

carolyn atkinson

My name is Carolyn Atkinson and I work at an elementary school in Seattle. I am a young person who struggles with climate-related terror.

My students understand that they are growing up in a world in crisis. I prepared these comments under the smoke of the homes of Oregon's 500,000 American climate refugees.

My students are anxious. Can you imagine the despair and powerlessness of being 10 years old and knowing that we have only 10 years left to course correct? The most terrifying impacts of climate change are projected to hit us well within my lifetime. Before the end of the century, CO2 levels are likely to rise to the point of impairing human cognition. This concern is absent from the EIS.

The Kalama plant is justifying itself with the ridiculous logic that somehow, over the next 40 years, this plant will emit less than hypothetical other plants. This is an absurdity. 2020 shows that significant but long foreseeable economic, ecological, and human system collapses are here. The next 40 years will be so unpredictable that most of my generation has agreed that we won't bother to plan for retirement because of the scale of chaos on our horizon. The EIS is ridiculously optimistic. Assuming "Business as usual" indefinitely is absurdity.

The ecological and political instability that breaks the 40 year speculation of this environmental statement is caused by the climate crisis.

The instability is caused by fossil fuel expansion.

The instability is caused by projects EXACTLY like this one

It is exacerbated by the commitment to dishonesty of all fossil companies INCLUDING Northwest Innovations, which has wasted DOE time with "data" so optimistic and inaccurate that this whole environmental impact process had to be repeated. We don't want to work with careless firms when the stakes are this high. The EIS should accurately account for historical failures of this industry to clean up after itself and prevent leaks.

It is time for those with the responsibility to do the right thing to quit saying "well, just a little bit more". The planet doesn't have a little bit more to give!

Protect, preserve and enhance the environment for current and future generations. I am one of the children of the generation that you were supposed to fix this mess for. We are grown now, and we are angry that the mess is still here for us to clean up. Don't make it bigger. Reject the statement based on incomplete and dishonest data. It is not worth it for temporary construction jobs when there's so much other construction to FIX this mess that needs to be done.