

Rebecca Messinger

From: Clark County <webmaster@clark.wa.gov>
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Clark County

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Subject

Hearing on Climate Change and Resiliency Element Public Participation Plan

Date of Hearing

Tue, 11/28/2023

Comment

Councilors,

I am writing with some comments on the Clark County Public Participation Plan (PPP) for development of a Climate Change and Resiliency Element as part of the Comprehensive Plan 2025 periodic update. I am a retired science educator that grew up in Vancouver and taught HS Science for many years in Vancouver.

First, I encourage you to vote to pass the Public Participation Plan. I have 2 suggestions to improve the plan.

Second, Clark County's need for electrical energy is obviously going to grow rapidly in the future. Electrical energy has enormous benefits, especially in a rapidly warming environment. In order to make economic sense, energy infrastructure is long-term investment. We must make sure that urgently needed energy infrastructure is based on solar and wind technologies that will prepare us for the future while reducing greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible.

Third, I don't believe that any representatives of the fossil fuel industry should be part of the Community Advisory Group. It is a COMMUNITY not a private group. While those working in the private sector may have the best intentions,

they will be representing their employers who are beholden to their owners. That interest is fundamentally different from the interests of the public. I'm sure that their paid employees will be bringing their business interests before you in other venues. They should not be taking any space in the Community Advisory Group.

Sincerely,
Mike Ellison (he/him)
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