

David Pedersen

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding AQ0014TVP03, the proposed air-permit renewal for the City and Borough of Sitka's Jarvis Diesel Plant.

I OPPOSE the continued operation of this facility for several reasons.

First, the idea that so-called "best-available control technology" (BACT) can adequately protect public health is deeply and dangerously flawed. This is the same defective ideology behind the "clean diesel" scam, and look how well that turned out.

Second, the distance from the permitted facility to the city centre - approximately one kilometre - is shockingly inadequate to allow for the complete dispersal of pollutants emitted from the facility. I can smell small campfires from well over two kilometres away - more than TWICE the distance from the diesel plant to the city centre.

Third, diesel exhaust is a known carcinogen - it cannot be made safe no matter how it is treated, if it is treated at all.

Fourth, we are in a climate emergency and need to reduce our greenhouse-gas emissions as much as possible. Renewing the facility's permit runs counter to that objective.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, THERE IS NO SAFE LEVEL OF AIR POLLUTION. Even the best-available emissions controls will not stop this facility from causing irreparable health damage and premature death to everyone within the radius of its pollution.

For the aforementioned reasons, I respectfully oppose the renewal of the applicant's permit.

Thank you.