

CLEARANCES	Date	Date Received in Council Office	Agenda Date	Assigned To
Orig. Dept.: County Council	2/9/2004		2/10/2004	Council
Division Head:				
Dept. Head:				
Prosecutor:				
Budget:				
Executive:				

*SUBJECT:*

Resolution opposing Substitute House Bill 2340

*ATTACHMENTS*

*SUMMARY STATEMENT:*

Related County Contract #:	Should the Clerk schedule a hearing? (Y/N) N	Requested Date:
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Resolution opposing Substitute House Bill 2340.

*RECOMMENDED MOTION (for final action):*

*COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN*

2004 - 108 2/10/2004: Amended and approved 7-0, Res. #2004-008

*Related File Numbers:*

*Ordinance or Resolution Number (this item only):*

**RES. # 2004-008**

1 Resolution opposing SHB 2340  
2  
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**SPONSORED BY: Consent**  
**PROPOSED BY: Caskey-Schreiber**  
**INTRODUCED ON: February 10, 2004**

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8 **RESOLUTION NO. 2004-008**  
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10  
11 **OPPOSING SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2340**  
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13 **WHEREAS**, in November of 1990 the citizens of Whatcom County passed  
14 Initiative 4-90 restricting high voltage electrical power transmission lines over  
15 115,000 volts to industrial zones; and  
16

17 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Whatcom County Home Rule Charter and  
18 Whatcom County Code, Ordinance No. 90-124 was codified giving effect to the  
19 adopted Initiative 4-90; and  
20

21 **WHEREAS**, Whatcom County Ordinance No. 90-124 amends the official  
22 Whatcom County Zoning Code 20.82.020 by restricting the placement of new  
23 electrical power transmission lines carrying more than 115,000 volts to districts  
24 classified as industrial or to those lands where such lines have already been  
25 permitted; and  
26

27 **WHEREAS**, the public has brought forward concerns to the Whatcom County  
28 Council that power lines of 115,00 volts or greater pose a risk to their public safety  
29 and property from the possible location of high power transmission lines in close  
30 proximity to people's houses, animals, and barns; and  
31

32 **WHEREAS**, the Whatcom County Council wishes to maintain its authority to  
33 locate transmission lines in a manner that is least disruptive to the citizens of  
34 Whatcom County, while allowing for the transmission of power to occur in our county  
35 through designated corridors, which can then connect to the Northwest Grid system  
36 to benefit the citizen's of Washington State and the regions beyond; and  
37

38 **WHEREAS**, Substitute House Bill 2340 may usurp such local legislative  
39 authority and the rights of its citizens under the Whatcom County Home Rule  
40 Charter; and  
41

42 **WHEREAS**, Substitute House Bill 2340 may thwart the County's ongoing  
43 planning efforts under the Growth Management Act.  
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45  
46 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Whatcom County Council  
47 opposes the adoption of Substitute House Bill 2340, which if passed would  
48 undermine the citizen approved initiative, and may frustrate local control and siting  
49 of electrical transmission lines.  
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1           **APPROVED** this 10 day of February, 2004.

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4    ATTEST

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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10   Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council



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Dan McShane, Council Chair

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13   APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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15   \_\_\_\_\_  
16

17   David M. Grant  
18   Civil Deputy Prosecutor  
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