Joelle Robinson

My name is Joelle Robinson, spelled J-O-E-L-L-E. Robinson, R-O-B-I-N-S-O-N. Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak today. I live in Bellingham, and....Knowing that nearly half of our country is currently dealing with dangerous heat, extreme weather, and flash flooding worries me deeply, and also reminds me of nearly 4 years ago in November, when it rained a month's worth of rain in two days here in Whatcom County. My parents were living in our family home that my dad built over 50 years ago. I called my mom at 6am to check on them, and they already had 4 inches of water in their house. I called 911 3 times that day, as my parents are in their 80s, and there is no upstairs. But I was told that they had over 50 families that they were trying to help. It was freezing cold, and my sisters and I were worried that they would get hypothermia if they had to stay there overnight as the waters kept rising. Finally, a neighbor was able to rescue them by driving his fishing boat onto their deck and took them to safety. It was so scary, and in the end, my parents had to move. I strongly support your work and ecology's proposed rules to help address the climate crisis, and to protect the very tiny lungs of my 5-year-old and all children. Thank you so much.