

Cathryn Chudy

Hi, my name is Cathryn Chudy, and I'm a longtime resident of Vancouver, Washington. For more than 30 years I have worked with suicidal children from all over Washington and Oregon. One thing these kids have in common is that they do not see a future for themselves. A second thing is that they do not trust adults in their lives to make wise decisions on their behalf.

There is a struggle going on here between adults who are fighting for a safe and healthy future for their children and grandchildren and adults who are pursuing an outcome that puts that healthy and safe future at risk for no reason other than the pursuit of short term fossil fuel profits at the expense of the long term welfare of our state and our region. We are blessed here in Washington that many of our elected representatives recognize the risks that our children face going forward if fossil fuel businesses usual is allowed to continue unrestrained.

That is why Washington has set aggressive climate goals that limit gas emissions in order to protect us from the harm we are already suffering because of the climate crisis we are in. We are at a crossroads in determining how we will all move forward in achieving Washington's greenhouse gas reduction goals. On one side is the fossil fuel industry trying to persuade us that fracked gas to methanol, to plastic and fuel in China is somehow a pathway to a speculative lower carbon future.

The company that is cleverly attempting to greenwash this pursuit of profits at our expense wants us to ignore the reality that tons of greenhouse gas pollution each year will be dumped into Washington for the next 40 years and it'll magically go away with the voluntary promise to mitigate what is really non-mitigatable. On the other side are the multitudes of we the public, who are showing up and reminding you that speculation is not fact. That voluntary mitigation of polluting greenhouse gases is not good enough ground to stand on when it comes to the health and safety of our environment and the future of our children. The only path to meeting our state's climate goals and ensuring a safe and healthy future for generations to come is to deny this proposal and the shorelines permit. Thank you.