

Terry Teigen

Dear WA Department of Ecology,

As a person of faith, I believe we are called to care for both the well-being of communities and the environment.

Having spent almost all of my 66 years near and on the waters of this region, I have seen the measurable, increasingly dire consequences of our reliance on fossil fuels. There is a tragic irony in these plans for Kalama as they will impact, potentially on a devastating scale, the health of The Columbia and that ecosystem. At the same time, taking us faster and further down the road to catastrophic consequences of climate change.

Fortunately, our state can be part of the solution. My grandchildren and yours will thank us. This is what we are called to do as thinking and caring people living in this critical moment. So much depends on US and our actions.

Please attend to the statement below.

Building the world's largest fracked gas-to-methanol plant in Washington does not align with my personal values of stewardship and justice, nor does it support our state's commitment to reducing climate pollution. Please reject Northwest Innovation Work's proposed methanol refinery in Kalama and deny its Shorelines Permit.

The second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Kalama methanol refinery clearly shows that this project is dirty, dangerous, and unwise. If built, our state will be locked into decades of additional climate pollution, even though we know it is past time to pursue a truly low-carbon future. Speculating that this project may displace other fossil fuels is not adequate justification for the known pollution that will harm our communities and climate.

Northwest Innovation Works has demonstrated that they are deceptive and will seek profit over people's wellbeing. They cannot be trusted to mitigate the impacts of this fracked gas refinery. The fact that the project has needed three reviews, with outspoken community opposition during each, shows that there is something wrong with it at its core. As Governor Inslee stated, we cannot support such fracked gas projects in good conscience.

You have a moral responsibility to protect public health and reduce our region's climate pollution. Please do what is right and deny this project. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Rev. Terry Teigen
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