Laura Rogers

Greetings. I'm Laura Rogers, an attorney who practiced law for more than 30 years. I live in Portland, a mere 40 miles south of the site where the proposed Kalama Manufacturing and Marine Export Facility would be located. As a fourth-generation Oregonian, my happiest years were spent as a child in a lumber town in the Cascade. I care deeply about the environment of our region.

The proposal to be sited in earthquake country would; one, pollute the air with cancer-causing emissions; two, emit 4.6 million metric tons of greenhouse gas pollution each year for 40 years; and three, each day use millions of gallons of water from an aquifer connected to the Columbia River. I join countless other citizens in standing in fervent opposition to the proposal.

Others have articulated the many flaws in the proposal and the SSEIS. Here, I touch on just one key concern. We must not put the profit of private investors over the inevitable damage this proposal would cause to our environment, which proposal would actually accelerate the use of fossil fuels. Ecology must face the risks of this proposal head-on, and not rely on a speculative market-based analysis that compares the proposal with vague alternatives. All of the high-carbon paths are unacceptable. A low-carbon future demands that we make investments in lower-emitting processes.

I'd like to say that the work of those of you in Ecology are doing on this proposal is vitally important for our region. You have the opportunity to seize the opportunity to make a difference. Thank you.