

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 3:57:46 PM

Board and Commission Application

Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title Mr.

First Name Derek

Last Name Gremban

Today's Date 11/9/2022

Street Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED]

Zip [REDACTED]

Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? Yes

Do you have a different mailing address? *Field not completed.*

Primary Telephone [REDACTED]

Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

Email Address [REDACTED]

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Committee Climate Impact Advisory Committee

Climate Impact Advisory Committee Position:	I have previous work or educational experience in the energy sector.
2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?	Yes
3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 2
4. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	Yes
If yes, please list dates:	July 2017 - Sept 2018 Oct 2022 - Current
8. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County?	Yes
If yes, please explain	I work for BP which operates a Refinery in Whatcom County
You may attach a resume or detailed	Attached.

summary of
experience,
qualifications, &
interest in response to
the following questions

9. Please describe your
occupation (or former
occupation if retired),
qualifications,
professional and/or
community activities,
and education

I am a chemical engineer by background with 13 years of relevant energy industry experience. I have a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Michigan State university and a circular economy forum certification from TU Delft in the Netherlands.

10. Please describe
why you're interested
in serving on this board
or commission

I am writing to express interest in the open position in the Whatcom County Climate Impacts Advisory Committee.

I was an inaugural member of this committee back when it was formed in 2017 having had received a 3-year term but sadly had to step down in September 2018 when I was asked to move to Europe to work in Germany for 3 years to help a struggling facility.

In those 3 years abroad, I gained significant energy industry experience working abroad. In also lived and experienced a different culture that is also working to handle the same issues we are of delivering the energy the world needs while managing climate impacts. I made international contacts who are working to solve the same problems we are and have access to new tools and information sources which we can leverage in our journey to manage climate impacts.

I am now back in Whatcom County, purchased a home in district 2, and my passion for serving this community has never been stronger. I believe that I now have a unique skillset to offer to Whatcom County and specifically this committee given my international exposure plus real world experience working, serving, and living in Whatcom County.

Please review my skills, qualifications, and experiences and let me know if there is anything else I can share to show my qualifications and passions for this committee. I look forward regardless to being able to serve in some fashion in the future!

References (please
include daytime
telephone number):

Seth Fleetwood Bellingham Mayor +1 360 778 8100
Ben Elenbaas Whatcom County Councilmember +1 360 778
5025

Signature of applicant:

Derek Gremban

Place Signed /
Submitted

Bellingham, WA

(Section Break)

DEREK GREMBAN

Discipline Lead – Refining Reliability

CAREER HIGHLIGHT

- Through the near decade I spent working to operate the Cherry Point refinery safely and environmentally conscientiously in Whatcom County I developed a deep understanding of how to effectively produce the energy our community relies on. Through this experience I also was able to understand what the refinery requires from the local community governance to be able to succeed at their goals of no damage to people or the environment.
- I moved to Europe in 2018 and spent 3 years living and working in Gelsenkirchen Germany in the Ruhr region where I also was able to observe and see how another whole culture is reacting and handling the delicate issues of managing climate change while also being able to produce the energy safely and environmentally soundly we still need. During this time, I made global contacts who I correspond with daily who are all working to advance the bp global strategy of becoming net zero in our operations by 2050. This global experience has allowed me to come back to Washington and Whatcom County with a new perspective I look forward to bringing to the table.
- Throughout my career I have always sought out extra experiences to broaden my horizons and improve the lives of those working around me. As shown below I have been chapter president of Kiwanis young professionals, heads of business resource groups in bp dedicated to improving diversity and inclusion in the workforce, and most recently prior to leaving for Germany in 2018 serving as an inaugural member of the climate impacts advisory committee in 2018 and also since moving back to the US joining a circular economy group in bp.

WORK EXPERIENCE

FEBRUARY 2021 – CURRENT

ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE LIASON LEAD BP SOLUTIONS

- Working to make bp Solutions an even more safe working environment and one that is free from harassment, fraud and other issues
- Leading a global squad of 6 individuals to manage Ethics and Compliance risks across bp Solutions
- Triage concerns and work with the business investigation team to agree on outcomes from raised issues
- Routinely interface with the senior leadership team of bp Solutions to communicate our risks and adjust the E&C plan

Role synopsis: Working to make bp Solutions an even more safe working environment and one that is free from harassment, bullying, fraud, and other issues. I am doing this by leading an E&C transformation journey by engaging more directly with the different departments of bp Solutions to increase awareness of E&C issues and tools available to manage E&C risks in the business.

