

1102 A. Creekwood Ct. SE
Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 570-0848
zeiglerbob@msn.com
September 17, 2020

RE: Personal Comments: Kalama Manufacturing and Marine Export Facility Public Hearing" September 17th by Bob Zeigler (Retired WDFW Biologist and SEPA Responsible Official, Member of Pax Christi – Catholic Peace and Justice Movement in Association with Earth Ministry) Concerned Citizen over Increasing Climate Catastrophe and Actions by State on Fossil Fuel Expansion Projects.

Statement begins:

My Name is Bob Zeigler and I live in Olympia, Wa. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the EIS on this Methanol Processing and Export facility on the banks of the Columbia River. I first want to complement you on listing significant direct impacts on the projects such as it being one of the top ten greenhouse gas emitters in our state. This is an excellent introduction and a practice that should be kept in EIS's on upfront impact summary.

The problem I see is in the discussion of mitigation in the interior of the document and appendices concluding that greenhouse gas impacts will be mitigated 100% over its life of 40 years in a process currently undefined by partners to be determined later by staff not yet funded nor guaranteed funded for 40 years nor can we count on the guarantee of political will to carry through. In state government we see many unfunded mandates that suffer staff cuts and intended actions do not get done. All resource agencies experience this in budget cuts in lean times. The compensatory mitigation stated for one of the top ten greenhouse gas emitters, while intended, appears to possibly be just a hope and a wish. Is this appropriate to justify permitting a project on a hope of replacing current and future losses of climate impacts in a project that would increase release of greenhouse gases? There is also the limitation that the compensatory mitigation has to be "cost effective".

The EIS has no risk analysis of catastrophic event: war or sabotage, earthquake, tsunami, break of upstream Columbia River dams, methane explosion.

Question: Was the Exxon Valdez spill ever mitigated anywhere near 100%? Catastrophic events can and do occur over the life of projects.

Question: How are secondary impacts of methane discharges along transmission lines or drilling and withdrawal from below ground compensated for, when often not recognized?

For 20 years scientists have been warning us about the dangers of climate change to existence of life on our planet. For the last 5 years prophetic voices in our faith communities have been

calling us to urgent action to keep fossil fuels in the ground and rapidly transition to renewable energy sources.

Now in our Faith Communities we are entering a time of special focus on healing the earth and protecting creation. This Friday starts **Jewish High Holy Days with Rosh Hashanah** and ends October 4th. In Catholic, Episcopal and Lutheran Communities from September 1 until October 4th (Feast of St. Francis) celebrate **The Season of Creation** with a focus on protecting creation, controlling climate change through individual (Lifestyle) and collective community efforts to restore the earth and divesting from fossil fuel industries for transition to renewables and reforestations.

Pope Francis in announcing Season of Creation states: "Climate restoration is of utmost importance, since we are in the midst of a climate emergency. We are running out of time, as our children and young people have reminded us," and strengthened regulation of "the activities of extractive companies" to "ensure access to justice for those affected," especially Indigenous communities."

That is the reason I come to speak at this hearing in addition we are now experiencing the worst air quality in the nation from our fires and seeing numerous Gulf and East Coast hurricanes and storms, floods and droughts. We see clearly **today** that climate change is here and is not healthy for our children and other living things. It leaves us with severe economic problems as well.

Thank you.



Bob Zeigler
Olympia, WA