

Nanette Reetz

First of all, I just want to say that air pollution isn't just dirty, it's toxic. And right now the toxic burden on our children—this is the sickest generation of children in history. So I just want that to sink in a little bit. We have the sickest children in history. It's mind boggling to me. So, somewhere we have to stop the madness. It's a shame that no one knows what the impact this project might have on the cumulative emissions in Tacoma. The project lists the tons of emissions that the plant will emit, but there is no data to show if the emissions have reached a hazardous or toxic level. Like the proverbial saying, have we reached the straw that has broken the camel's back? Tacoma is listed as having terrible atmosphere to breathe, and has statistically higher cancer rates. That's a fact. We have higher cancer rates here already. What are we ignoring? What is agency afraid of studying? I think that the cause, is the toxic pollution in the port the cause of the industry emissions? Do we want to add more emissions? WestRock claims to meet the emissions standards from the stack. But they cannot tell us a cumulative emissions from all the stacks in the port. No one seems to want to measure that. Are they afraid that they might have to do something about it? Until we know the status of our air quality, how can we blindly allow more expansion? Does anyone really believe that this will improve our air quality? I certainly don't. I agree with the statements of Steve Storms and those who went before me opposing this expansion. And another point that Steve wasn't able to bring up, and I'll try to read it as best I can - the WestRock mill will offset carbon emissions by over 300 tons per year. Or, excuse me, 30,000 tons per year. They also plan on selling the electricity as clean energy. Is it possible they are creating their own offsets? Something to consider. We need a cumulative air study before anymore expansion is allowed in the port. The right of a corporation to make a profit should not supersede my right to protect my children, my family, my grandchildren, and to let them have an opportunity for clean air and a healthy future. I am against this, obviously against this expansion, I hope that you will consider it.