

Andrew Harris

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Sept. 17, 2020

To: Washington Department of Ecology
Re: Kalama Methanol Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

I am writing on behalf of my seven grandchildren who are too young to speak for themselves. Currently they are being subjected to the hazardous, smoke-filled air of the Pacific Northwest, as wildfires rage across our landscape. Climate disruption is impacting their lives by preventing them from safely playing outside as they can't play outside, and more importantly the storms, flooding, mudslides and drought that are becoming increasingly severe limit their future. The planet is overheating, and NW Innovation Works (NWIW) will only make it worse . . . much worse.

If 40 percent of the methanol produced at the proposed Kalama facility is burned, as indicated by NWIW, it will yield 2 million tons of carbon pollution each year. The remainder of the methanol would become plastics in a world already overrun with discarded plastic waste. Methane gas along the supply chain to Kalama Methanol would be released into the atmosphere, increasing the carbon footprint of the project. Each methane molecule has 84 25 times the 20-year global warming potential of a carbon dioxide molecule, meaning that even small amounts of methane emissions have an enormous impact. If Washington State is to achieve its climate goal of keeping global warming "well below 2 degrees Celsius", it must deny the conversion of fracked gas to methanol.

Future energy needs must no longer be met by fossil fuels, including so-called "natural" gas, two-thirds of which in America is derived from fracking. Cleaner energy technologies are readily available, and battery storage capacity is rapidly improving. In the SEIS, NWIW identifies no specific projects or measures that will mitigate the release of methane from wellheads, from transmission pipes, and from the proposed refinery itself.

Washington's Department of Ecology needs to take a proactive position on behalf of our grandchildren and the survival of our planet. It should reject the proposed methanol refinery and deny NWIW a Shorelines Permit.

Thank you.

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