

## Arvia Morris

Hi, my name is Arvia Morris, and, uh, that's A-R-V-I-A Morris. V as in victory. Morris, M-O-R-R-I-S. And I'd like to, uh, talk a little bit about my concerns about, um, the offset programs and, uh, forestry. Basically, forests cycle carbon. They aren't, um-- To some extent they store carbon but it's in this day and age especially it's getting harder and harder to know what the life cycle of that storage is. With more forests suffering from forest fires which releases all the carbon stored forest and then also, um, insect infestations due to insects moving around, um, from different ecosystems due to the breakdown of ecosystems due to climate change, um, a lot of our forests are not very healthy because of, uh, insect infestations which means that they aren't the carbon safes that they- that we would like them to be. So my concern is, um, with the offset programs that are using forest projects, uh, I think there needs to be some real accountability to people who are going to be using those types of offsets and that if a forest fails I think that the entity that's using a forest offset should be responsible and have to pay for that extra carbon that got released because if-if they aren't they're-they're just gonna buy the offset they don't really care about what's happening with the forests and they will just move on and meanwhile we would have had a double problem. They wouldn't have reduced their GHG and forests would have failed with increasing overall GHG. So there needs to be some really good scientific data to account for these fluctuations in the carbon cycling in forests, and these programs need to be held to a very high standard, um, that accounts for the fact that forests cycle carbon; they aren't a carbon sink. And I think it should be as the data that's-that's used for evaluating these offset programs using forestry, um, that needs to be somehow written in the rules that we can be sure that we are really using the right kind of data for forest cycling. Uh, carbon cycling, sorry. Carbon cycling in forest systems and there needs to be-- So that's one thing. There needs to be, uh, some rules around carbon cycling and forest systems, which takes into account the location of forests, um, 'cause some forests in dryer areas are gonna struggle more than the ones here on the west side. And, secondly, there needs to be some accountability to enforce-- for entities who use these offsets that if their offset program fails that they are gonna have to pay a price, uh, a monetary price or, um, some kind of price for the total carbon that was-released.