

James MacLeod

As a Kalama resident, I am very concerned about KMMEF plans to "mitigate 100 percent of all in-state direct and indirect GHG emissions." The Final Supplemental EIS dated 8/30/2019 was a cruel joke. Buried in Appendix C, the so-called plan called for a loosely-defined committee of stakeholders with no specific authority, funding, timetable or accountability. Now the SSEIS draft dated 8/10/2020 (Appendix D) does little to improve this charade. The "Voluntary Mitigation Program Advisory Board" still has no specific membership, no implementation date, and the accountability still lies with Cowlitz County and DOE -- which they would in any case. There are no more specifics about proposed mitigation actions other than the purchase of carbon credits, which won't do a thing for Kalama residents. Even footnote 41 on page D-2 is specious: "NWIW is undertaking research as to how to configure and account for the VMP, including the consideration of forming an independent nonprofit arm to administer the funds." That independent C-4 might insulate NWIW from financial liability, but does nothing for the rest of us. Why would you want this in your backyard? KMMEF should be shelved unless and until specific mitigation actions are defined with hard dates and authority. Otherwise, Kalama residents will be stuck with whatever GHG emissions are produced.