

Cameron Wilkinson

Hello, my name is Cameron Wilkinson. I was raised in Kelso and live in Kelso. I'm a third-generation steamfitter with United Association Local 26. My wife and I have two sons, 11 and 14. My grandfather moved his family here in 1976 from Southern California to continue his career as a steamfitter after working five years on the construction of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant.

The Cowlitz County area was a flourishing community for a blue-collar worker to raise their family with a great wage and benefits. It's unfortunate to see a small community and the impacts we've seen from the closing of production facilities like RNW paper and Reynolds Metal Company. We continue to see a decline in our family-wage jobs in this community with the Uberization of their industries.

It is unfortunate to see a project that is leading their industry globally with an environmental conscious approach being demonized with miss. The next leaders in Olefin production is 38% more polluting in Northwest Innovations proposed facility. We could turn our back on in NWIW, and have this other leader polluting our oceans from another country or we can embrace their continued work on improving this facility.

It's sad not to get the same shake in life as the past generation when they try to create an infinite loop on a stopwatch on permitting a project, but don't bat an eye at an 80-year-old dilapidated facility the next generation is constantly putting band-aids on daily in my industry. Thank you for letting me take the time to comment on this. Thank you.