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From: Jan Alderton <janetmalderton@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 31, 2022 4:52 PM
To: Comp Plan Update
Cc: Kendra Smith; David Williams
Subject: New Comp. Plan Wording on Propane

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It has come to my attention that the following elements were added to the draft Comp. Plan update on July 1, 2022:

8.3.2 Propane

There are no natural gas lines in San Juan County. **The population relies heavily on propane.** Propane tanks are not allowed on Washington State Ferries. Propane utility providers barge propane from the mainland to their distribution centers on San Juan, Orcas, and Lopez islands. The two propane providers in San Juan County are Inter-Island Propane and San Juan Propane. Inter-Island Propane recently established a facility on Orcas Island, which is subject to County inspection prior to starting operations.

The demand for propane will likely increase as the County's population increases. However, alternative renewable energy sources, such as home solar energy installations, and changes in State building code and greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements to meet WA State Greenhouse Gas targets for energy efficiency **may** reduce the per capita demand for propane in the future.

Goal 9: Recognize propane as a heating source used in the County.

Policies

1. Identify appropriate land use designations for the **siting of bulk fuel storage.**
2. **Support the use of historical barge landings** that have served as landing sites for transporting bulk fuels.
3. Work with the Ports, the Town of Friday Harbor, WSDOT and propane distributors to develop safe transportation and circulation routes for the transport of propane.

My comments:

Growth in the use of propane for heating and cooking should not be stated as a desirable goal for San Juan County.

Burning propane not only releases carbon dioxide, it is likely similar to the burning of natural gas which has recently been found to release toxic compounds into homes that use natural gas for cooking.

Although propane is currently used for back-up power, expanded back-up battery capacity should eventually replace propane-powered back-up generators.

Stating that propane is expected to be part of everyday heating and cooking in new construction is wrong-headed.

The goal should be to phase out propane use. The new language does the opposite.

Janet