

Nancy Elbert

I was born and grew up in Longview, WA.

I do not believe the SEIS adequately addresses upstream pollution in the lifecycle study for the proposed Kalama methanol refinery. For instance, the refinery would increase the amount of natural gas moving through the current pipeline, and inevitably more pipelines (not just a short extension spur to the refinery) would need to be built once reserves are drawn down. (I resent this because by state law, new pipelines have to be paid by ALL ratepayers, not just the refinery "hog" that would be creating the need for new pipelines in the first place.)

Natural gas lines are known to have not insignificant leaks and even "smallish" sounding amounts of 1% - 3% escaping are extremely harmful for climate change due to methane being 50 times more greenhouse gas-producing than carbon dioxide. Don't forget also the harmful effects to people who are nearby. Infants and children do not have agency and cannot simply move away from the problem.

The natural gas feedstock is proposed to be sourced from fracking to take place in British Columbia, but in all likelihood that will not be enough and eventually it will also need to come from fracking in the Rocky Mountain States. Regardless of source, fracked gas is known to disturb bedrock, cause earthquakes, and most terribly of all: poison groundwater with chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, miscarriage, and stillbirth. The SEIS does not adequately take into account the harm caused by fracking, especially because Life Cycle Associates, (hired and paid for by proponents of the refinery), carefully selected their statistics to paint a cheery but inaccurate picture of the long-term affects of the additional fracked natural gas that would be needed for feedstock to the refinery.

I ask that the following be taken into account when performing analysis of this proposed project: 1) climate effects of fracked gas; 2) climate effects of pipeline leaks (with realistic leakage rates) and 3) the many harms to nearby inhabitants where fracking is taking place and where there is leakage. If these three things are fully taken into account, you will understand why I oppose building this methanol refinery. Thank you.