

Janelle Rich

Good evening, my name is Janelle Rich. I am a resident of Centralia, Washington. I'm asking the Department of Ecology to reject this project and permit. While we are trying to move beyond coal, natural gas is not our next sustainable answer. We are in a climate crisis, we need to employ practices that are on our path to better energy sources, not a band aid source.

Fracking required for natural gas refineries is not our safest or cleanest answer to address climate crisis. Methane escapes the atmosphere during the fracking process at underestimated levels, it is a powerful greenhouse gas. There are albeit rare chances that fracking can contaminate our waters. There's also no debate that the fracking process causes earthquakes through the disposal of wastewater back into the grounds.

We don't need to be involved in shipping our natural gases to China while our local environment suffers. That's creating the circle of the same damage and not breaking the cycle. Natural gas refineries are not an unmitigated evil however, it is not our best option to seriously address the climate crisis. We need to invest in renewable energy sources and within that there are the jobs that the opposing side claims they need so badly. Thank you for your time.