

It is of real concern to our family how the Department of Ecology reacted when confronted with opposition to WRA 18 by one of its own. As we understand it, your in-house Economist on March 19<sup>th</sup> wrote a memorandum to the 'rule making team' that the evaluated draft proposal DID NOT MEET THE LEGAL REQUIREMENT OUTLINED ILN RCW 34.05.328 (1) of the Administrative Procedures Act.

Then, two days later this same individual sent written notice to his supervisor informing him that he found that he could not support the proposal as it was unlawful and he could not keep his professional integrity intact by supporting it.

The Department of Ecology responded by removing this individual from the team. (Probably worse than that actually--- my supposition in such matters).

So how are we to believe that this proposal has merit when your own employees who oppose it are handled in this manner? Is this indeed a solution desperately looking for a problem by an out-of-control agency? If not, when might we expect to see some technical proof of that?

**RECEIVED**

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DEPT OF ECOLOGY  
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