Robert Erwin

Hi, my name is Robert Irwin and I work in Cowlitz County. My wife and I are raising our four-month-old son, and I'm a lifelong resident of the Pacific Northwest. I'm an electrical apprentice and union member with IBEW Local, 48 but today I speak only as a citizen and father. I'm concerned with the cherry-picked sources provided in the SSEIS. They consistently cite state funded Chinese universities for data that purports to show significant greenhouse gas emission reduction in this project.

Considering the significant amount of international money pumped into this project, it is prudent I think for the department of ecology to request an independent environmental review, perhaps by Washington State University. The greenhouse gas mitigation proposed also has no teeth contractually. The people and governments of the city of Kalama and Cowlitz County won't be able to hold this company to their bad faith promises when the time comes to offset the significant greenhouse gas emissions.

That doesn't even cover the fact that the so-called zero liquid discharge technology touted in this report hasn't been proven. The standards required of our greatest river, the Columbia River also deserve a significant review. It doesn't guarantee zero wastewater discharge into the Columbia River in spite of its name.

The study doesn't address the pending mandate by the Chinese government to require fuel for cars and trucks to contain 15% methanol. It overlooks this while making optimistic predictions of other Chinese actions in the future. That deserves further scrutiny for the sake of my son and millions of other children. I think it's prudent to find this report irresponsible, and we need to reconsider the haphazard assessments for our future. Thank you.