

Nate Stokes

Well, thank you. My name is Nate Stokes and I live in Clark County. I'm a Field Rep Supervisor for the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 701, and a father of five and a grandfather of one. People have been talking about this global environment. If we care about our environment, then we need to approve this project so it doesn't get built somewhere else.

I want to make a couple of points since the opposition is stating stats. This project sets a new, high, unprecedented, inspirational standard for development in Washington State. This project has been under review for almost seven years now. This is the third time the government-led process has been undertaken. In the meantime, while we've continued to study this, climate change keeps happening and science shows that every year we delay this project, another year will allow more carbon to be added to our planet.

In addition to global GHG reduction, Northwest Innovation will mitigate for 100% of its in-state emissions, even those not directly tied to its facility. This will create investments renewable natural gas development, saving and improving forest lands and practice driving other innovative GHG-reducing technologies and opportunities locally, regionally, and globally. Washington State can and should be the highest standards-lead other states, our nation, other nations. Please approve this project as a great example to drive those high standards.

We must act now to address the climate change and this project is an important step to do that. I do support this project and thank you Department of Ecology for the good work, and please move swiftly.