

Regan Fisher

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed methanol refinery in Kalama.

This project would cause millions of tons of greenhouse gases to be emitted and pose a danger of pollution of the Columbia River. I am especially concerned about damage to the river, as the Columbia is a vital resource and connector of communities within our region. Native American communities rely on it for fishing, and pollution from the refinery could further damage the salmon population, which is such a vital resource in our region.

This refinery would use more fracked gas than all the gas-fired power plants in Washington combined. This stark increase is appalling, especially considering Governor Inslee has strongly positioned himself and the state of Washington as needing to urgently address climate change and move away from reliance on fossil fuels. This project would obviously be a move in the wrong direction.

I am also concerned about the gas pipeline that would be necessary for this project. It brings with it a huge risk of spills along the way, as well as damage to the communities along its path.

The EIS that was completed for this project is incomplete. It does not sufficiently address the environmental impacts of the project. The supplemental EIS was also inadequate. It is clear that there is bias involved in this project (with the stakeholders and backers), and it is unconscionable that the decision makers have not been presented with the accurate evidence of what sort of environmental damage this project would cause.

I request that the Department of Ecology deny the permit for the refinery.