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Department of Ecology,

I am urging you to DENY THE PERMIT needed for Chinese government-owned methanol producer, Northwest Innovation Works to proceed with building the methanol plant in Kalama. Earlier this year, Sec. of State Mike Pompeo warned state governors to be wary of China's strategic intention to influence U.S. lawmakers and citizens and that China's Communist Party has infiltrated various levels of America's infrastructure and is working to destroy the values of the United States. Pompeo warned that Chinese Communist party officials are cultivating relationships with local politicians.

Washington State Rep. Richard DeBolt is the Director of External Relations with NWIW. He earns at least \$120,000 annually according to state records. It is completely inappropriate and UNETHICAL for him to be promoting the methanol plant when he votes and works on the state budgets that also fund the Department of Ecology.

"We can't ignore China's actions and strategic intentions," Pompeo said while addressing the National Governors Association winter meeting. "The Chinese government has been methodical in the way it's analyzed our system...it's assessed our vulnerabilities and it's decided to exploit our freedoms, to gain an advantage over us at the federal level, the state level and the local level."

Please align your permit decision making with Governor Inslee who reversed his stance in May of 2019 after initially saying the plant would reduce greenhouse gasses and produce cleaner energy. "We want to be consistent to that spirit of progress. Therefore, I cannot in good conscience support continued construction of a liquefied natural gas plant in Tacoma or a methanol production facility in Kalama," Inslee said after signing a bill banning fracking for oil and natural gas in Washington State.

Approval of the Kalama methanol plant permit does NOT SUPPORT Governor Inslee's 10 year 100% Clean Energy for America Plan. Please shut this down.