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Date: 9/15/2008 3:18 PM
Subject: Support Alternative 3, the LAMIRD choice

Whatcom County Planning Department and Planning Commission,

I have lived on the Frost Rd since 1987 and previously lived on Black Mountain Lane from 1981 to 1983. I currently carpool to Bellingham for part time and now full time work since 1989. I travel all routes in the area - Reese Hill, South Pass, Kendall and Mt Baker Hwys for all reasons, in all seasons and at all times so I feel have credible familiarity with the area.

The SEIS needs to address the traffic issue. We do not have adequate public transportation and Southpass in particular is in need of constant maintenance to handle the already heavier traffic numbers. Weekends as well as commute time (6am to 9am) are heavy due to the recreational nature of our area including the cyclists, runners and vehicles trailering boats and campers.

Water quantity and quality are another concern. Many of us are already drawing from groundwater and need to manage our water in the summer and fall by using low flow toilets, navel showers, doing laundry at the laundromat in town and doing limited watering to our gardens. The aging septic systems in the Peaceful and Paradise developments worry me. Standards have changed and these systems were designed for recreational use not permanent residences. When they fail, where will a home owner put a new field on a lot? Balfour will need to put in a sewer system and should be involved with hooking into these older developments or all the water in the area will have potential for contamination.

We are not ready for sudden increased population/development of the Balfour Village magnitude. Allow the area to have slow planned growth with services developing as needed. A large grocery store will not be used if people are commuting to work in Bellingham, they will shop in town to get the variety and price they want.

If we permit this project, the infrastructure gets planned and stubbed in, houses may not be built due to the current economics. A lovely wooded area will be blighted. Efforts to clean up Paradise and Peaceful Valley, making them desirable places to live before we add more population density will retain a clean, healthful, rural quality of life.

Thank you for considering my concerns,

Wendy Porter
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