

## TROJAN

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Environmental concerns aren't the only reason to close Trojan, Stump said. Financially, the power plant has been a drain on Portland General Electric (which owns two-thirds of Trojan), and operating costs continue to escalate.

"You have to weigh the cost of closing Trojan against the cost of operating it," he said.

PGE only spends \$14 million annually on energy efficiency programs, Stump said, while Trojan has a \$120 million operating budget. That number has risen an average 27 percent a year over the last three years.

Another problem is Bonneville Power Administration, which operates the plant. The

sheer size of the company, Stump said, creates problems.

"It's a big bureaucracy," he said. "Getting it to move in the right direction is difficult."

"Bonneville thinks traditionally. When they need more power, they build power plants. Energy efficiency is against their philosophy."

The Greenpeace report recognizes the expensive price tag of upgrading the national electrical system. Stump said power companies, as an incentive, should be allowed to pass on the cost to consumers.

"It has to be performance-based," Stump said of a rate hike. "Assuming that, (power companies) should be allowed to recover their costs. We need to do that to avoid fossil fuels."

## HOUSING

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Douglas spoke at a recent press conference where proposals to create greater acceptance of diversity were presented by the president's Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Concerns.

Administrators considered comments from the gay and lesbian task force, as well as a request from student housing organization leaders to broaden the definition of a couple's eligibility, before making a decision, Williams said.

Sue Dockstader of Gay and Lesbian Alliance said she was

not completely satisfied with the new eligibility policy.

"I think the University took a big step in including gay and lesbian couples with children," Dockstader said, but added, "I feel it was begrudgingly granted. I think there is a grave injustice to unmarried heterosexual or gay or lesbian couples who do not have children."

Dockstader said she and her partner do not have children and do not qualify for student housing, while married heterosexual couples who do not have children can live there.

Asked if University administrators would drop the children requirement soon, Williams said that because state law does not recognize gay and lesbian marriages, administrators feel constrained.

"To date, we're not so willing to recognize a lesbian or gay couple without children," he said. "But that doesn't mean that we wouldn't at some point in the future."

Holding a baby one chilly dark evening at Westmoreland student housing, while walking toward the laundry room, Jong Wu said he was not sure how he felt about lesbian or gay couples living next door.

Wu said his family is new to America. "It's a different kind of custom," he said. "I might feel kind of strange about it."

Jenny Wu, snuggling the baby Jong handed to her, and shivering from the cold, said, "I don't like it."

David Collette, another resident at Westmoreland, was more open to the idea. "Live and let live is an adequate description of my feelings about gay and lesbian couples living here," Collette said.

"It's just harder to find a place to live if you have children," he added, explaining his only concern with the change in requirements was that couples with children be given preference.

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## CHILD

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Young children are insecure when their parent leaves them. McGraw says, and it is even more difficult for them when they are in a strange place with people who speak a strange language.

Being in their own neighborhood gives them more security than being taken across town. They can play with their new friends in a setting that nurtures their ability to assimilate with groups, while learning language and other skills.

Gaza, a boy from Eastern Europe is next door at the preschool. His native language is Hungarian, but he smiles, points to a picture in a book and says, "Baby elephant," and kisses the picture.

He does not respond when asked by teacher Tracy Van Vlack to join other children in a circle. But he happily joins his friends when he sees them moving to the table, where Van Vlack led the children in a song about an elephant that used funny rhymes and all the children's names.

Madeline Harley, a retired kindergarten teacher, says she was called in to teach because another teacher was sick. She says she loves the schools and the children. Her ideal retirement is not working so much, rather than not working at all, she says, as children vie for a chance to hold her hand.

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