controls - what is the maximum pollution reduction that can be achieved?
5. Require stronger monitoring and make it transparent. Ensure that all generator operating hours are accurately tracked and that compliance can be independently verified. Require public access to generator operating records, emissions information, and compliance data. Ensure meaningful penalties for violations.
6. Consider the long-term precedent. This permit should not establish a precedent in which every new data center can simply add another bank of diesel generators without considering cumulative impacts.

Thank you