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As a Washington resident and a member of the Faith Action Network and Plant for the Planet, I write to urge the Department not to approve the proposed methanol refinery in Kalama. The Department's SSEIS indicates that Northwest Innovation Works promises to mitigate the significant in-state carbon emissions associated with the facility. Respectfully, such promises are far more often made than delivered, and once begun, a project like this becomes politically far harder to end even if conditions are not fulfilled.

Furthermore, mitigating in-state impact is simply not good enough. The Department must be aware of the strong, high-universal consensus among climate scientists that the world is teetering on a precipice caused by too much carbon dioxide and methane emission. Washington has a responsibility to--at the very least--not add to the problem. We are supposedly a climate leader. Time to live up to that image.

Similarly, the promise that the refined methanol will not be used as fuel, only in plastics production, is ludicrous. Northwest Innovation cannot possibly guarantee that, nor can Washington enforce it.

Lastly, the SSEIS offers the tired old excuse: "if we didn't do it then someone else would," and maybe that person would do it worse. We cannot predict what some hypothetical other person might do. We can, however, control what we ourselves do. We should avoid doing harm.

Furthermore, the argument is, bluntly, stupid. Filling a demand does not sate demand. It enhances demand. If we supply more methanol, that will simply lead to increased investment in and reliance upon methanol products, leading to more methanol production elsewhere, by those same hypothetically less careful producers.

Please stop this dangerous project.