

SOUTHWEST IDAHO SOUTHEAST OREGON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL AFL-CIO

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July 13, 2012

Mayor Darin Taylor P.O. Box 487 Middleton, ID 83644

Re: Dynamis Energy

Dear Mayor Taylor,

On behalf of the Idaho Building Trades Council, and the hundreds of working families that we represent, we urge you to carefully consider the potential benefits of the Dynamis waste-to-energy facility.

The Idaho Building Trades Council represents the unions and workers of the many crafts involved in building construction. Now, more than ever, Idaho's Building Trades Unions are providing solutions to meet the challenge of a changing, energy-conscious world. With pride, performance, and professionalism, our highly skilled work force delivers unmatched value for contractors and owners alike.

However, the recent economic downturn has hit the construction industry particularly hard. According to the Idaho Department of Labor, construction job losses were the heart of Idaho's recession with 10,000 jobs lost from 2008 to 2009. The IDOL estimates that construction employment growth will be painfully slow and will not completely recover until 2025. Many construction workers have been unemployed for significant lengths of time. This has been devastating to Idaho workers and their families. Hundreds of construction workers can only find employment out of state, at great expense to their families and to the Idaho economy. Idahoans want to work in Idaho.

We believe the Dynamis project would bring about seven hundred good paying construction jobs to Ada County. These jobs generally pay about \$25 an hour, with excellent health insurance and other benefits. This is what Idaho working families need – good paying local jobs. When construction is finished, we understand that the plant

would employ around 60 people. We have every reason to believe that these jobs would provide living wages and stable employment.

Our members are invested in our communities. We live, raise our families here, and truly want to maintain the quality of life that the Treasure Valley has to offer. We, too, place a high priority on preserving our natural environment.

Concerns have been raised about the potential environmental impact of the facility. We care deeply about our environment and the long term impact of doing nothing with the solid waste that continues to fill our landfills. We urge you to carefully consider the options and look at all the facts to guide your decisions.

Please consider the needs of all your constituents and be mindful of the hundreds of jobs that could help hundreds of Idaho working families prosper and continue to contribute to the communities in which they live.

Sincerely,

Rod Clay Business Manager United Association of Plumbers & Pipefitters, Local 648

Aaron White Business Manager International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 291

Joe Alcala Organizer Representative International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers, Local 732

J.R. Finley Business Agent Sheet Metal Workers International Association, Local 55

Brian Hogan Business Representative Operating Engineers, Local 370

Mark Briggs Business Manager International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 483

Rian Van Leuven President Idaho State AFL-CIO