

## George Raiter

>> Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is George Raiter. I'm a 45-year resident of Cowlitz County. I've served eight years on the Longview City Council, two terms as the Mayor of Longview in the state legislature, and for 12 years as a Cowlitz County Commissioner. I've contracted with Northwest Innovation for community outreach for the past three years.

I'm well aware that the social and spiritual health of our community is directly tied to the health of our economy. The approval of this project will both benefit our community and improve the global environment. I believe in some fundamentals; including equal application of the law and the rule of science. The studies you have are mandated by state law and indisputably based on sound science. By granting this permit, Washington can set the highest standard and be a national leader.

The [inaudible] emission technology results in the air emissions being classified as a minor source; similar to a new gas station.

The investment in zero liquid discharge allows no discharge whatsoever into the Columbia River. There's no solid waste generated by the process. Although there will be no rail or truck traffic moving raw material or product, this project will pay millions of dollars annually to the Cowlitz County Road Fund. Global greenhouse gases will be reduced equivalent to twice that emitted annually by the entire City of Seattle. The company has agreed to go further and mitigate local greenhouse gases.

Please do not move the goalpost. Follow the science, follow the law, grant these permits.