

# Joan Roberts

My name is Joan Roberts and I am here as a pediatrician, a parent, and a cancer survivor to stand in staunch opposition to the proposed Kalama Methanol Plant. The public health risks proposed by this plant are numerous, terrifying and preventable.

I would like to add my voice to the many others speaking out against this development. The process of hydraulic shale fracturing, the transportation of liquid natural gas, the massive consumption of the waters of the Columbia and subsequent leakage into our watershed, the inherent land use and industrialized presence of this plant, the cargo ships moving the methanol from the sound and the creation of plastic as an end product with a carbon and other greenhouse gas outputs involved at every stage.

There are no steps in this pathway that do not result in damage to the local, regional, and eventually global environment. The human and environmental costs associated with the release of carbon, chemicals and heavy metals into our water and air and the increased presence of plastic in our ocean for centuries to come all represent immediate reasons to prevent this project from going forward.

Yet here we are with the Department of Ecology apparently contemplating that these costs might be worth incurring. What is in the balance? Do we think that the jobs for this plant will outweigh the job losses from tourism, fisheries, and shellfish that will be injured in the coming years? I implore you to consider our welfare as humans, we're all subject to the same frailties and needs.

Our bodies are affected by plastics which are proven to change the hormonal balance and promote cancers driven by those hormones. Please, for the health of our people, for our beautiful Columbia River and the Salish Sea, do not allow this plant to move forward.