

January 10, 2008

WHATCOM COUNTY
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

JAN 24 2008

RECEIVED

Attention: David Stalheim,

In response to your supplemental EIS, I have some concerns.

1. Has there been a traffic study done in all four seasons on highway 542 and 547 as well as county roads leading to the foothills?
2. Water quality, has there been a water study done in all subarea water sheds?
3. Snow pack, most towns in the foothills have high elevation mountains for their summer water supply. Columbia Valley which is surrounded by low elevation mountains. Where does their water come from? It is not coming in from Canada. Has Canada been notified about subarea plan? If not, shouldn't they be? As Columbia Valley originates in Canada, or does our water flow north east into Canada? Who will use it first and how much?
4. Does Kendall creek hatchery have enough water for fish? Has there been a water study done?
5. Job's, where are all the job's to accommodate projected growth and how are people going to get to those jobs?
6. Is Sumas the place for jobs? They have port property serviced by Abbotsford Sewer treatment plant. They just can't seem to get much business to locate there.
7. Air quality, there are lots of wood stoves in the foothills. Is there any chance of getting natural gas anytime soon?
8. Recreation has been and should continue to be the main zoning for the foothills area. It's a continuing tax dollar base forever as long as it is attractive enough to come here.
9. Forest fires; Has there been any evacuation plan or study done if a wildfire starts in the foothills? Together with Northeast winds from Canada it's happened in the past more than once.
10. In closing the foothills subarea needs a new EIS. Not a SEIS that does not consider all the questions that the majority of foothill taxpayers have not had a chance to respond to as well as our good neighbors north of us. Canada

John Wilson
Maple Falls, WA.

CC Martin Blackman