

Meredith Long

I am writing to the Department of Ecology to ask that you deny the permit for the Kalama Manufacturing and Marine Export facility to be sited in Kalama, WA.

This facility, like others which refine methanol, will require large amounts of energy to operate. Some estimates are that almost one third of the natural gas that would arrive for refining would be necessary just to operate the plant. Burning that much natural gas just to run the plant would contribute to global warming significantly. Additionally, the plant would use vast amounts of water, some 2,500 gallons per minute. Partly due to wetter winters with less snow pack, we already have a hotter and drier climate in the Pacific Northwest than has been true in the past. We don't need a plant that uses our valuable water resources. The plant would produce volatile organic compounds, heavy metals and other air pollutants. Our air needs to be cleaner, not dirtier, so that all of us, especially those with lung and breathing problems, can breathe better.

The Chinese can say anything they want about mitigation but their plans are so vague that there will be no way for our government to verify that they are not meeting their obligations to mitigate the pollution this refinery will bring.

The fires this year should wake up anyone who does not believe climate change is already happening. We cannot afford the continuous use of fossil fuels that this plant would use to be the source of power and manufacturing for plastics.

I want my grandchildren and great grandchildren to have a clean environment. I strongly urge you to deny this project for good!

Thank you.