

# Washington state panel calls for oil terminal denial

## Proposed site in Vancouver

By PHUONG LE  
Associated Press

SEATTLE — A Washington state energy panel voted unanimously Tuesday to recommend that Gov. Jay Inslee reject a massive oil-by-rail terminal proposed along the Columbia River.

The Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, which has been evaluating the project since 2013, said developers had not met their burden to show that the proposed port of Vancouver site was acceptable.

The panel will forward its recommendation to Inslee by Dec. 29. The Democratic governor will have 60 days to make a final decision.

The Vancouver Energy terminal, a joint venture of Tesoro Corp. and Savage Cos., would receive about 360,000 barrels of crude oil a day by trains at the port of Vancouver. Oil would temporarily be stored on site and then loaded onto tankers and ships bound for West Coast refineries.

Vancouver Energy said in an emailed statement Tues-



AP Photo/Don Ryan

**A state energy panel has unanimously voted to recommend disapproving a massive oil-by-rail terminal proposed along the Columbia River in Vancouver, Wash.**

day that it was extremely disappointed. The panel “has set an impossible standard for new energy facilities based on the risk of incidents that the Final Environmental Impact Statement characterizes as extremely unlikely,” said Jeff Hymas, a Vancouver Energy spokesman.

Roselyn Marcus, interim chair of the council, presided

over the meeting in Olympia that lasted about 10 minutes.

She noted that the council weighed more than 250,000 public comments in “probably the longest process in this council’s history with issues of great significance that have never been faced by this council before.”

Marcus said state law requires project applicants to

prove that the needs and benefits of the facility at the proposed site outweigh the negative impacts to the broad public interest.

Developers have said the terminal is needed to bring crude oil from North Dakota and other areas to a Western U.S. port to meet growing fuel demands and future energy needs. They’ve argued

that it could be built safely and would secure a reliable supply of energy for the state.

Tribes, environmental groups and municipalities such as the city of Vancouver lined up against the project.

Opponents argued that the terminal would mostly benefit the energy needs of California — and potentially overseas markets in the future —

while exposing Washington and Oregon communities to all the public safety and environmental risks.

The Astoria City Council adopted a resolution in August opposing the project.

“The entire region is looking to Gov. Inslee, now, to follow EFSEC’s lead,” Rebecca Ponzio, director of the Stand Up to Oil Campaign, said in a statement. “We trust him to get this right,” she added.

An environmental study released last week found that the project poses a potential risk of oil spills, train accidents and longer emergency response times due to road traffic. Many of the risks could be decreased with certain mitigation measures, but the study outlined four areas where it said the impacts are significant and cannot be avoided.

It identified those risks as train accidents, emergency response delays, negative impacts on low-income communities and the possibility that an earthquake would damage the facility’s dock and cause an oil spill.

While the “likelihood of occurrence of the potential for oil spills may be low, the consequences of the events could be severe,” the study said.

## Brown, Buehler could break campaign spending record

Associated Press

SALEM — Gov. Kate Brown and Republican state Rep. Knute Buehler have together raised \$5.3 million in the 2018 race for governor, putting them on pace to exceed the most expensive governor’s race in Oregon history.

Democrat John Kitzhaber and Republican Chris Dudley raised and spent more than \$17.7 million in their 2010 race for governor, won narrowly by Kitzhaber. At this point in 2009, the year before the election, neither Kitzhaber or Dudley had even announced they were running. Both filed in early February 2010.

The Bend Bulletin reported that Brown and Buehler have each already surpassed the \$2 million fundraising mark. Buehler has raised \$1.9 million this year. When added to the \$141,000 he carried over from last year, his total is \$2.1 million. He’s spent just over \$549,000 and currently has \$1.5 million in the bank.

Brown has raised \$1.8 million this year. When added to the \$1.2 million she rolled over from last year, it gives her a total of just under \$3.1 million. She has spent \$1.1 mil-



AP Photo/Don Ryan  
State Rep. Knute Buehler

lion and has \$1.9 million in the bank.