DECEMBER 2020 - CURRENT

DISCIPLINE LEAD RELIABILITY REFINING, BP SOLUTIONS

Role synopsis: Program managing our most significant Reliability improvement objectives in the refining portfolio. Sit on the global reliability leadership team and directly leads a team of 6 with priorities and impact across the portfolio.

Achievements: Delivered a comprehensive reliability asset strategy for BP's most leveraging production unit (Whiting Coker) which included the justification of millions of dollars' worth of capital projects. I did this over the course of one year by leading a group of several individuals. The practices we developed at Whiting is currently being used as a model for other similar studies across bp.

SEPTEMBER 2018 – SEPTEMBER 2021

RELIABILITY ENGINEER HYDROCRACKER/COKER, BP GELSENKIRCHEN REFINERY

Role synopsis: The critical Reliability and integrity change agent for two leveraging areas in Gelsenkirchen (Coker and Hydrocracker). This involved justifying / installing projects and implementing reliability work practices all performed 100% in the German language.

MAY 2009 – SEPTEMBER 2018

PROCESS ENGINEERING ROLES, BP CHERRY POINT REFINERY

Role synopsis: Ensure safe, environmentally compliant, and reliable operations of the areas I supported. This involved process health monitoring, vulnerability elimination, project justification and scoping, process hazard analyses, and troubleshooting.

EDUCATION

MAY 2011

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

3.82 GPA & Honors College graduate

DECEMBER 2020

CIRCULAR ECONOMY FUNDAMENTALS, DELFT UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (TU DELFT)

VOLUNTEER AND OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

FEBRUARY 2021 – CURRENT

CIRCULAR ECONOMY FORUM BP

- Identifying opportunities to make bp more circular in our refining and production operations. Some achievements include supporting the creation of the forum, leading webinars, and identifying tangible improvements to our circularity in refining.

SEPTEMBER 2018 – SEPTEMBER 2021

BP WIN GELSENKIRCHEN CORE TEAM MEMBER BP GELSENKIRCHEN REFINERY

- Increased inclusion and diversity in the workplace at Gelsenkirchen Refinery by helping found the BP WIN Gelsenkirchen organization over the course of a 2-year period. My role was to be a core team member who advocated for WIN, coordinated events, and championed improvements in culture across the refinery.

JULY 2017 – SEPTEMBER 2018

CLIMATE IMPACTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, WHATCOM COUNTY

- Was elected an original member of this committee in 2017 on a 3-year term and spent a year hashing out the initial scope of the group and setting the vision. Unfortunately, after a year in the role I was asked to move to Germany and so had to step down from my role after only a year in the position. I have great passion for this committee and look forward to hopefully rejoining in the future.

JULY 2011 – SEPTEMBER 2018

KIWANIS CLUB YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GROUP PRESIDENT, WHATCOM COUNTY

- Provided hundreds of hours of volunteer services to our community by forming a new branch of the Kiwanis club in Whatcom County. I was the branch president for nearly 2 years during which I set the strategic vision and directed club activities.

JULY 2011 – SEPTEMBER 2018

NEW HIRES BRG LEAD BP CHERRY POINT REFINERY

- Expedited employee integration and increased employee retention at our Cherry Point refinery by organizing networking events, workshops, lunch & learns amongst other activities. I was the refinery BRG lead for 2 years during which I set the organizational strategy and set chapter priorities for over 40 employees.

My professional competencies include reliability engineering, process & process safety engineering, strategy development, defect elimination, RCA/5-WHY, operations excellence, PHA/HAZOP, commercial planning, and product scheduling. My technical competencies include Meridium, PowerBI, AzureDevops ADO, Microsoft products suite, PI Process book, Palantir, and PUHMA.

SKILLS

- Ability to network and form powerful relationships across time zones, cultures, and diverse backgrounds
- Self-starter & entrepreneurial mindset with high energy, initiative, and drive
- Expert at influencing without holding any position of hierarchical authority
- Team oriented person with significant experience leading multidisciplinary teams
- Delivery minded with an ability to create clarity out of ambiguity
- Sincere empathy for fellow co-workers with a passion for caring for others (including their mental health)
- Hardworking, conscientious, and willing to go the extra mile to solve problems
- Deeply passionate about personal and process safety
- Highly skilled in plant operations, reliability, environmental and commercial optimization
- Significant major project and TAR experience