Hi My name is Tina Brakefield. I live in Vancouver and work as both a stay-home mother and run a sustainability blog. I have come here today to talk about the methanol refinery project.

I am deeply concerned and angry that this is even being considered. We are just now starting to see the end of the worst wildfires in the PNW. We are witnessing nearly 90 large wildfires in 10 western states, at least 35 deaths, and millions of acres destroyed. My family and all of the West Coast has been breathing this air that has gone off the charts in the last week with a high of at least 635 AQI.

Now while climate change itself didn't directly cause the fires to start, climate change has significantly increased the risks. According to the USDA projections show that an average annual 1 degree C temperature rise would increase the median burned area per year as much as 600 percent.

And while record breaking wildfires destroy the West Coast, 5 tropical cyclones are simultaneously moving through the Atlantic which has only occurred one other time in recorded history. And tropical storm Sally hit the Florida Alabama border just today, unleashing 30 inches of rain in four hours.

But despite all of this you are seriously considering building the world's largest fracked gas-to-methanol refinery in SW Washington. Ecology's analysis demonstrated that the project would produce 4.6 million tons of carbon pollution each year, or more.. This level of pollution is profoundly inconsistent with achieving Washington's climate goals, protecting Washington's Shorelines, and charting a path to keep global temperature rise below 2 degrees C.

Why are you even considering this? We should stop wasting time and resources in expanding our use of fossil fuels when these resources could be used in developing clean energy options. This choosing the "lesser of the evils" or "displacing" dirtier fuels approach isn't and shouldn't be an option anymore. I call on the Department of Ecology to reject the methanol refinery, and to deny the Shorelines Permit for the project. Thank you.