

Eileen Fromer

My name is Eileen Fromer. I live in Portland and I am passionate about the climate crisis and stopping greenhouse gas emissions. I believe that the Department of Ecology has an opportunity through its analysis and these hearings to do the right thing: simply, that is to deny the Shorelines Permit for the Kalama Methanol Refinery.

On its website, Ecology states "Washington is a national leader in cutting greenhouse gas emissions to prevent climate change." Now they state that the Kalama refinery would be one of the top greenhouse gas polluters in Washington emitting 4.6 million tons of carbon pollution annually...for 40 years. How on earth can Ecology claim to be cutting greenhouse gas emissions and approve this shoreline permit?

The Kalama fracked gas to methanol refinery will in no way cut greenhouse gas emissions to prevent climate change.. They mention mitigation. Mitigation is a pipedream in the Ecology analysis. It's meaningless.

But what is not meaningless is the underestimated methane leakage from fracking natural gas, transmission along the pipe route and at the refinery. And after the methanol leaves the refinery....what then?

First, it was only going to be used to make plastics...as if plastics are not already an environmental disaster, but at least the methanol wouldn't be burned for fuel. Then, NWIW changed their story so 40% might be burned as fuel yielding 2 million tons of carbon pollution each year. And, there is no guarantee that all the methanol won't be burned. That would mean 5 million tons of pollution a year. In other words, NWIW will do whatever they want with it and never mind their claims and never mind the environmental impacts.

This refinery would increase Washington's global warming impact by 10% and in just 5 years, by 2025, this refinery could be the largest polluter in the state.

We are in a climate crisis. The wildfires are here along with drought, storms, floods and displaced people all over the world. It's time to say 'no' ♦ enough is enough. Washington and the Dept. of Ecology must live up to their claim and be a leader in addressing the climate crisis.