

24 September 2020

TO: Washington State Department of Ecology

FROM: Tracy Farwell, Better Energy LLC  
PO Box 86449  
Portland OR 97286

SUBJECT: Kalama Manufacturing and Marine Export Facility Second Supplemental EIS

My career started in Washington, Seattle in particular and I spent most of my adult life enjoying a beautiful natural setting, robust weather, no income tax, fresh air and water galore, but most significantly a thriving Seattle life among fellow workers, neighbors and friends who were not gaining wealth from destroying the place. Except for my neighbor Larry who was CEO of a Bellevue plastics outfit. There's always somebody.

But that was long ago. Now it's foreign investors who imagine without justification we can be induced to destroy our own natural heritage. True, it was not ours to begin with, but by now we know why the First People loved living here. The science of Methanol is not the only science, and we know what they need the Columbia River for, and the new gas pipelines for, and the Port for: products that unquestionably create more carbon pollution to make wildfires, storms, floods and droughts more intense and frequent, and not just on our West Coast. Yes, we know the dire consequences. Namely from 4.6 million tons of greenhouse gas pollution each year for the next 40 years from this Kalama point source.

Yes, they are called Climate Fires, and we can draw a straight line between them and carbon fuel refineries like the Northwest Innovation Works, LLC proposal and markets like Asia among others. You should know by now that refineries depend on metallurgy that is not entirely immune to the chemical brews it tries to contain and control. No one in the refinery front office or anywhere else is tracking the subtle corrosion that builds up randomly over time – all over the site.

No doubt you are aware it's common practice, reputed from BP (Deepwater Horizon) that is now exiting this business, to "run it until it breaks?" You already know the Tesoro history in Anacortes. They are not the only ones, and methanol mavens cannot rewrite the sad history of their predecessors. Would you have staff in your Ecology Offices saying,

"Oh, I just can't wait to see more death and destruction foisted by foreign interests who argued us into submission without a fight, by mere brow-beating and typical marketing department hokum"?

I think not.

Best practice in meeting Washington's climate goals and ensuring a safe and healthy future for generations to come is for you, the singular guardian of land, air and water, to deny the Shorelines Permit for the Kalama Northwest Innovation Works, LLC. methanol project and unambiguously issue the rejection the proposed refinery deserves.