



Washington State Senate

Senator Dale Brandland
42nd Legislative District

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EFSEC
925 Plum Street SE Building 4
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Dear members of EFSEC Council:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to express my support for the proposed cogeneration power plant project at BP's Cherry Point refinery. The Cherry Point facility has had a long tradition of proven environmental sensitivity and operational excellence. For over 30 years, they have been providers of family-wage employment and have contributed their time and money to support this community.

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The proposed cogeneration plant project has many desirable features. Cogeneration is in itself an inherently superior way of producing electricity; it allows the refinery to remove older equipment and thereby reduce overall criteria pollutants from the entire complex. This also means that the project will produce less CO2 emissions and be more efficient than stand-alone facilities. Water issues are of particular concern to me; they have chosen to employ a water re-use strategy with ALCOA and the Whatcom PUD that will reduce the amount of water taken from the Nooksack River.

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Lastly, this project will provide much-needed jobs in Whatcom County. Over 370 construction jobs will be created, and 30 full-time positions will be needed for the ongoing operations of the plant. The plant will provide \$10 million / year in state and local taxes as well. Our state needs this type of project to be able to provide services to our citizens.

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For all of these reasons, I add my support to this important project.

Sincerely,

Senator Dale E. Brandland, 42nd District

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