

My name is Catherine Spofford. I live in Portland Oregon and have two young granddaughters whose future I am concerned about. The proposed methanol refinery would be the largest fracked gas to methanol refinery in the world and would impact not only the community of Kalama but all the Northwest. We have just seen some of the worst forest fires in the history of both Washington and Oregon. Scientist agree that climate change, resulting in higher temperatures, changes in precipitation patterns and cycles of drought across the west, contributed to these disastrous fires. The proposed refinery would become a significant source of greenhouse emissions each year, further contributing to the climate crisis and undermining Washington's greenhouse gas reduction goals. The refinery would consume more gas than any sector of Washington's economy necessitating a new fracked gas pipeline that may go down the entire length of the state. As we know gas pipelines leak methanol, which is 80 times more polluting than CO<sub>2</sub>, and have a history of dangerous explosions. This pipeline would go through communities, farmlands and forests and would increase the risk of pollution, explosion, and fire. I want a future where my granddaughters and other children are not afraid of losing their homes to fires and not forced to stay indoors because the air is too unhealthy to breath. This project will only exacerbate the climate crisis. I urge the Washington Department of Ecology to protect our environment and the future of our children and grandchildren and reject the methanol refinery and deny the Shoreline permit.