

Kathy Wolff

Washington Dept. of Ecology Sept. 23, 2020

Attn.: Rich Doenges

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Greetings,

My name is Kathy Wolff and I've lived in Portland for the past 16 years. I have fourteen close members of my family who live in Portland too, most importantly (to me) are my two young grandsons.

Our planet is in an escalating crisis that threatens human life on earth. The results of climate change are happening all around the globe and right here in our northwest with this summer's unprecedented fires. The Northwest charted the worst air quality in the world for weeks on end. Fires rage across our planet. Glaciers and polar ice steadily melt at alarming rates. Hurricanes and super storms are no longer "once in 500 year events" but happening sometimes more than once a year. Mass extinction of the animal and plant kingdoms is documented. Plastics already clogs huge areas of our oceans, destroying marine life. Climate change is happening now. We are in a crucial time regarding the survival of humankind and life as we know it.

It is our serious responsibility now to outright reject any new fossil fuel infrastructure and we must deny the Kalama Methanol Refinery. Instead we must look to create jobs and careers within sustainable industries.

The 'Without Kalama' case in this SEIS is a strawman argument. Saying this methanol refinery will create an emissions 'reduction' compared to if, theoretically, the plant were built using other technologies and locations, is a fallacy and an outright nonsensical evasion of the climate crisis at hand. It is blatant greenwashing by The Chinese government corporation, Northwest Innovation Works. Insisting it has to be and will be built, whether here or somewhere else, is wrong. It does not, and it must not.

We must not allow a refinery that would cause more methanol to be burned as fuel overseas and result in significant methane pollution from fracking.

We must not allow this methanol refinery which would quickly become one of Washington's most significant sources of climate-changing pollution, and use more fracked gas than all of Washington's gas-fired power plants combined.

Any mitigation for environmental impacts and emissions would at best be a tiny bandaid on a gaping wound.

Economic impacts for the next 40 years stated in this study fail to attempt to look at economic impacts of climate change and climate disasters over the coming decades.

We MUST redefine our generation by making decisive and final rejection of this new fossil fuel development. This, in hope for the future of us, my kids and your kids, my grandsons, Ollie and Max, and your grandkids, and all future generations.

I appeal to you, please work tirelessly to do whatever is necessary to reject the Kalama Methanol Refinery. It shouldn't be built here or anywhere, and we must do our part to stop it.

Thank you.
Kathy Wolff