Cathryn Chudy

Ecology did the right thing when expecting NWIW to provide accurate and truthful answers to relevant questions on the proposed facility. The current SSEIS release on September 2nd became necessary when your persistence met the stonewall of a company that is long on promises, and short on reliable answers when it comes to being honest with regulators and the public. The original proposal for a facility twice the size of Kalama to be built and operated in Tacoma, stalled in part back in 2016 over failure of the same company to answer basic health and public safety questions posed by the public and the port commissioners at Tacoma.

A replay of this failure by this company to truthfully factually and adequately answer questions about the proposed facility and Kalama, has, once again, forced you to pursue substantive answers to relevant questions on your own. What you did establish with the second EIS is that upstream, onsite, and downstream emissions will result in an increase, not a decrease and not a removal of climate pollution here in Washington. When the Hail Mary that proponents are grasping in order to make their dubious case with the ecology, involves a diversion from reality by taking us down the yellow brick road to the Oz of speculation and if then, thinking that somehow has been converted into a case for environmental game where there literally factually is not.

Voluntary mitigation may sound reassuring to some, but add on the phrase when feasible, and to the extent, possible, and you have an empty promise that more than likely will disappear into thin air as the profits are pocketed outside of Washington, and our children and grandchildren inherit the climate pollution mess that cannot be wished or mitigated away so easily. You are the guardians of our air, land, and water. You cannot sign off on this proposal masquerading as a climate solution without betraying the trust we and those who come after us, place in you. We urge you to deny the permit and reject this project. Thank you.