

## **Testimony before Clallam Board of County Commissioners**

You have on your Agenda an item (IE) concerning a letter of support which has been prepared for signature by the Clallam County Board of Commissioners (representing the people of Clallam County).

This letter calls for the development of an "Olympic Peninsula Sustainable Communities Consortium" composed of jurisdictions and agencies in Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, and Mason Counties.

It also calls for a "contribution" of matching funds or in-kind support - an amount which has not been determined.

This "multi-jurisdictional collaboration" to build a "region-wide" plan of "Sustainable Communities" takes away from the ability of citizens in Clallam County to have a voice in their own government. These planning groups are made up of representatives of tribes, agencies - both federal and state- and an "occasional" - one or two so-called "stakeholder" - using the consensus method of reaching decisions. It is a far cry from the form of government as described under our U.S. Constitution and our Washington State Constitution.

Anytime the term "Sustainable Communities" pops up, it's a sure thing that UN Agenda 21 is playing out in our county again.

There is a document associated with ICLEI - of which you engaged us very quietly as a member without a vote of the people - that I wonder if you have even read.

From ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability - Preparing for Tomorrow - Strategy 2010-2015 (located on the ICLEI website at [http://iclei.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/documents/Global/About\\_ICLEI/ICLEI\\_Strategy\\_2010-2015.pdf](http://iclei.org/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/Global/About_ICLEI/ICLEI_Strategy_2010-2015.pdf))

ICLEI's mission is to "build and serve a worldwide movement of local governments to achieve tangible improvements in global sustainability with special focus on environmental conditions

through cumulative local actions." (page 1)

If you read the basic premises upon which this global body which you have agreed to "serve", it includes statements that are not backed by science or any references. Read it for yourself.

The conclusion reached is that "the...footprint of humanity on this planet has become 'unsustainable.' - ICLEI issues a "mandate" to take certain actions, including to "act more rapidly and pursue more radical solutions". The document footnotes the word "radical" to mean "favoring or effecting fundamental changes in current practices, conditions, or institutions". (page 2)

Repeatedly, the reference is made to "rapid and radical change" to be accomplished pursuant to ICLEI's mandate at the local levels of government.

"While all of ICLEI works under the mission, mandate and principles of the global ICLEI Charter, our offices are managerially and –and mostly legally and financially – independent. World Secretariat, Regional Secretariats and Country Offices are interconnected through affiliate agreements and form a group." page 4.

"We will continue connecting cities and local governments to the United Nations and other international bodies. We will forge multi-stakeholder partnerships, form strategic alliances and join forces with leading institutions from the academic, expert, business and NGO sectors." page 5.

ICLEI will support its Members in taking rapid transformative action and applying radical solutions to become sustainable, planet-friendly cities, towns, counties and regions. The core of our program activities focuses on the key areas of transformation. (Water, food, transportation, building, energy, land use and development all fall under the purview of the United Nations, vis-a-vis ICLEI.) page 6.

Signing the "Durban Commitment", developing "BiodiverCities", continue creating Global Partnerships on Cities and Biodiversity coordinated by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity; and promoting the "Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity for Local and Regional Decision Makers" developed under UNEP, are all mentioned in this "Strategy". Where is there authority under our Constitution to participate with these global agreements at a local level?? There is none.

Just as a reminder, ICLEI endorsed the Earth Charter in 2000. Here are just a "few" items mentioned in the Earth Charter:

"...a global partnership to care for the Earth

"Fundamental changes are needed in our values, institutions, and ways of living.

"a global civil society

"shared vision of basic values to provide an ethical foundation for the emerging world

community.

“ensure a a sustainable livelihood

“...moral and spiritual education for sustainable living.”

“This requires a change of mind and heart. It requires a new sense of global interdependence and universal responsibility.

“In order to build a sustainable global community, the nations of the world must renew their commitment to the United Nations, fulfill their obligations under existing international agreements, and support the implementation of Earth Charter principles with an international legally binding instrument on environment and development.

“Promote the equitable distribution of wealth within nations and among nations.

“Demilitarize national security systems.”

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