

Rosemary Siipola

201 Elm Street
PO Box 373
Kalama, Washington 98625
16 Sept 2020
Washington State Department of Ecology
Attn: Rich Doenges
NWIW SSEIS
PO Box 47775
Olympia, Washington 98504-7775

Dear Mr. Doenges,

This is a letter for all of the folks in our state who believe in science and fear for the health of our environment. The report from the Department of Ecology on the Northwest Innovation Works, released earlier this month, methanol facility in Kalama offers hope and solutions at a time when we all desperately need it.

Northwest Innovation Works Kalama has consistently claimed that its facility, upon completion, will reduce harmful global greenhouse gas emissions. The first two environmental impact studies, completed for the project, validated that thesis. However, environmental groups took issue with the findings and sued for a more comprehensive study. That study, now released by the Washington Department of Ecology, confirms that Northwest Innovation Works Kalama does, indeed, reduce harmful global greenhouse gas emissions. Three studies now confirm this fact. At this point, the science is clear and solid on this issue.

For every year the plant isn't operating, we lose a chance to reduce millions of tonnes of greenhouse gases from our atmosphere. This project cannot wait. If, as Washingtonians, we truly care about the environment, and believe in science, then the three independent environmental impact studies, conducted over the past six years lead to two conclusions:

1. The State of Washington's robust environmental permitting regulations support this project, upholding its high standards and opening the way for additional, modern, environmentally sound projects to be permitted and built in Washington, revitalizing and transitioning our economy, while promoting our state's standards for environmentally safe and sound industry, and,
2. Taking all of this into account, it's time to put people to work in Cowlitz County in the new, modern, green economy.

As a proud Cowlitz County citizen, and a member of the Lower Columbia College Foundation Board of Directors, I can honestly say that Cowlitz County is ready, willing and able to meet the opportunities and challenges this new economy will bring to our region.

Sincerely,
Rosemary Siipola
Kalama, Washington