

May 9, 2023

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Kittitas County CDS

Kittitas County Community Development Services  
Attn: Jeremiah Cromie, Planner II  
411 N. Ruby Street; Suite 2  
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Mr. Cromie,  
Please accept my comments on the proposed, "Loves Truck Stop" in Easton and associated SEPA Environmental Checklist, SE-23-00010.

I know you have received many comments in opposition to this proposal so I will try to keep my comments brief and simple.

It is quite obvious that the proponent is trying to rezone this property by way of a variance. Allowing this will set an unacceptable precedent in Rural Kittitas County.

As a 20+ year volunteer fireman of K.C.F.D. #3 my first concern is the safety of the entire Easton community. East and West Sparks Road are accessed from I-90 Exit 70. There is **NO other way in or out.** As is evident by the attached photos when I-90 is closed due to snow or vehicle accidents or a semi gets stuck on Sparks Road.

When this occurs there are well over 200 residents that are not accessible for Fire or Medical Emergencies. Further more, over 1/2 of our volunteers are unable to respond to the Fire Station located on the south side of I-90.

Imagine we have a 2 or 3 foot snowfall going on at this time. WSDOT cannot access I-90, County snowplows cannot access Sparks Road and Loves Truck Stop, which slopes 11 feet down off Sparks Road is unplowed! This would take hours to deal with! ***This simply will NOT work at Exit 70.***

My second major concern is the survival of Easton's current businesses, especially Silver Ridge Ranch.

People come here to enjoy fresh air, hiking, horse trails, campfires, amazing scenery, cross country skiing, snowmobiling and small town atmosphere.

A truck stop with air brakes popping at all hours and diesel engines idling, all night, polluting the fresh air is simply not compatible with the Rural character of Silver Ridge Ranch and the surrounding area.

My third major concern is living down wind of Loves Truck Stop. About 95% of the time the prevailing winds are from west to east.

There are many residents as well as local businesses directly east of this proposed truck stop.

There is no doubt that this project would affect the quality of the air we all breath.

***I urge you to reject this SEPA Environmental Checklist as well as the entire proposal for "Loves Truck Stop."***

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Jensen". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

John R Jensen  
3910 E Sparks Rd  
PO Box 602  
Easton, WA 98925

Encl: 2 pages of pictures



Sparks Road



Sparks Road



Sparks Road

