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## SUBMITTED: DOE PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

September 24, 2020

To Washington State Department of Ecology Review Board,

On behalf of the Longview City Council we express our enthusiastic support of the Northwest Innovation Works (NWIW) proposed methanol project in Kalama, Washington.

The founder of the City of Longview, Robert A Long, was an individual with a grand vision for development and industry along the Columbia River water highway.

NWIW is such an industry being proposed along the Columbia River, and the Longview City Council recognizes that the NWIW project will contribute to our community as a whole by offering an abundance of family wage jobs desperately needed for a sustainable and vigorous economy. Not only will this project employ 1,000 workers during construction and 200 to operate the facility upon the completion of construction, the investment in the NWIW project will provide a much-needed boost to a struggling Cowlitz County economy, promising to generate \$30-40 million in new local taxes.

The tax contributions that Northwest Innovation Works will contribute to Cowlitz County as a whole, the City of Kalama (including Kalama schools, and Kalama Fire District #5), and the State of Washington will be significant and will add to a robust tax base to help build up the surrounding communities offering improved and more efficient roads, public safety, infrastructure and schools.

We celebrate the fact that the proposed NWIW project will provide for the first "Zero Liquid Discharge" system on the Columbia River and the removal of 9.7 to 12.6 metric tons in climate change-inducing carbon dioxide annually. This facility will protect the Columbia River system by recycling 100% of the plant's wastewater and provides for a significant positive impact on global greenhouse gas emissions- the equivalent to removing approximately 2.2 million cars off -the road. This is the win-win we have been looking for in Southwest Washington.

We are encouraged by the positive environmental and economic benefits this project offers and the thorough review by the Department of Ecology over the past seven years. The Longview City Council urges the Department of Ecology to promptly issue the necessary permits for this project to proceed.

Respectfully,

MaryAlice Walks, Mayor

cc: Mayor MaryAlice Wallis
Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Wallin
Councilmember Chet Makinster
Councilmember Steve Moon
Councilmember Hillary Strobel
Councilmember Christine Schott
Councilmember Ruth Kendall

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