

Lynne Smith

From: Robin Forsi
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 12:35 PM
To: Lynne Smith
Subject: FW: Please reject SB 57

From: sharon whytal [mailto:swhytal@alaska.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 12:15 PM
To: Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Dennis Egan
Subject: Please reject SB 57

Honorable legislators, Member of the Special Committee on Energy,

Regarding the EPA's Clean Power Plan, I am concerned now about SB 57--the EPA CPP has been legally tested, and is moving forward! As I understand it, "the final rule for the plan is due out this summer or early fall and the intent of the program is to put the states in charge of implementation. It also includes a flexible timeline for states to follow for submitting plans to the agency. Plans are due in June 2016, with the option to use a two-step process for submitting final plans if more time is needed."

Now, SB 57 has been introduced, and tells the state Department of Environmental Conservation that it cannot prepare a unique, state specific implementation plan. SB 57 would prohibit our utilities and regulators from having a seat at the table to craft a solution specific to these unique circumstances. SB 57 employs generic language from the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), a corporate organization funded largely by the billionaire Koch Brothers. This language is not Alaska specific. In fact, it has been used in several other states. The generic nature of SB 57 undercuts the argument that Alaska should be treated differently as a state with unique needs. Our very unique energy situation in Alaska calls for a state-specific plan. Alaskan utilities and regulators should be driving the process of implementation, not the federal government.

You, our state legislature is in the process of adopting an Arctic policy for Alaska, and staking a leadership role in Arctic issues for America. Alaska has made great strides in energy efficiency and renewable energy promotion. As an arctic state in an arctic nation, Alaska should recognize the need for a collaborative plan that curbs dangerous greenhouse gas emissions. We should be at the table as leaders.

PLEASE do not allow SB 57 to thwart this important process that is already underway~

Sincerely,
Sharon Whytal
Homer, AK