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The proposed methanol refinery would produce millions of tons of greenhouse gas pollution each year for 40 years. 4.6 million tons of carbon pollution per year is inconsistent with Washington's climate goals and with protecting Washington shorelines. To begin with, the SCIS underestimates upstream emissions, using even the most conservative estimates, upstream greenhouse gas pollution will exceed ONE million tons per year. In addition, methane leaks from abandoned gas wells were omitted from consideration. It is well known that abandoned gas wells continue to leak methane for decades.

The SCIS concludes that greenhouse gas impacts can be mitigated. It relies on Northwest Innovation Works flood speculative analysis to argue that methanol could displace dirtier energy. Rather than engaging in a highly speculative market analysis, ecology should focus on the known pollution that will come from the facility. Nobody knows what worldwide energy markets will do over the next 40 years, but we have reasonably accurate estimates of the carbon pollution the refinery will create. Ecology should not assume that future energy needs must be met by fossil fuels.

The SCIS market analysis presents a false choice between bad options, all of them massive polluters, none of which will solve our climate crisis. Thank you for your time.