

Audrey Not Provided

Hi, my name is Audrey and I'm a high school junior. I'm currently living in Kalama and I'm less than a mile away from their project site. I'm very concerned for our environment and I'm actively engaged in environmental awareness clubs and movements in my school and community. As a result, I'm in support of the Kalama project. I appreciate the review done by the Department of Ecology and believe that more than enough study has been done to support the incredible benefits of this project. This project has been under review for almost seven years now. This is the third time a government-led process has been undertaken.

In the meantime, while we continue to study this, climate change keeps happening and the science shows that every year we delay this project is another year we allow more carbon to be added to our planet. We must act now in order to address climate change. This project is an important step to doing that. Additionally, thank you to the Department of Ecology for the extremely thorough report. Climate change is real and change requires bold and meaningful action. Even this more conservative study sets a clear picture for the benefits for this project on both a statewide basis and globally.

Opponents of this project have slow progress and delay positive impacts by denying science. If Ecology's best estimate is to be believed, then the four-year delay caused by opponents of this project has the effect of adding a cumulative of a total of 24 million tons of GHGs into the atmosphere. I believe Washington state can and should set the highest standards and lead other states, our nation, and other nations. To the Department of Ecology, please approve this project as a great example to drive those high standards.