The numbers could be higher. Under state law, can-



Anna Reed/Statesman Journal  
Gov. Kate Brown

didates have 30 days to report contributions and expenditures. Buehler has consistently reported both as they come

in. His last recorded contribution was Sunday. Brown has returned to her earlier practice of filing in intermittent spurts, as the law allows. Her last registered contribution is from Nov. 4.

Whether a crowded primary campaign will materialize against Buehler is yet to be seen. Bend entrepreneur Sam Carpenter is also vying for the GOP nomination. High-profile conservative Republicans such as Secretary of State Dennis Richardson, House Minority Leader Mike McLane of Powell Butte, and Happy Valley Mayor Lori Chavez-DeRemer have looked into the race and passed.

## Washington state tests out videoconferencing for mental competency evaluations

Associated Press

EVERETT, Wash. — A Washington state county sheriff’s department says it will now use videoconferencing to do mental competency evaluations at the jail.

The Daily Herald reported that the Snohomish County jail in Everett is the flagship site for the new program, which is being tested at three other jails in the state.

The state’s Office of Forensic Mental Health Ser-

vices created the new program to reduce wait times for cases where it’s unclear if detainees are mentally sound enough to defend themselves.

Officials say it could especially help those with significant mental illness who get arrested for misdemeanors.

Sheriff Ty Trenary said they hope that inmates can get into treatment and connected with resources.

The state has been long been criticized for its wait times for such evaluations.

SENDING YOU WARM WISHES

Happy Holidays

Warm Wishes

From our family to yours, wishing you a double dose of health and happiness topped with good fortune.

May the joys of the Holiday Season be with you now and throughout the New Year.

COLUMBIA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

2111 Exchange Street, Astoria, Oregon 97103  
503-325-4321 | columbiamemorial.org

**WANTED**

**Alder and Maple Saw Logs & Standing Timber**

Northwest Hardwoods • Longview, WA  
Contact: John Anderson • 360-269-2500

Consult  
a  
PROFESSIONAL

**Q: How can I tell which products are the best for me?**

**A:** We continually search for the best values for our own inventory, and so are well informed regarding what the best values are in the market place. No retailer can stock every item available, but we are confident we can provide you the best service available.

If we aren’t currently stocking what you desire, we will search the best vendors, wholesale and retail, to provide you the best value. **We match all online prices.**

LEO FINZI

**Astorias Best.com**

Microsoft REGISTERED Refurbisher

**WE MAKE HOUSE CALLS**

M-F 10-6 Sat. 11-4  
77 11th Street, Suite H  
Astoria, OR  
503-325-2300

**Q: Should I use heat or cold?**

**A:** If you hurt, especially in a joint, use ice; it reduces inflammation and pain and shortens healing time. You can get a burn from ice just like with heat, so don’t leave it on for more than 20 minutes. Most problems get better more quickly with ice. Heat feels good, but may seriously make problems worse. As long as there is pain and/or swelling, continue ice; it can be done as often as once an hour. Would you heat a cut? No, because it would keep bleeding—that is what happens inside where you can’t see it.

**ASTORIA CHIROPRACTIC**

Barry Sears, D.C.

**503-325-3311**

2935 Marine Drive  
Astoria, Oregon

## Warrenton to hold transit plan open house Dec. 7

The Daily Astorian

Warrenton residents will have a chance to weigh in on and learn more about future transportation issues for the city at an open house Dec. 7.

The event will be held between 6 and 8 p.m. at Warrenton City Hall. The meeting will have an open format and people are welcome to arrive at any time during the event to discuss the city’s transportation system plan update. The plan is intended to guide improvements for driving, walking, biking, transit and other modes of transportation over the next 20 years.

A project team tasked with looking into the issues around transportation has already drafted goals and objectives for the update, assessed existing conditions related to transportation and looked at what future transportation conditions would be like by 2040 if no investments are made to the transportation system.

The open house is a time for people to see this work, help the project team identify additional issues and begin developing solutions. More information is available at warrentontsp.com.