

Rick Rappaport

Thank you. I want to touch on two topics that are constant refrain from our proponents, One, we need jobs. It's good for our family, it's good for our economy, good for our spiritual health. The underlying implication, environmental that's the do-gooders are taking food from our babies. I reject those testimony implications here that there are opposing sides. One's right, one's wrong.

We have a common interest in human survival and sustainable livelihoods. An unattributable quote. If God had intended some people to fight just for the environment and others fight just for the economy would have made some people who could live without money and others who could live without water and air. There are not two groups of people here. We all work, we all need a livelihood, we all need a livable planet. We don't address both. We starve together while we're waiting to fry together.

Two, most of the proponents have latched on to the Nick's charts and explanations showing just how much better this is going to be than using coal. It's a hard argument to counter. They're right.

The project would have lower emissions, but comparing two huge greenhouse gas emitting projects to each other, can't be a way to evaluate it unless you have unassailable information that no one in their right mind would claim to have that plastic from fossil fuels is here to stay for the next 40 years, and China will never ever build another coal fire plant producing methanol if this one is built.

Testimony of unemployed trade union workers, tears in everyone's hearts. Stories of climate catastrophe, tears at everyone's hearts. It's not Ecology's job to find jobs for construction trades. That's for the legislature. It's their job to figure out how to support renewable energy projects. Yours is more limited.

Your job is to protect the environment for future generations as stated in your mission statement. Viewing this project is a standalone one and not making these assumptions, the project surely fails by the millions of tons of greenhouse gases it will emit.