John Flynn

The cataclysmic wildfires we are currently experiencing in Washington, Oregon and California, with the associated loss of life and property, have a direct correlation to climate change. Even those of us without advanced scientific degrees can see the impacts of climate change and global warming and how those impacts affect our daily lives.

Other significant effects of climate change and global warming that are not as glaringly obvious are: \sim global temperature increases

~ rise in sea levels affecting coastal areas and cities

 \sim increased ocean acidification with its associated negative impacts on the marine ecosystem

~ reduction in annual snowpack

 \sim reduced runoff from less snowpack with reduced stream and river flows, with associated increases in water temperature, less water for irrigation, summertime hydropower production and negative impacts on fish migration and reproduction

 \sim more intense and frequent heatwaves, tropical cycles (hurricanes) and heavy precipitation (increased flooding events)

~ negative impacts to biodiversity, drinking water and food supplies.

The proposed fracked gas to methanol refinery would add an additional 4.6 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions per year into this equation. We, as a species, are currently at a tipping point where we desperately need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for our survival, not add more. I urge the Department of Ecology to deny any and all permits for this proposed project. Thank you.