

Alice Shapiro

There are many reasons to oppose the Kalama methanol plant. You know that methanol is a potent greenhouse gas. We are in the midst of a climate crisis and extreme drought in Washington as well as Oregon, where I live, as do my two young granddaughters. We have recently experienced hazardous air quality due to the smoke of numerous, monstrous wildfires, some of which are still burning. These fires were driven by a combination of dryness of the forests, presence of "kindling" from smaller, replanted trees (large, old growth trees are not as susceptible to burning) and high wind conditions. The drought and ignitable forests are exacerbated by the practices of improper forest management and logging as well as an increase in greenhouse gases from the use of fossil fuels. I am a retired community college biology and ecology professor and I understand from a scientific level the catastrophic dangers we face (and have already faced) from the continued use of fossil fuel. This plant is extremely ill-advised and will magnify the health crises we are experiencing. From a personal level, I am a grandmother and great-grandmother who wants a viable future for my family and for all people and other species with whom we share this planet. Two of my granddaughters live in Portland, as I do, and suffered greatly from the dense smoke and fear of fire, both physically and emotionally. I am including a picture of each of my Portland grandkids to personalize what is at stake. There are countless other children who are at stake. Consider the future and the health of our planet. We don't have many chances left to tip the scales to unstoppable planetary disaster. My grandchildren want to have a happy, healthy childhood as they and all children deserve.





