

Teresa Purcell

My name is Teresa Purcell and I was born and raised in Cowlitz County, and moved away for 26 years, and moved back 13 years ago. I have been astounded at the despair of the county and the fact that we haven't been able to build anything in 30 years. I've also committed my life for the past 30 years to environmental protection. I've worked all over the country with environmental organizations and working very hard to protect our land, air, and water and address climate change. I am a big supporter of the Northwest Innovation Works project because, to me, it is part of the solution. One of the things, as I hear all of the folks who are against it, I don't actually hear any solutions.

I don't hear looking for investments in creating jobs while we're actually tackling the climate crisis. I don't hear excitement about the fact that this project has actually committed to zero liquid discharge and ultra-low emission technology, which sets a new industrial standard for Southwest Washington where we can become an innovation zone, where the things that we do here can become creating the products of the future that are created with clean energy.

The conversation about using and creating a market for renewable natural gas, which is something that we actually do want to see happen, and also looking at the fact that we're running out of time and saying no to things that actually make a meaningful difference is not a solution. Please, I ask you, and I thank the Department of Ecology for their thoughtful work, but I ask you to move forward with this project and support it. Thank you.