

## Norma Ramirez

Please do not grant this request by WestRock to expand and increase the use of its natural gas boiler. This project will result in a direct increase in emissions in Tacoma by increasing greenhouse gasses by about 60,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalents per year ( like approximately 12,000 passenger cars. Even if mitigated in half, that's 30,000 tons of CO2's an 6,000 more passenger cars). Other air pollutants include particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, lead, formaldehyde, benzene and toluene.

The Department of Ecology needs to do due diligence and determine the cumulative impact of adding more pollution to the port from this proposed increase of WestRock.

The natural gas will come from Puget Sound Energy (PSE) which means it will be mostly fracked gas from fracking wells.

The proposal needs to show, and the Department of Ecology needs to determine, the upstream impact of methane leakage at the fracking wells. This leakage could be even more damaging than the CO2 emissions at the plant site.

The incremental electricity produced by WestRock is not needed in our state and will be sold to outside sources. So we, Tacoma city residents, will get all the extra pollution while this plant supplies another state with electricity. There is no profit for us.

Scientists have shown that electricity generated by fracked gas has more global warming potential than coal. Since natural gas is just replacing coal to create electricity, why are we substituting one dirty fuel with another?

WestRock doesn't need additional electricity to run and neither do Tacoma residents. As a Tacoma resident, I want to see our port heed the warnings of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that we either drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions in 12 years or face dire consequences in 20 years.

Sincerely,  
Norma Ramirez