Stacy Oaks

Hi. My name is Stacy Oaks and contact e-mail is stacy@350seattle.org. So the first thing I want to do is acknowledge that we're all standing on indigenous land, specifically the land of the Puyallup people, not just historically but actually. I'd also like to acknowledge that in the PowerPoint under the location for this project, another part of the location should say that it is on Medicine Creek Treaty Territory protected by the Constitution. I'd also like to acknowledge the history on the record of the fossil fuel industry; that when we talk about these people self-reporting, we are talking about an industry that has a very ugly history, a history of forcibly removing people from lands, a history of killing people to get those lands, a history of poisoning water, land and air. And these are people we're allowing to self-report, and not just self-report anything, self-report what goes into our water, our most basic need, the thing we can go almost the least amount of time without other than air. It's ludicrous. That needs to change immediately. And I know that you have to follow your rules. But maybe there could be some more pressure from the Department of Ecology asking to have that done to show that that's something that would be welcomed from the Department. Another solution would be that the funding from this comes from those companies. But the people that do the actual testing would be an independent third party. When we talk about all known and available reasonable methods of prevention and control and treatment, to be able to disqualify stuff based on other people aren't doing it will never get us out of business as usual. That also seems like a category put in there by industry or by supporters of industry. When we're in a crisis, which we are, we should be looking at what is the closest to something that will save the next generations. That should be the most important thing we're talking about. That should be what helps to decide what these limits are, how often we should be testing, is thinking of our children and the children after them. We're leaving nothing for them. And not only do we have just a sliver of time, there's reports saying it's not 12 years, it's 18 months before we are past being able to change things. Every single person alive today, especially people in positions at agencies to make these decisions, you're here for a reason. You need to do everything you can. 18 months. It's a very short amount of time. I'd also like to just point out that having the public process in order to get past something like this, having to be taking something to court, is environmental racism because there are only certain communities that will have enough money to take something to court. And so that's another thing that maybe the environmental justice side should be looking at on how to be able to stop this from a public level without having to go to court.