# Donna Anderson

To the Department of Ecology, Clean Energy Coordination:

My name is Donna Anderson and I live at 1360 SW 13th Place in North Bend. I am writing to submit a scoping comment on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for stand-alone, utility-scale, lithium-ion battery energy storage system facilities in Washington (Publication 26-06-017).

I am commenting because a stand-alone BESS facility is proposed near where I live, and Ecology has said that project-level reviews will tier to this PEIS. Ecology has asked for input on questions for the study. My comment addresses the following:

Q3 · Impacts to analyze — The harms the study has to look at.
It's crucial that responder training, hard-to-extinguish fires, toxic air, harm to water and fish, and cleanup each get a full analysis, not a mention, as the Ecology study scoping document states it "will evaluate" each of them. The study should look at what a multi-day battery fire demands from local fire, hazmat, hospital, and evacuation capacity, since Ecology could not say whether the burden on small rural fire districts can be fixed. I would like to see the study thoroughly examine the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of how smoke settles into valleys, runoff reaches wells and streams, and what happens when there are several facilities on the same stretch of grid. The study should properly model whether neighbors can evacuate without breathing dangerous levels of toxic gas in places such as a valley that traps air, which is what the fire code requires. I ask that the impact analysis cover battery-fire smoke and hydrogen fluoride under valley inversion conditions, fire-suppression runoff reaching wells and salmon streams, the load a multi-day incident puts on rural fire, HazMat, hospital, and evacuation capacity, all-night mechanical noise well past 1,000 feet, and how container-based facilities perform in an earthquake.

This is personal for my household. I live near a site where a stand-alone BESS facility is proposed. My household depends on I-90, which is also an emergency route for everyone along it.

Because Ecology itself says stand-alone facilities "could be sited in a variety of locations," including near cities, the PEIS should not assume facilities will be far from people. I ask that Ecology treat proximity to residents as a defining condition of the analysis, and that the Draft PEIS state plainly which impacts cannot be mitigated below significance, so that lead agencies and the public are not left to guess.

Thank you for considering this comment. Please include it in the scoping record. Our community is following this PEIS closely and intends to participate in the Draft PEIS comment period.

Sincerely,
Donna Anderson
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