

# Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility

Thank you for making time for public comment today. Appreciate it very much. My name's Max Savishinsky of Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility we are a membership organization here in Washington State made up of healthcare professionals across the state that are very concerned with issues that pose great threats to public health. And so I'm speaking today with the weight of a large cadre of concerned health professionals across the state who see the growing health impacts of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change every day in the health and lives of real people, the people that they treat every day.

As everyone knows climate change is a major health crisis, and it's critical to ensure responsible and accurate measurement and mitigation of emissions in order to protect health and the environment. And our members recognize this fact, it's inescapable. And this process holds huge health implications. And so it's very important that it be done, quote unquote, correctly, but with health at the forefront of the considerations being made.

The health professional members of Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility want to see every proposed possible fuel project tested against our goals of a low carbon future. In other words, utilizing us for climate test for projects like this, with the widespread understanding of the importance of taking bold, but also responsible action to protect the climate and to protect people's health from the harms posed by fossil fuel emissions and pollution.

So, you know, our on behalf of our organization, we feel that this rule should help us determine--is this project part of a low carbon future? And that for sound evaluation, we need to align these rules with our emission reduction targets and that every environmental analysis for major fossil fuel projects should include a detailed climate test.

Plain and simple, we really cannot afford to lock ourselves into dirty technologies. Environmental analyse smust compare the proposal to other technologies, both existing and those that are emerging, that would achieve the same purpose.

We know very well--I think everybody here knows, that business as usual and timid or incremental steps forward are not enough to protect the environment and to protect health. There's a clear and really present urgency for fossil fuel projects to be evaluated, based not only against the baseline for emissions today, but against the baseline of major reductions that are urgently needed in the coming decades.

Thank you for taking my comments.