

# Cowlitz Economic Development Council

My name is Ted, I'm the president of the nonprofit-- economic development Council, I have lived in Longview with my wife and children for 20 years. Academic develop my counsel is a membership raised operation since 1979.

Since COVID began we have helped administer over \$3.5 million to small business in Cowlitz County. The business open and people employed. Jobs and work our vital. In many ways, job defines who we are. And gives us pride and a sense of purpose in life. This project will provide vital jobs for our local families. Also it is a capital investment made by private sector companies that pay for the services that we all enjoy as part of a society government, infrastructure or sustainable without private sector investment. I can appreciate the intense scrutiny the Department of ecology has put this project through for the last six years. In my 25 years and economic development I have never seen a company be as innovative as this one from 0 liquid discharge, negating GHG's in Washington state, the innovation Works has met and exceeded all environment to hurdles put in front of them. Additionally the report of climate specifically prohibits the use of fuel so I don't even understand why that is part of the survey. Nevertheless I appreciate your time. Thank you very much and let's build this facility.