

# Linda Leonard

The greatest crisis we face as a civilization is climate change which is driven by the burning of fossil fuels. We are at a tipping point; the warming of the planet is causing the accelerated melting of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets.

The effects we are seeing are catastrophic, setting records.

1. The highest temperature ever recorded on earth in Death Valley during August 2020 was 130 degrees.
2. The worst wildfire season in history on the West Coast.
3. The East Coast is experiencing twice the number of tropical storms than normal.

The SSEIS analysis shows that current global greenhouse emissions for the state of Washington would increase substantially if this project were built. The increased pollution from the world's largest fracked gas to methanol refinery in the world, here in Kalama, would add 4.6 million tons of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere each year. This project's demand for fracked gas would exceed the consumption of the Northwest biggest cities combined.

Factor in the fracked gas transportation leakage rates, the usage of methanol being used to make plastics or used for fuel, Northwest Innovation Works' proposed refinery would jump to 9.4 million metric tons of greenhouse gases per year. This project would increase fracked gas demand, resulting in more well drilling, fracking and would require a larger capacity of gas, resulting in a new pipeline being needed, locking in future fossil fuel usage for the next 40 years.

Is this what we want for Washington state or do we need to move toward a low carbon future?

Governor Inslee's Evergreen Action Plan is the clean energy needed. This plan is built upon 5 key principles.

1. Power the economy with 100% clean energy.
2. Invest in good jobs, infrastructure, Industry and Innovation.
3. Build greater Justice and Economic Inclusion.
4. End Fossil fuel Giveaways
5. Mobilizing Global Action

We have a global responsibility to phase out fossil fuel reliance in favor of clean energy.

As a resident of Kalama, I am concerned for the future of Kalama, the consequences of this massive fracked gas to methanol refinery will have on the health and safety of the citizens. We all deserve the right to clean air and water and to protect the Columbia River.

The evidence in the SSEIS demonstrates that the Department of Ecology must deny NWIW the permit needed for this project to proceed. We cannot keep building fossil fuel export infrastructures, the dangers of climate change are real.