

Kevin Lux

Hello, my name is Kevin Lux. I'm a resident of Vancouver, Washington and a proud electrician working very hard every day in a long view for a brighter future for all of us. As a 34-year-old, I am very concerned for the lack of scientific literacy at hand in our country. We've seen how this plays out among those who think that COVID is a hoax or that vaccines cause autism.

This kind of thinking comes with what psychologists label as groupthink and confirmation bias. These people mean well, and they believe they understand things but without doing the hard work of real study. Being faced with real science doesn't faze them. If anything, they grow deeper in their beliefs. They stick around with only the people who think like them. They cling to things that they already agree with.

They don't exercise skepticism or healthy doubt. This is scary. To quote the great Neil deGrasse Tyson, "The good thing about sciences that is true whether you believe it." I'm not an expert in the science of emissions, not on the macro level or the micro level and I ask each person listening now, are you an expert in this field? Are you at the level of those working for all of us at the Department of Ecology? Here's some real talk.

The expert scientists in the field-specific to this project have analyzed the data not feelings, and their science is clear. Mother Earth needs this project for her health, for our health. If this permit is rejected, on what evidence-based grounds would that be? Rejection of the permit could only be in rejection of the work of the Department of Ecology because of these experts, and the work that they have done in science, I will follow this data and support this project 100%. Thank you.