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WA State Department
of Ecology (SWRO)

September 2, 2020

Mr. Rich Doenges
Southwest Regional Director
Washington State Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

Dear Mr. Doenges:

Thank you for your service to the residents of Southwest Washington!

Please allow me to give you my personal perspective of the proposed methanol plant at the Port of Kalama. I favor it for a variety of reasons. My vote is to approve the NW Innovation Works plan.

1. I treasure the Kalama River which I have fished yearly for 55 years. Therefore, I hopefully have considered all risks emanating from the Northwest Innovation Works plant which you have been evaluating.
2. My wife and I have lived directly on the Kalama River for the last 23 years. Certainly we have a more vested interest in the general safety of the Kalama River Valley and its surrounds than someone from Portland or Hood River.
3. My wife and I fully support the Kalama School District as evidenced by our voting for additional funding for proper instruction in quality local schools. Our taxes have increased substantially since we moved here. To be exact, our property taxes this year for our Kalama River Road properties total \$10,495.37. You can see that my wife and I are contributors who have a vested interest in the safety of our Kalama community. It seems to me we have more legitimate concerns over the proper functioning of the proposed methanol plant than some critic with nothing to lose.

Mr. Doenges, you and I are like partners. Your vision is to sustain healthy land, air and water in harmony with a strong economy. My wife and I want the same as you and the Department of Ecology. Basically, we are satisfied with the reasonable risk of the new methanol plant. What we need are the economic benefits from the methanol plant. Only you can authorize that. You know the tax benefits and the employment benefits from the new plant. My point is that your vision and mine are compatible, but we need your plant authorization to achieve all the mutual benefits.

Mr. Doenges, your stated mission is to protect, preserve, and enhance the environment for future generations. We are partners in this mission too. We want the same as you.

For your information, I have talked with astute, local businessmen I respect, and they feel the same as I. Progressive people inherently want progress. Non-contributors often want the status quo, and outside critics typically challenge, gripe, fuss and conjure up negatives to make themselves feel important. You and I want sensible progress in accordance with your vision and Ecology's mission statement.

It is my hope that the methanol plant can be build soon. It will be a great example of American progress and ingenuity. It will help a lot of people.

Respectfully yours,

Walter B. Pistor