

This is a gross over-reach. DO NOT PASS SB 2208. As a rancher, farmer, and engineer, I ask you to remember that our strength and resilience as a State depends on maintaining local decision making and local control. And in case you need reminding, *local* is at the City and Township levels, not Statewide from Bismarck!

Before I moved home, I worked as an energy management engineer for Puget Sound Energy. This experience, combined with being a highly involved community member in my small town, instilled the understanding that successful projects must first have local support. Yes, even if this is “inconvenient” for project timelines and investors. A top-down approach is harmful to everyone in the long run and only damages trust and causes other issues. And if you pass this type of policy for energy development this time, it sets a terrible precedence for outside groups to come in and lobby for similar assurances for their projects in the future. Have a backbone and say no to outside interests and say no to the Governors’ office telling us what we should put up with out here. DO NOT PASS SB 2208.

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