

WEEK of Monday, March 14, 2011

Environmental Community

Hot List for the STATE HOUSE

As you are aware, the environmental community's "Environmental Priorities Coalition" prepares a weekly "Hot List" detailing its positions on up to ten of the **highest** priority issues for the upcoming week. Separate Hot Lists are prepared for the House and Senate and distributed each Monday. If the bill is one of the four environmental community priorities for 2011, it is so designated by the priorities "button" on the right. Please feel free to contact me at clifford@ctassociates.org or 206-369-2235 if you have any questions and we hope you find this communication helpful!

Respectfully,

Clifford R. Traisman, State Lobbyist, Washington Conservation Voters & Washington Environmental Council

HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION

HB 2008: Regarding the administration of natural resources programs.

General Government Appropriations & Oversight: Public Hearing

POSITION: *OPPOSE*

- This bill reduces environmental protection while combining two types of forestry-related permits and raising fees.
- We are concerned that the agency with the expertise to determine what's needed to protect fish loses its authority; four-year logging permits weaken the foundation of the state's Forests and Fish Habitat Conservation Plan; and permit fee increases are too small to provide sufficient funding for needed state oversight of logging.

ESSB 5457: Providing a congestion reduction charge to fund the operational and capital needs of transit agencies.

Transportation: Public Hearing

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- This bill preserves jobs, reduces congestion, and protects the environment by authorizing King County to impose a temporary congestion reduction charge to provide emergency funding for our critical transit service.
- Transit service faces a funding crisis in Washington State. Plummeting sales tax revenue is forcing transit agencies to slash service despite record-setting ridership.

E2SSB 5769: Regarding coal-fired electric generation facilities.

Environment: Public Hearing

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- With this bill, the Trans-Alta coal plant will cut its nitrogen oxide emissions in 2013 and permanently shut its two boilers in 2020 and 2025. The bill is supported by Trans-Alta, labor, the Governor and environmental groups.
- The bill also assures that in transitioning away from coal, Trans-Alta is committed to make substantial contributions to economic development and energy efficiency in Lewis County.



Contributing Organizations

American Rivers ▪ Audubon Washington ▪ Climate Solutions ▪ Conservation Northwest ▪ Earth Ministry ▪ Environment Washington ▪ Fuse ▪ Futurewise ▪ Heart of America Northwest ▪ The Lands Council ▪ League of Women Voters of Washington ▪ Lutheran Public Policy Office ▪ National Wildlife Federation ▪ Nature Conservancy ▪ NW Energy Coalition ▪ People for Puget Sound ▪ Sierra Club Cascade Chapter ▪ Surfrider Foundation ▪ Transportation Choices Coalition ▪ Washington Conservation Voters ▪ Washington Environmental Council ▪ Washington Toxics Coalition ▪ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition ▪ Zero Waste Washington