Joan Meyerhoff

My name is Joan Meyerhoff, and I live in Portland, Oregon. I'm testifying this evening because I [inaudible] and the people who live on it. I am motivated by my concern for future generations and by my commitment to the common good. Anyone who's brave enough to educate themselves about global warming knows that we're on a catastrophic path. Recent scientific analysis states we're behind schedule to curb carbon pollution, and our window to effect change that will mitigate the most severe consequences is narrowing.

The argument that Northwest Innovation Works methanol factory proposal for Kalama could cause less carbon pollution than other possible high-carbon futures, is in my mind, weak, based on speculation. By contrast, I present two realities. If we're not successful in curbing global warming, it will result in immeasurable suffering for all life on earth. The second is that there is an enormous surge in the number of people who describe climate change as their number one concern and they are demanding policy change. In this, there is surely hope.

We are engaged in a battle for the viability of life on earth. The course of the battle and the outcome are both unknown, but just like other high-stakes battles, like a nation fighting for freedom from an oppressor, or a person faced with a life-threatening illness fighting for their life, we need generals, we need doctors, we need leaders who are fully committed to winning. Washington Department of Ecology, we need you to fight with us for the environment. Do not support the methanol refinery, which will contribute to global warming. Deny the shoreline permit for the project. Thank you.