

# Judy Arielle Fiestal

I am a 71 year old retired teacher from Portland, Oregon and now living in Ferndale, Washington. My sons and my grandchildren live in Portland, Lake Forest Park in Washington and Ferndale. What happens in Kalama affects us all.

What is the legacy do you imagine for yourselves? Are you wanting to be responsible to make a decision that will bring our environment to the brink of collapse or would you rather be part of the group of leaders that will look at reality and bring us to a future that our children and grandchildren can live in?

We have all experienced the smoke of the west burning this past month. Some worst than others. In Portland what used to be for us a lovely clear and warm summer month turned into a toxic stew for us to breathe. 250 miles north it was not as lethal but hazardous to our health to be outside. Your decision in regards to the proposed Kalama Methanol Refinery will define the world that we will live in.

Washington makes claims of wanting to meet climate goals that will turn around the course our civilization is taking. Approving a dinosaur aged methanol refinery plant that will produce 4.6 million tons of carbon pollution or more each year is not consistent with healing our planet. It is not consistent in protecting Washington shorelines, not consistent in protecting the health of our communities with good air quality, and is not consistent with keeping global temperature rise below 2 degrees C. In short it is not consistent with supporting our planet with life as we know it and love.

And for what are you willing to sacrifice so much? So that Northwest Innovation Works can continue to profit from the degradation of our environment? So that the destructive practice of fracked gas that lays waste the area from which it's extracted continues? So that we can help China produce more plastic that is polluting our oceans and our environment at a frightening rate? So that we will continue to produce more carbon than all the gas-fired power plants in Washigton combined?

Some say it's for jobs. We need government leaders who can look to the future to expand our alternative energy sector to create jobs that will help our society and not be hurtful to our environment. It is long past time that we have leaders who are willing to press forward on a new course for healing. Are you those leaders?

I urge the Department of Ecology to reject the methanol refinery and to deny the Shorelines Permit for this project.

Sincerely,  
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