

Adam High

I would like to express my disapproval for this project. Considering the overall cost in both final design, construction, and long-term maintenance needs of this project, it seems like an illogical use of public funding. The only bonafide benefits that this preferred alternative presents over its "Chehalis Basin LAND" alternatives are almost entirely economic, with no real consideration in the cost incurred by the public to restore streams, fish habitat, and fish passage barriers across the state. In a couple of decades, this dam will just be another facility on a long list of doomed infrastructure that the public will have to waste precious resources to remove, restore, and mitigate.

The allusions in this proposal that the dam will be entirely fish passable is not based on a real, long-term vision of how the river conditions will alter the facility in time. The maintenance required to clear woody debris, wash out sediment, and maintain operable floodgates will be cost preventative and will almost certainly end with corners being cut at some capacity.

This planning committee has yet to offer a satisfactory alternative to mitigate the flooding risks that our imperiled communities in the Chehalis Basin face, and will increasingly continue to face in the future with climate change and erratic weather patterns.

I would strongly appeal for a more thorough alternatives analysis that fairly weighs the financial concerns in a deteriorating national economy, environmental concerns seeking to rectify mistakes from the past that were justified in similar ways to this proposal, and social concerns which are evident with a quick scroll through of these public comments. Thank you for your time and consideration, board members.