



WASHINGTON BUILDING TRADES

MARK RIKER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

TODD MITCHELL
PRESIDENT

Rich Doenges
NWIW SSEIS
Washington Department of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

I am writing in support of granting the permit for Northwest Innovation Works for the Kalama Methanol Manufacturing Plant, on behalf of the approximately 80,000 members of the Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council and their families.

It will come as no surprise that we in the Building Trades support the project on the basis of the careers, and jobs benefits that the plant will bring to the region.

But equally as important, we are also supportive on the basis of the environmental benefits that the project brings to the world.

While the exact outcome remains specifically unknown, the most likely scenario is that there will be a net reduction of 6 million metric tons per year of global greenhouse gases by building the plant than if the plant were not built.

However, that is only the most likely scenario; there are possible scenarios that exhibit a range of outcomes that vary from even more realized reductions to barely any reduction, yet reductions nonetheless.

And those scenarios do not even take into account the result of the mitigation factors that Ecology will advise on and have oversight of.

While the process has been frustrating for both advocates and opponents of the project, there is no one who can legitimately claim that it has not been a thorough process. The Department of Ecology has performed their statutory duties in vetting the proposal. The proposers have responded to each challenge presented by improving the proposal, thereby realizing a proposal that will be the most innovative, environmentally responsible methanol manufacturing plant on the planet. To us, that is a successful outcome of a difficult process, and should be rewarded by being granted the permit.

The environmental challenges that we all face are derivative of the real problem; demand. And we will not be demanding less products manufactured from plastics, we will actually be demanding more.

As I have stated before, the costs of delaying projects like this further are not hypothetical, we do not have to guess. We see them all over the globe, but specifically and famously, we see them very clearly in the Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and for those of us in Washington, we see them each wildfire season in the flames, smoke, and burned out landscape, homes, and towns like

Bridgeport where I personally have property and have spent time protecting against the devastation.

The long-term consequences of inaction due to argumentative stagnation are increasingly negative on our environment. We should not let the perfect be the enemy of the good, and delay progress on the issue of advancement of environmental improvements.

Please grant the permit and let's build progress.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. L. Riker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark L. Riker, Executive Secretary
Washington State Building &
Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO