

Amy Tejcka

My name is Amy Tesca. I live in Woodland, Washington about 12 miles downwind of the proposed methanol refinery in Kalama. I am begging you, please do not allow Northwest Innovation Works to build a methanol refinery in our backyard. We have wildfires currently raging right here in our midst. These ferocious fires are becoming more prevalent. Proponents claim that it is safe to pipe in megatons of fracked natural gas and turn it into methanol primarily to benefit the Republic of China. I realize that we have been promised a few jobs as well as some other perks that will seem like chicken feed compared to the profits likely to be made by the Chinese and their affiliates.

What happens to us if the East wind decides to blow fire into Kalama? Why would anyone consider building such a monstrosity in such a densely populated area? Why would we risk our beloved Columbia River so key to the entire Pacific Northwest economy and way of life? What about the real possibility of a Cascadia mega earthquake? What about five million gallons of water the plant will be drawing daily from our local aquifer? What about our sadly dwindling salmon and steelhead runs?

Property values are likely to tank locally, including my own here in Washington if this plant is approved. Folks are going to love the unsightly Clunes of hazardous vapor clouds billowing up higher than those blown from Mount St. Helens eruption in 1980. Who wants to live near that? This proposal is absolutely ludicrous. It's so dangerous.

What are we building it for, more plastic? We don't need more plastic in the world. We need less, and we don't need a methanol refinery in Southwest Washington. My grandchildren are five and seven years old. Please protect their health and safety. It's their air and water we're talking about here. You are the Washington State Department of Ecology. It's your job to protect us. Please do not grant this permit. Thank you for listening.