

Jan. 30, 2018

Vancouver Energy Statement on Governor Inslee's Decision

We are disappointed that Governor Inslee chose to deny the Vancouver Energy project. With this decision, the Governor is rejecting much-needed family-wage jobs and over \$2 billion in economic value for Southwest Washington. The decision also forgoes the opportunity to bolster America's energy security by providing state-of-the-art infrastructure that enables environmental benefits and a cleaner energy future.

The endorsement of the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council's faulty recommendation by Governor Inslee is setting an impossible standard for permitting new energy facilities in the state. After over four years of study and tens of millions of dollars, the Vancouver Energy facility and associated state-of-the-art facilities would have been far superior and more robust with regard to the potential for an earthquake or oil spill, than the crude oil trains that are already moving through the state every day and virtually all existing infrastructure in Washington.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement confirmed that construction and normal operation of the Vancouver Energy terminal would have no significant unavoidable impacts that cannot be mitigated. Rejecting essential infrastructure on the basis of risks the evaluation council found to be extremely unlikely, and which are inherent to transportation occurring across the country today, is no way to govern.

This decision sends a clear anti-development message from state leadership that will have far-reaching negative impacts for industries across Washington State.

At this time, we are evaluating our options for next steps.

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