

Dena Turner

My name is Dena Turner. I live in Portland, Oregon. I am writing to address my concern about how the Kalama Methanol Refinery exacerbates climate change and climate catastrophe.

The entire West coast has been wracked by statistically large and destructive fires. My City, my neighborhood, large parts of the State of Oregon are seeing hazardously unhealthy air from wildfires. I am a prisoner in my house because of wildfire caused smoke. California is seeing among the largest fires ever. Washington State likewise is being hit by destructive wildfires. Many of the fires were caused by unusual and dry winds, winds that are more likely now and in the future because of climate change. Fires in California were caused by a long multi-year drought and thousands of dry lightning strikes. This is abnormal, and again more likely now and in the future because of climate change.

I write this letter because I am extremely concerned that climate change is a risk to future life on planet earth. Science tells us that already one million species are at risk of extinction. We know that the likelihood of droughts, fires, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, crop failures, famines are all increased with climate change. As I write this Hurricane Sally is impacting Gulf States. There are so many hurricanes this season that the naming system is challenged, soon requiring the use of the Greek alphabet to name hurricanes. This is not normal.

I am concerned that fracked gas is not clean and not natural. Methane is 86 times more potent as a warming gas than carbon dioxide. The methanol refinery would increase Washington State's contribution to global warming by nearly 10%.

I ask you, I beg of you to take a stand against the Kalama methanol refinery. I ask you, I beg of you to consider the future of planet earth. I ask you, I beg of you to consider the one million species of risk of extinction caused by pollutants in their environments and loss of habitat. I ask you, I beg of you to consider respiratory illnesses, particularly in neighborhoods where poor and people of color reside. I ask you to take into consideration that NWIW provides very vague language related to mitigation. This is unacceptable. The future of planet earth cannot be put at risk with increasing fossil fuel use promoted through vague language that risks our future.

Because of my concern, I call on the Washington Department of Ecology to reject the Kalama methanol refinery and to deny the Shorelines Permit for this project. Take a stand for the future of planet earth, my grandchildren, and your grandchildren, that they may have a livable planet.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dena Turner