

WEEK of Monday, April 4, 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

POSSIBLE HOUSE FLOOR ACTION

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

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.

POSITION: *SUPPORT*

- With this bill the TransAlta coal plant will significantly cut its air pollution in 2013 and permanently shut its two boilers in 2020 and 2025. The bill is supported by TransAlta, the labor community, the Governor and environmental groups.
- The bill also commits TransAlta to invest in Lewis County's economic development and in local energy efficiency projects. Gradually increased funding from CERB and PWB will contribute to community redevelopment, including reuse of reclaimed coal mine lands.



HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION

HB 2008: Regarding the administration of natural resources programs.

General Government Appropriations & Oversight: Possible Executive Session

POSITION: *OPPOSE*

- This bill raises fees but trades away environmental protection, a significant net loss for streams and fish.
- The bill requires understaffed agencies to take on major new administrative work "integrating" two sets of rules; WDFW loses its authority to ensure fish protection when major work is done in forest streams; and longer logging permits jeopardize timely, science-based improvements to logging practices on-the-ground.

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