

Martin Fisher

I am writing to urge you to stop the proposed methanol refinery at Kalama from moving forward.

The State of Washington and Governor Inslee have pledged to move away from reliance on fossil fuels, and toward clean sources of energy, in order to combat climate change. Fighting climate change is a serious policy priority of the state government, and this methanol refinery would be a move in opposition to that worthy commitment, as the refinery would cause millions of tons of greenhouse gas pollution every year.

Further, the EIS is flawed and cannot be relied upon as a sound analysis of the environmental impact of this project. It speculates on how methanol may compare with future, unsure, alternate sources of pollution in overseas markets. The SEIS makes a false and erroneous comparison with potential future other sources of methanol or olefin production. Rather than engaging in this speculation, Ecology should focus on the real-world, known pollution that will come from the facility rather than NWIW's dubious "displacement" argument.

The pipeline that would be required for this project is also likely to be a further source of pollution, potential leaks, environmental damage, and damage to the communities in which it runs.

Finally, I am extremely concerned about pollution to the Columbia River if this project moves forward. Not only does this cause long-term damage to the ecology of the region as a whole, and threaten the habitats of important species, but it also is a threat to the Native American communities who especially are reliant upon the river for salmon fishing.

Please deny the permit for this project.