

Brandon Bowersox-Johnson

My name is Brandon Bauersox Johnson. I have been a Washingtonian for four years and before that was an Elected City Council member for eight years in Urbana, Illinois, where I grew up. I'm not just a policymaker, also a father, and I don't want my son growing up in even worse wildfires that destroy communities in Washington and beyond, or these raging tropical storms hitting the Gulf coast now. It is obvious that climate change is already here. I'm speaking tonight to urge you ultimately to deny this project and in this second SEIS project and process, please eliminate this dangerous myth that this plant somehow is good for the environment, just because it might displace dirtier energy.

That's simply absurd on its face. The idea that we should build a new fracked gas methanol refinery and lock-in pollution for 40 more years because somehow if we don't someone else will, that's absurd. That's a race to the bottom and it is planning to fail as the earlier speaker said. That displacement is a dangerous myth. It's obvious to anybody, we can't solve climate change by expanding fossil fuel infrastructure and investments. Furthermore, we can't predict as the market analysis does that in the next 40 years, there won't be cleaner technologies that might make plastics or fuel.

By investing now in fossil fuels, we're actually slowing those investments that need to go into cleaner sources for plastics or fuels, those investments in cleaner energy or green jobs to help the workers and communities switch to a cleaner greener economy. Please remove this displacement theory, put that myth to rest. Instead, please give a full accounting of this plant without the displacement and a path for Washington to meet its carbon budget. Please stand with the science, the native tribes, and the youth, the 15-year-olds on this call. Throw out that displacement theory and deny this. Thank you.