Comment on Commission meeting agenda item - Jim Lazar

Jim Lazar

reported via the portal

(Mon, 8 Dec 2025 at 4:59 PM)

I am writing in support of the proposal to honor Jolene Unsoeld, the "mother" of the PDC.

I met Jolene in 1978, when she and others recruited me to a small non-profit she had founded, FERN, or Fair Electric Rates Now. I knew her well to her last days. Jolene was an extraordinary person in many ways. Her work to create the PDC is perhaps her single most important public service contribution.

I support the notion of naming the Commission hearing room for her.

I also support the notion of creating an internship at the PDC in her name, and would be willing to contribute to making this a paid internship.

It is easier to make a charitable donation to either the Evergreen State College Foundation or to the Community Foundation to support an internship than it is to donate directly to the state. A qualified charitable distribution from an IRA is very easy to direct to a Foundation. If the decision is made to proceed with an internship, I would appreciate the opportunity to be involved in the creation of a fund for this.

Jim Lazar

Olympia