



DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT (DSEIS) PUBLIC HEARING
KALAMA MANUFACTURING & MARINE EXPORT FACILITY
PROJECT CO-LEADS: COWLITZ COUNTY AND PORT OF KALAMA

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PUBLIC HEARING

December 13, 2018
1900 7th Avenue
Longview, Washington

SINEAD R. WILDER, RPR, CSR, CCR
Court Reporter

APPEARANCES:

Hearing Facilitator:

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1 LONGVIEW, WASHINGTON; THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2018

2 6:00 p.m.

3 * * *

4 PUBLIC HEARING

5 MS. LUND: Good evening, everyone. We're
6 going to ask people to take a seat. I know we're
7 still checking folks in.

8 Welcome to the Draft Supplemental
9 Environmental Impact Statement or DSEIS Public Hearing
10 for the Kalama Manufacturing & Marine Export Facility.

11 This public hearing is part of the State
12 Environmental Policy Act, or SEPA, and is being hosted
13 by the Port of Kalama and Cowlitz County, co-lead
14 agencies for the project.

15 My name is Vanessa Lund, and I'll be
16 facilitating the discussion this evening.

17 I'd like to thank you for attending this
18 hearing, taking an interest in the project, and for
19 being part of an important public comment process.

20 But first, I'd like to thank the Cowlitz
21 County Event Center and staff for providing the space
22 and helping set things up. We're also grateful to the
23 County and Port, who are here this evening to support
24 the event.

25 The purpose of tonight's hearing is to take

1 public comment specifically on the DSEIS. The DSEIS
2 discusses greenhouse gas emissions and potential
3 mitigation. We would appreciate comments focused on
4 these topics.

5 Ann Farr, the SEPA-responsible individual
6 for this project will be hearing your comments this
7 evening. And we also have staff from the co-lead
8 agencies, the Port of Kalama and Cowlitz County.

9 We also have a court reporter here this
10 evening recording comments for the official record.
11 We are not here to answer questions. We're here to
12 listen and record your questions and comments.

13 I'd like to remind you that there are a few
14 ways to comment. You can sign up to give oral
15 testimony tonight. You can also provide written
16 comments. There are comment cards on the sign-in
17 desk, or you can email or mail comments.

18 And we have some information sheets that
19 give you the email address and the mailing address.

20 I'd like to explain the logistics of how
21 we'll be taking comments this evening. To provide
22 oral comments, you must sign up to speak. Hopefully
23 you noticed as you came, there are sign-up tables at
24 the entrance.

25 Upon signing up, speakers will receive a

1 ticket with a unique number. A matching ticket has
2 been placed in the lottery, and staff will draw
3 tickets for the 14-or-so speakers. And those names
4 and numbers are projected on the screen at the front
5 of the auditorium.

6 I'd like to ask you to kind of keep an eye
7 on that, what the number is and your name, so that you
8 know you're on deck to speak.

9 We have some reserved seats in the first
10 row. They have black covers on them. And those are
11 reserved for people who are next up to speak.

12 I'll make some occasional announcements to
13 remind people.

14 We also will be taking comments from elected
15 officials at the top of each hour. So we'll be
16 starting with those.

17 Each speaker will have two minutes to make
18 comments. We're going to ask you to be concise. We
19 would like you to state your name and where you're
20 from, for the record.

21 If you'd spell your last name, it would be
22 super helpful for our court reporter, who has to keep
23 track of all of this.

24 We will monitor time. And there are lights
25 on the podium to give you a heads up about the time

1 remaining. You will be excused once -- once you reach
2 the two-minute mark.

3 We also will take your written comments, if
4 you would like to also submit them. So if you're
5 reading something that you've written, if you can
6 provide them, that's helpful as well.

7 If you signed up to speak, but you change
8 your mind, that's okay. You can still submit comments
9 in writing using the comment card or sending an email.
10 But please be sure to let the sign-in desk know, so
11 that they can adjust the schedule.

12 I'd also like to let you know that we will
13 take periodic breaks, about ten minutes each hour
14 to -- to give our folks a break.

15 Our goal tonight is to provide a safe and
16 effective public hearing where all voices have an
17 opportunity to be heard. So we have some simple
18 ground rules that we would like you to respect.

19 Should individuals violate these rules or
20 otherwise create an unsafe or intimidating
21 environment, they will be asked to leave.

22 And if people cannot respect the ground
23 rules, unfortunately, we will have to close the
24 hearing.

25 So here are some of the ground rules. And

1 as I mentioned, those who want to give oral public
2 comments must sign up to speak.

3 We're going to remind you to silence your
4 cell phones and pagers in the auditorium.

5 Signs are not permitted in the auditorium.
6 I understand there's been some confusion about this.
7 So I just want to reiterate that signs are not
8 allowed. If people start raising signs, we're going
9 to take them, and you can get them on your way out.

10 Staff will monitor the number of people
11 entering the room to comply with fire code. I --
12 hopefully we won't reach full capacity. But if we do,
13 we'll have people wait in another area, and then open
14 it back up until others depart.

