

Les Pogue Jr.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this subject of expansion of Westrock Tacoma Steam Limit Project. I plead for the denial of air quality Notice of Construction Order Number 4153 modification. Regulations are not strong enough to regulate toxic emissions at the Port of Tacoma for the health and safety of the residents of Tacoma. As a resident of the Hilltop in Tacoma, my concerns about the expansion of fossil fuels industry in the city of Tacoma are a daily health issue. Currently PSCAA, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, is conducting a cumulative air quality study to determine contaminants specific to industry facilities. I plead to Washington State Department of Ecology to deny any expansion of WestRock to burn any fossil fuels to create energy to sell or to use for powering steam generation until the cumulative air study by PSCAA is complete and the residents, businesses, and natural life of this region know what it is that we are currently breathing. I was on my way to work the morning of the lithium ion battery fire that occurred a couple months ago, and it was detrimental to the health of the residents of my neighborhood. Children, animals, and houseless folks included. The residents of Tacoma should not suffer any more toxic emissions until this study is completed. Thank you for the opportunity.