

## Kelsey King

I am submitting a comment on the Kalama methanol plant Supplemental EIS.

We cannot fight climate change by creating new investments in fossil fuels. Natural gas is as natural as oil, but in not a sustainable fuel. Here are reasons that make us think the supplemental EIS is faulty.

### Deception, Deflection, and Lies from the Gas Industry

1. They call it "Natural" Gas. That is salesmanship, like inferring that Greenland is Green.
2. Twenty cities in California, and ten cities on the east coast are developing policies to require new construction to be all electric. The fossil gas industry is fighting back with a massive campaign on TV and FB promoting gas cookstoves, ignoring the fact that gas cookstoves can make the air inside a home more polluted than the law would allow the outside air next to a powerplant.
3. They say gas burns cleaner, but they ignore the fact that a neighborhood with all electric heat is even cleaner.
4. They promote gas heat but none of the vented fumes from water heaters and furnaces are treated for NOx before discharge. Meanwhile, we have spent billions to remove NOx from gas power plants and auto exhaust.
5. They promote renewable or biogas, as though we had the ability to provide more than just the 5% of what they would actually need.
6. They say that gas power plants produce only 50% of the CO2 emissions as coal power plants, but ignore the methane that leaks before the gas reaches the burner tip.
7. They treat LNG with the same green-brush, but liquefied natural gas is worse because of all the energy needed for the liquefaction process.
8. They've deflected by having us speculate that if the Kalama Methanol Plant is built, that the global emissions would be less, but people are waking up everywhere, even in China and we must not make it harder for them by approving this project.
9. The plastics industry is part of the oil and gas industry and they sponsor recycling campaigns to make us think that most plastic would be recycled, but the majority is buried or burned as trash.
10. The fertilizer industry is part of the gas industry and they point their fingers at dairy gas, to deflect attention from the greater emissions from the fertilizer plants.

### Market Forecasts

The EIS speculates on the global markets for methanol. We believe that the proponent advocated heavily for that speculation to be included.

Back in the 70's, all the electric utilities forecast that there would be a 300% growth in demand by this time. They were starting nuclear plants like crazy around here. Their forecasts were far overblown.

Thanks to our friend Lloyd Marbet, only one of the 21 proposed nuclear power plants is operating now, and renewables plus batteries could close it, for less cost than keeping it running.

It is not possible to predict market conditions for methanol or plastic. The resistance movement is everywhere, even in China. Many places (including Washington, by 2022) have banned various forms of plastic and after China cooked up this proposal in 2008, China became the world's leader in wind, solar, electric buses and cars. The Chinese have the strictest emissions standards for automobiles in the world. They could not forecast that in 2008.

### Displacement Speculation

The basic argument of the proponents, is that, if we don't build this methanol plant, then China will build something that produces more CO2, for the same product.

That's like saying, "If we don't sell nuclear weapons to North Korea, then someone else with less oversight, will.

### The Unions representing the Building Trades

We believe in unions; Don was a member of one for his entire teaching career.

When speakers who represent the building trades talk, it is important to realize that they represent the unions, but not most of the workers in the building trades.

In general, the developer of a large energy project will sign a contract with the construction unions, promising union jobs in exchange for turning out members to speak in support of a project.

The policy of the National Building Trade Unions is to support all large energy projects, Period.

Why is that? Generally, the companies that install rooftop solar are not union, and those projects are small in comparison to a major energy project.

All those speaking in favor of the project, are assuming the EIS is accurate. No, the EIS is guessing.

### EIS Omissions

The Department of Ecology said: "Let us know what we omitted."

They omitted methane leaks from abandoned gas wells.

According to Bloomberg:

Gas companies are abandoning their wells, leaving them to leak methane forever.

Just one orphaned site in California could have emitted 30 tons of methane and there are millions more like it.

It would be good for Ecology to hear that often!!!!!!

[https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2020-09-17/abandoned-gas-wells-are-left-to-spew-methane-for-eternity?utm\\_source=url\\_link&fbclid=IwAR2IzicvXTRm0jluzdnPfdE4m1iQ8b6ZXU4cArXgPekpctmnX9CNsHHER0M](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2020-09-17/abandoned-gas-wells-are-left-to-spew-methane-for-eternity?utm_source=url_link&fbclid=IwAR2IzicvXTRm0jluzdnPfdE4m1iQ8b6ZXU4cArXgPekpctmnX9CNsHHER0M)