

## Catherine Bax

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this very disturbing project that is being pursued by Northwest Innovation Works (NWIW) in Kalama. My name is Catherine Bax. I am a retired medical professional and a resident of Oregon.

I do not want to see this methanol refinery built because it would be a huge emitter of greenhouse gases and cause further warming of our planet. NWIW's fracked gas to methanol refinery would cause millions of tons of greenhouse gas pollution. The refinery would use more fracked gas than all the gas-fired power plants in Washington, combined. And the refinery would induce new fracked gas pipeline expansions throughout the region. This is a huge project that will cause huge amounts of pollution and environmental degradation to our area in order to ship methanol overseas to be used to make more plastics or to be used as fuel.

The only path forward for our long-term survival on this planet is a low carbon future. The vast majority of scientists who study climate change and our experience as people in the 21st Century tell us this. Washington state has set some thoughtful clean energy and climate goals. This project is not consistent with those goals. NWIW's refinery would produce 4.6 million tons of greenhouse gas pollution each year, for 40 years, a staggering quantity of pollution that will undermine Washington's greenhouse gas reduction goals.

The idea that a NWIW methanol refinery in Kalama, Washington could produce less pollution and GHG's than another high carbon factory somewhere else (in China?) is speculative, tenuous and ridiculous. A project (Kalama Methanol Refinery) that will produce tons of pollution, but less than an existing project that is producing more pollution is not a good reason to go forward with the project (Kalama Methanol Refinery) that produces tons of pollution. You can always find something that is worse than the terrible thing you want to do. Neither project is acceptable. Future energy needs do not need to be met by fossil fuels. There are alternatives if you and I demand them. Kalama needs economic stimulus and good jobs for the people who live there. But projects that profoundly contribute to global warming, ocean warming and rising shorelines are not the answer for Kalama, for Washington State, for the Pacific Northwest or for the planet. There are alternatives if we demand and support them.

I implore you, The Washington State Department of Ecology, to reject NWIW's methanol refinery project and to deny the Shoreline permits for the project.

Catherine Bax