

Resolution Opposing Nuclear Power Subsidies

Whereas private power corporations and investor-owned utilities pushed Public Utility Districts into the Washington Public Power Supply System fiasco—the biggest municipal bond default in history; and,

Whereas, Hanford clean-up has been repeatedly delayed by the U.S. Department of Energy and the DOE is currently proposing to use Hanford as a national radioactive waste dump; and,

Whereas the Columbia River is threatened by 53 million gallons of high-level nuclear waste stored in 177 aging underground tanks, one million gallons having already leaked into the ground water draining into the river; and,

Whereas the President's budget request for \$54 billion in subsidies for nuclear power will reduce funding available for lower-cost renewable energy sources; and,

Whereas the nuclear power industry has said it is too risky to invest its own money in new nuclear power without taxpayer subsidies, but it does not propose to share ownership (i.e., privatizing the profits while socializing the risks); and,

Whereas no nuclear waste repository exists or is being planned since the President withdrew the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Repository ; and,

Whereas we believe all costs of nuclear power development and operations including capital, risk abatement, environmental mitigation and safe, permanent spent fuel storage must be borne by the owners;

Therefore be it Resolved that the King County Democrats oppose the \$50 billion-dollar taxpayer subsidy to nuclear energy, at least until all nuclear waste is cleaned up to National Academy of Science health standards; and

Therefore be it Further Resolved that this resolution be transmitted to President Obama, to the members of the Washington State Congressional delegation, and to Governor Gregoire.

Adopted by the King County Democratic Central Committee, April 27, 2010

Originally submitted by 43rd LD to King County Democrats for consideration
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