

Alternative Energy source: Hydroelectric power
Stakeholder: Fossil fuel representative

My name is Robert Divers and I am CEO of United Power Company, which is partnered with two other companies to form Wallula Energy Resource Center (WERC). WERC can help meet the region's growing electricity needs with a clean source of power. We are excited to be delivering an energy technology the public wants - one that meets the stringent greenhouse gas performance standards recently adopted by the states of Washington and Oregon. We plan to build an Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) coal plant, which is much cleaner burning than a typical coal plant. In a combined cycle power plant a gas turbine generator generates electricity and the waste heat is used to make steam to generate additional electricity via a steam turbine; this last step enhances the efficiency of electricity generation. The Wallula Energy Resource Center will use "gasification" technology developed by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. (MHI) to convert coal into a synthetic gas. This "syngas" will run Mitsubishi turbines to generate electricity for use by regional utilities. By gasifying the coal WERC will capture approximately 65% of the coal's embedded carbon dioxide (CO₂) and safely - and permanently – sequester the greenhouse gas into deep subterranean basalt formations. WERC will cost approximately \$2.1 billion, which would make it the largest proposed private investment ever made in Eastern Washington. During the three-year construction period, WERC will employ an average of 530 workers. More than 100 permanent employees will be needed to operate the plant.