

Jeff Berskin

Hi, my name is Jeff Berskin. I have been a resident of Cowlitz County for 44 years with my wife and two daughters. I have worked in the piping industry for 25 of those years, and on many projects across the United States. Our local jobs that pay a living wage have decreased in the community for many years. We are very fortunate to have an opportunity to take part in the project that will help clean up the environment on many levels.

If we do not have a place like this world-class facility that is regulated by the best in the industry for safety and near-zero emissions, we are not leaving much for our future generation to contribute to our society in terms of tax revenue, for all the things that the general public benefits from. I would also like to state as an avid outdoorsman and a steward of our land, there's no proven science, just speculation from unfounded sources that it's going to harm the environment.

The world cannot achieve its goal of keeping global warming well below two degrees Celsius by taking a not in my backyard approach to carbon reductions. Opponents want their kayaks, their tents, their fleece jackets, their automobiles, computers, and airplanes made up synthetic material, and they want other countries to produce that material in the dirtiest possible ways. That is the recipe for failure to achieve climate change goals.

In closing, I would like to see this project approved to move forward because it is the beginning of an end of growth for our future generations if it's denied. Thank you for your time.