

Deirdre Gabbay

Dear WA Department of Ecology,

As a person of faith, I believe we are called to care for both the well-being of communities and the environment.

Twenty years ago would have been the correct time to phase out the burning of fossil fuels to protect our climate from the build up of dangerous greenhouse gasses. It is unconscionable that it was not done - and we are feeling the direct effects of that inaction today - in the wildfires, storms, extreme heat in urban areas, the loss of glaciers and ice caps, and the sea level rise that will soon drown the world's great cities.

If we fail to act again today, when the devastating effects of last year's poor choices are upon us, then what is the point of ever educating another child to study science, of ever teaching another human being to care about the future, or giving any governing body the responsibility to set policy that will affect the future health of the planet?

The answer is: there will be no point to your very existence as a Department of Ecology if you approve construction of this disastrous project.

We the people have given you the authority to say "no" to this fatal industry. You must use it.

Building the world's largest fracked gas-to-methanol plant in Washington does not align with my personal values of stewardship and justice, nor does it support our state's commitment to reducing climate pollution. Please reject Northwest Innovation Work's proposed methanol refinery in Kalama and deny its Shorelines Permit.

The second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Kalama methanol refinery clearly shows that this project is dirty, dangerous, and unwise. If built, our state will be locked into decades of additional climate pollution, even though we know it is past time to pursue a truly low-carbon future. Speculating that this project may displace other fossil fuels is not adequate justification for the known pollution that will harm our communities and climate.

Northwest Innovation Works has demonstrated that they are deceptive and will seek profit over people's wellbeing. They cannot be trusted to mitigate the impacts of this fracked gas refinery. The fact that the project has needed three reviews, with outspoken community opposition during each, shows that there is something wrong with it at its core. As Governor Inslee stated, we cannot support such fracked gas projects in good conscience.

You have a moral responsibility to protect public health and reduce our region's climate pollution. Please do what is right and deny this project. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Deirdre Gabbay
120 W Smith St Seattle, WA 98119-2319

deirdre@gabbay.org