

Carrie Parks

Hi, my name is Carrie Parks. I'm a longtime resident of Vancouver and I love our natural surroundings in this area. I want to talk to the methanol supporters and tell you to wake up and smell the smoke-filled air. Do you want to destroy the livability of your town and lock us into another 40 years of poisoning the planet? Why are you pursuing a dying industry that will put your people out of work in a few years? That is if they survive the wildfires, the droughts, the storms, the pandemics, and the food shortages being caused exactly by the kind of pollution you want to pump into our air. Building this factory will leave you behind in the new economy.

California is making its buses fully electric by 2040 and putting through 300,000 zero-emission trucks on the road by 2035. Portland is building generators that will make electricity by bobbing up and down in the ocean. Spokane is building an electric sports car and battery factory that will create up to 3,000 jobs. I'd like to direct you all to www.drawdown.org which has a lot of ideas on climate solutions. One is putting small turbines in the river whose blades turn as the water flows past naturally capturing the energy. Such a system could reduce carbon emissions by 1 to 3 gigatons of CO2.

Just retrofitting existing buildings could provide lots of good construction jobs while improving people's lives. Retrofits could cut energy use by 40% and avert tons of greenhouse gas emissions. You could do all of those things here in Kalama instead of a dirty industry.

Since ecology is comparing the effects of carbon emissions from the methanol plant to that from burning coal, it should also include an analysis of emissions from the methanol plant in comparison to sustainable alternatives like these. Look for better cleaner technology and longer-lasting jobs instead of turning your beautiful town into a dirty industrial center. Deny the permit.