

Building Codes Division
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Oregon

DEPARTMENT OF
CONSUMER AND
BUSINESS SERVICES

JULY 29, 1996

MR. MIKE KATZ, CHAIRMAN
ENERGY SITING TASK FORCE
1600 SW FOURTH AVE., SUITE 770
PORTLAND, OR 97201



RE: ENERGY FACILITY SITING

Building Codes appreciates the opportunity you have given us to comment on the siting of Energy Facilities. Historically, Building Codes has worked with the Energy Facility Siting Council and the Office of Energy to develop the current process. From our viewpoint, the current process is working.

During the EFSC site certificate process, applicants are made aware of what is necessary to comply with Oregon's Building Code and as part of the process agree to construct the energy facility according to Building Code requirements. Due to the length of time necessary to plan for and site an energy facility, the Building Code has usually changed between the time of proposal and actual construction date. By agreeing to construct according to Oregon's Building Code as part of the site certificate process, we are alerting the applicants to Oregon's amendments to the National Uniform Building Code. The applicant can then plan for the design and facility construction according to Oregon requirements after EFSC approval and establishment of actual construction start date.

Depending on where the facility is sited, the local jurisdiction (either Building Codes or a city or county) does the plan review and inspection of the facility during construction. To date, Building Codes has been involved in facilities where it has provided plan review and inspection and also where a city or county has provided the services. From our viewpoint, the cities and counties have provided timely plan review and inspections according to Oregon Building Code requirements. There is no reason to justify plan review and inspection by only State Building Code staff to assure compliance with Building Code requirements.

If we can provide any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at (503) 378-3176 or Dana Roberts, Manager, Statewide Services at (503) 378-8450.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Brewer".

Joe Brewer, Administrator
Building Codes Division
Department of Consumer & Business Services

cc: Mr. Roy Hemmingway, Office of the Governor
Dana C. Roberts, Building Codes Division