15 To accommodate as many speakers as possible,
16 I mentioned that we're limiting comments to two
17 minutes. If you have more than two minutes of
18 comments, please submit these in writing.

19 We'd also like to ask you to please be
20 respectful of the folks who are speaking. Silent
21 expressions of support or opposition, like a thumbs
22 up, or a thumbs down, or raising one's hand do not
23 disrupt speakers and are allowed.

24 But clapping, cheering, jeering disrupts
25 speakers and contributes to an intimidating

1 atmosphere.

2 Intimidation, such as confronting, blocking,
3 or interfering with attendees who may approach, enter,
4 or engage in the hearing, conducting rallies or
5 demonstrations at the entrance to or within the
6 hearing, or name-calling or chanting will not be
7 tolerated.

8 Speakers may be stopped if engaging in
9 intimidating or disruptive behavior.

10 The project co-lead agencies reserve the
11 right to close the meeting at any time if disruptions
12 interfere with the opportunity for participants to
13 make oral comments before an audience, or if there is
14 a safety risk.

15 So finally, one last reminder for folks is
16 that we're going to ask you, when you come up to
17 comment, to please speak clearly into the microphone.
18 And again, spell your last name for the public record.

19 And with that, we are going to get started
20 with our first speaker.

21 I mentioned we're going to take elected
22 officials at the top of the hour. We're going to
23 start with the Mayor of Kalama.

24 MR. MIKE REUTER: Hello. Thank you very
25 much for letting me speak here today.

1 First, let me let you know that I'm speaking
2 here as an individual and not as -- as the Mayor of
3 Kalama -- or as an individual and not in
4 representation of the Mayor of Kalama, something like
5 that. I just wanted you to know.

6 Okay. But I do have serious concerns for
7 the Northwest and its ability to take on this
8 petroleum refinery that will export a disastrous
9 amount of a natural gas for use as a feed stock for
10 methanol from our one and only pipeline that runs
11 along the I-5 corridor from the Canadian border to
12 Vancouver, Washington.

13 Natural gas was supposed to be the bridge
14 fuel from coal to oil to renewable energy. If this
15 refinery's constructed, that money be -- will not be
16 there.

17 This refinery also has concerns for the
18 other resources in the area. It will be the single
19 largest draw of natural gas by any one company in the
20 Northwest. It will use 100 megawatts of hydropower,
21 which is like gold when it comes to greenhouse gas
22 reductions.

23 It will consume 4 million gallons of water
24 per day from the Columbia pluvial watershed.

25 China's bringing the perfect weapon to want

1 all of our energy infrastructure at one time.

2 This methanol refinery demand for gas would
3 dwarf its consumption of more than most of our
4 Northwest biggest cities combined.

5 Even adding up all the gas used by every
6 home, business, industry in Seattle, Portland, Tacoma,
7 Spokane, Bellevue, Eugene, Bellingham and Corvallis,
8 it does not come even close to equaling the gas needed
9 for this one plan.

10 I believe that there will be so much natural
11 gas used to make methanol that it will hamper the
12 ability of businesses that rely on gas to expand or to
13 be built in the Northwest.

14 Uncertainty around energy is a major
15 deterrent to new investment. With a pipeline capacity
16 shortage, a natural gas shortage is created. Prices
17 for both natural gas and electricity skyrocket, and
18 CO2 emissions go up, because more carbon-intensive
19 fuels are forced to compensate.

20 An example of this is what's going on in
21 Australia with its prototype refinery, which this
22 refinery's technology is based on. That refinery is
23 now shut down, even though Australia is a number one
24 most -- or Australia is the most abundant --
25 gas-abundant nation in the world.

1 It is now closed because of the steep rises
2 in wholesale gas prices and supply shortages.
3 Domestic users are now in competition with Asian
4 buyers.

5 Another pipeline is easier than done --
6 easier said than done. The pipeline addition will
7 have to be constructed among the most
8 environmentally-sound population in the entire
9 country, including Seattle, Bellevue, Bellingham,
10 Tacoma, et cetera.

11 It'll probably take decades to get this
12 pipeline past the City's environmental concerns over
13 fossil fuel projects.

14 The existing pipeline was constructed over
15 60 years ago, when there wasn't too much -- there
16 wasn't much extreme opposition or regulatory
17 permitting process to hamper its cost or timetable.

18 I also think that if you give them the
19 pipeline, it would only bring in more and even larger
20 refineries and these type of industries.

21 Most importantly, there needs to be an
22 extensive study of the capacity of this pipeline with
23 all the future draws needed for -- and the future
24 needs. The plant fertilizer industry, power
25 generation plants, large industrial projects, and

1 population growth will all need large amounts in order
2 to be viable.

