

Proposed NEXT plant

Margaret Sanger <pdxmarge@gmail.com>

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To: Jacyn Normine <Jacyn.Normine@columbiacountyor.gov>



Good afternoon commissioner,

I'm writing to express my alarm and concern at the proposed plant placement along the river in Columbia County. While, as a consumer of energy, I accept that such facilities are necessary, the proposed placement raises concerns on many levels. The sensitive wetlands environment of this area needs appropriate stewardship, respect and management for our own times as well as for future generations. NEXT does not have a good record of environmental responsiveness and stewardship and this points to a high likelihood of their actions at the proposed site would result in harm to this beautiful and thriving area. As a long-time visitor to Great Vow Zen Monastery, I'm also concerned that the visual, chemical and noise pollution such a plant creates will have a seriously detrimental impact on the thriving community and thousands of visitors who retreat to the monastery for contemplative practice that thrives best in a quiet, serene setting. It is literally a place of zen!! The traffic pattern changes could also impact this remote, rural area that is enjoyed by visitors as well as residents.

Certainly, energy, economic development, lifestyle, spiritual, stewardship and environmental concerns can be complex to weigh. I hope you will consider my request in your decision making process and protect this shoreline, this serenity, and the beautiful rural character of this area by denying NEXT's application for this building site.

Respectfully yours,
Margaret Sanger
Portland, Oregon