

Gary Seeman

Dear Ms. Rachel Assink, The clock on acting to curtail climate change began ticking the moment we could track the impact of greenhouse gases on the atmosphere. Scientists began sounding the alarm 150 years ago. Then academia presented the emerging facts to students like me, who first became aware of the dangers in the early 1970s. Fossil fuel and other businesses acted to protect their short-term interests with advertising and lobbying efforts. This influenced many voters to dismiss or ignore the greatest challenge of our lifetimes. Recently, Mother Nature has grabbed the pulpit and is showing the catastrophic impact of a fossil fuel economy through megafires, 1000 year droughts, unbearable heat waves, superstorms and other catastrophes that will only increase. For businesses, the financial impact is inescapable and there are new opportunities through the adoption of EVs, hybrid vehicles, sustainable power generation and other technologies, and renewed government incentives like the Clean Fuels Program. Please lead us in the necessary transition to sustainable energy by making the new rules as effective as you can. This starts with reducing transportation emissions that cause almost half the impact. I ask you to be bold. When the rules take effect, public opinion will be catching up with you. They will be increasingly won over as their health, safety and their businesses and farms are threatened. Indigenous people modeled a sustainable vision. They are important allies to include in your considerations as are the minority communities that live near emissions sources, and the vulnerable elders and children who are most affected by exposure to fossil fuel emissions. Sincerely, Gary Seeman 24009 NE 26th Ave Ridgefield, WA 98642