

Liam Doucet

My name is Liam Doucet, I am 18 years old and here on behalf of myself & my family who live in the city Portland, Oregon. That said I do hold a volunteer position at Historic Pearson Air Field in the city of Vancouver Washington.

I am here because I strongly oppose the plan to build a Methanol Refinery next to the Columbia River, and on top of the land Indigenous Nations call home & rightfully so. The threat that the facility will pose to the Northwest & its people is catastrophic. A vibrant ecosystem of animals & people both along the Columbia & even way up North as far as the Salish Sea, rely on the Columbia river to bring Salmon which is now at risk of extinction because of the Lower Snake River Dams. A Methanol Refinery built will end up sealing a deadly fate for all the Salmon either before or when a leak happens. And yes I do mean WHEN not IF. Looking at the history of Methanol plants (and frankly all chemical plants in this country) negligence & abuse seems to be a common factor when a disaster happens. Unfortunately not every single worker at this facility will be competent enough to make sure all systems work properly. If I learned anything from what happened 36 years ago in the city Bhopal India it's that failing safety systems is a classic blunder that happens with almost all American owned refineries. At least 16,000 civilians were claimed dead the night an American chemical refinery operated by American workers released toxic vapor into the skies of India when it's neglected failsafe broke. The people of the nations native to Kalama would be the very first ones to be hit by any spill or vapor release, which will severely injure & kill thousands of them, and eventually even kill or seriously injure a large American population only 30 minutes from the proposed refinery. Which my family and I are part of. And despite the country I was born in supporting the finest military in the world, I doubt they are willing to hand out any kind of modern treatment or protective gear to those who would be affected. To whoever is responsible for the creation of this refinery there is no doubt that you won't do provide for people affect. You decided to build the largest refinery on the Earth next to these people, and didn't even ask them. Which says a lot about how you don't recognize them as a people, let alone actual Nations with beautiful ways of life that have to be preserved.

The suggestion that I can offer to you is to look at how much the study is missing key scientific information which shows how much of a danger to the environment that the refinery will pose. Including the energy required just to keep the refinery in operation & the emissions that will release. Especially the emissions released gas fracking. No new jobs will come out of the refinery instead positions will open to already existing employees. Any new jobs that will be created will last for only two years per hired group of employees. This refinery is not "progress" toward a better America, if anything it is slowing progress to the America we need. A clean, non wasteful, & non destructive America that doesn't rely on harmful plastics & dangerous fuels, and respects the land it was built on.

Thank you for listening to my testimony, and I hope you decide against building this refinery on this beautiful land belonging to wonderful human beings. To those approving this refinery I encourage you to take account of every single emission released, contamination of land, & disaster that will be related to the refinery whether direct or indirect. You'd be surprised how much crucial information has been left out of this study. Attempting to replace chemical refineries in the People's Republic of China with other chemical refineries here in the United States of America does not solve climate

change, it only increase & changes the source of it.