

## Thomas Not provided

My name is Thomas, I'm a lifelong Washingtonian. When faced with facts, wise people listen, they evolve, they show an openness to science. The value of science is that it doesn't care about our politics or opinions, it just tells us what works. Six years into studying the science of the proposed NWIW methanol facility in Kalama, one fact has emerged above all others. This plant would reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions globally at meaningful levels. For those who have asked questions throughout this process, those questions have now all been studied and answered.

I've heard several well-intentioned people during these hearings express their opinions, and it is clear that those opinions are deeply held, but even the strongest held opinion is no match for facts and science. Here's an example. I've heard some people expressing opinion that China's use of coal will unquestionably decline as a direct result of the country signing the Paris climate accords. While I do wish that would be the case, the fact is that China is expanding its coal plant capacity right now at the fastest rate since 2015.

According to survey data published this June by the Global Energy Monitor and the Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air, the only way to enact the goals established in the Paris climate accord is to look at facts like these, use rigorous and comprehensive scientific analysis like we find in the draft FSEIF, and when that science gives us an opportunity to reduce global GHGs by over six million metric tons annually, we have to say yes. To not do so is to do miserable harm to our planet, and that's not speculative or hypothetical even if it challenges somebody's strongly held belief. To be clear, the status quo isn't working. The only thing we can do is trust back to the science which the draft FSEIF accurately does.