

Robert Trout
5295 W. 35th. Dr.
Ferndale Wa. 98248

October 2, 2002

Dear Mr. Cassidy,

This letter is in reference to the BPA public comment hearings in Seattle and Portland this past two weeks on the post 2006 role of BPA in marketing power produced by the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS).

At both hearings opinions were expressed by a diverse group of people. Of these the Sierra Club spokesperson drew a connection between the aluminum smelting process and global warming. She cited several disasters globally and the loss of human lives in under-developed regions. These are truly tragic, and anyone who has lost a loved one can empathize with those directly affected.

I am a member of the International Association of Machinists employed by Alcoa Intalco Works in Ferndale Washington. I am also a neighbor of this facility in that my 5-acre parcel borders Alcoa's property.

Alcoa Intalco Works maintains an exemplary record with respect to emissions. The people in our Emission Control Department are professionals in every sense of the word. They take great pride in protecting our communities from the emissions generated by our smelting processes. This is their field of expertise and their job, not their hobby.

If you were to have visited Ferndale or Whatcom County during last year's energy crisis, you would have seen sign on every block and in virtually every business's window that read, "We support Alcoa Intalco Works and the Aluminum Industry". What would your neighbors say about you?

Admittedly Alcoa is a "mega-corporation" that conducts its business on a global scale. However they are also people who reflect Alcoa's values by their acts of community service. Since 1996 Intalco Works has directly contributed nearly one million dollars to support programs such as:

- The Western Washington University distinguished speaker lecture series.
- The Arthritis Foundation's Jingle Bell Run.
- The Mount Baker Theater.
- Boys & Girls Clubs
- The United Way

In addition Intalco employees have contributed another \$300,000.00 through their Contrib Club and plant matching gift program to programs ranging from the United Way to Project Santa Claus and Whatcom Crisis Services.

In the September issue of Whatcom Business Pulse magazine Jack Speer, Alcoa's Northwest Energy Manager, is quoted as saying, "Alcoa is also experimenting with a new smelting process that would require substantially less power. The new process would also be a boon to the environment. Current smelting processes emit large amounts of carbon dioxide, the new process would emit only oxygen".

This is not "political smoke," it is a byproduct of doing business in the 21st century. Corporations that survive and thrive will be those who are good environmental stewards. Many of us speculate that the effect of this new technology on our industry will be comparable to the effect Windows has had on the computer industry. The environmental benefits could be beyond anything we could imagine.

However, the implementation of this new technology will require substantial capital investment on Alcoa's part. If the Aluminum industry is not included in the BPA post 2006 power marketing plan at traditional rates in traditional allocations, Alcoa is not likely to introduce this technology to this region. I feel this would also be a tragedy. Quantum leap technological advances are seldom seen these days. It would be irresponsible on the part of BPA to effectively prevent the implementation of these revolutionary processes considering the positive effect they will have on our environment.

The Alcoa Proposal is the only proposal to contain a solution to the issue of our regions future power needs. I urge you to accept and implement the Alcoa proposal.

Sincerely.
Bob