3 It does concern me why this type of refinery
4 is bringing ...

5 Is that -- can I finish or --

6 MS. LUND: Yeah. Our timer was not -- sorry
7 about that. Our timer was not functioning.

8 MR. MIKE REUTER: Oh. It seemed like a long
9 two minutes.

10 MS. LUND: Since you're the first out of the
11 gate, so --

12 MR. MIKE REUTER: I've only got one more
13 paragraph here.

14 I just want to say that it does concern me
15 why this type of refinery technology has not been used
16 anywhere in the world since 1971, for 47 years.

17 I think the reason is, there's nowhere on
18 earth that could take such a hit on our
19 infrastructure.

20 This was a hard decision to come up here.
21 I -- I -- the Port and the County, I know that it's
22 important for business. But this is just too hard
23 to -- to bypass.

24 Thank you very much.

25 MS. LUND: Thank you.

1 We are -- we appreciate your comment. And
2 thank you for being patient with our technical
3 difficulties.

4 We're also increasing the volume a little
5 bit on the sound, so -- did it get better? I don't
6 know if you can hear a little better.

7 Can you turn it up a little bit more?
8 Unfortunately, the court reporter has the heating unit
9 in back of her head. So --

10 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

11 MS. LUND: Thanks.

12 Okay. Our next speaker is Dennis Weber with
13 Cowlitz County. And then after that, we're going to
14 go to this list, which you can see on the screen.

15 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: We do have two
16 more elected officials that just came in, Senator Dean
17 Takko and Kelso City Council Member Mike Karnofski.

18 MS. LUND: Okay. Thank you.

19 MR. DENNIS WEBER: Good evening.

20 As a member of the Cowlitz County Board of
21 Commissioners I congratulate the applicant for its
22 life cycle analysis of greenhouse gas emissions, and
23 for its commitment to mitigate fully 100 percent the
24 in-state emissions of the project.

25 I'm looking forward to learning the details

1 for accomplishing this noble goal. And I've got a few
2 ideas on how that might work locally.

3 In a world filled with significant
4 trade-offs, where the good is not the enemy of the
5 perfect, I believe the analysis that global GHG
6 emission will see a significant decrease based on a
7 decrease in coal to methanol production in Asia of
8 approximately 12 million metric tons a year.

9 That is a bargain when compared to the
10 proposal's emissions in Washington State of
11 approximately 2 million metric tons a year.

12 Anyone who truly believes in the goals of
13 the Paris climate accords has to recognize that
14 proposal is an important step forward in building a
15 cleaner future for the entire Pacific Rim, with
16 such a significant trade-off. Because it allows
17 China to continue its path to a greater prosperity
18 as it attempts to match the United States in
19 achieving a higher standard of living for more of
20 its people.

21 The more Draconian alternative, that is, the
22 no-action alternative, actually condemns the Chinese
23 people to continue to breathe toxic air and forces --
24 or forces a tragic decline back into third-nation
25 poverty.

1 The opponents come dangerously close to --
2 to supporting a rather racist attitude, if they
3 believe that, if they believe, We have our riches and
4 wealthy standard of living. You don't get yours. It
5 must sound that way to our Asian friends.

6 But again, on behalf of the Cowlitz County
7 Commissioners, I support the conclusions of the draft
8 statement and recommend its adoption and permitting of
9 this entire proposal.

10 Thank you.

11 MS. LUND: Thank you.

12 Next we have Senator Takko.

13 MR. DEAN TAKKO: All right. Thank you for
14 coming here tonight and doing this.

15 You know, I want to start right off to tell
16 you that I do support this project.

17 And, you know, I truly believe it probably
18 has a net positive effect on carbon. But whether it
19 has a neutral effect, a positive effect, or a negative
20 effect, it's probably so de minimis in the -- when you
21 look at worldwide carbon, that I think you need to put
22 that aside to look at what it does for our community.

23 We struggle down here in this area. My
24 district goes from Longview, Kelso down to the coast
25 and up to Aberdeen. And we have struggled over the

1 years to have good-paying jobs.

2 At one time we did. We had a lot of
3 manufacturing. And we want to get back to where we
4 have jobs where people can afford to really have a
5 family-wage job, to have insurance, to be able to live
6 the life that we used to have when we had a good
7 economy around this area.

8 And so, you know, without going on too
9 long -- which I can probably stand here all night and
10 talk about this -- I really support this, because it's
11 good for our community. It's good for jobs,
12 construction jobs. It's good for the jobs that are
13 going to be here when they have the thing in
14 production, as well as the taxes that it'll -- that
15 the project will pay.

16 It'll pay for some of those things that we
17 have not been doing here, whether it's transportation,
18 health care, mental health, you name it.

19 Our metrics in this area are not that great.
20 And -- and part of the reason is we don't have the
21 jobs that we used to have. So we want jobs.

22 And with that, thank you for the opportunity
23 to say something.

24 MS. LUND: I'm going to remind you, we'd
25 like to not have auditorium reactions to comments.

1 Thank you.

2 Next we will have Council Member Karnofski.

3 MR. MIKE KARNOFSKI: Mike Karnofski, Kelso
4 City Council.

5 Latest environmental review has been
6 completed with a strong scientific basis. It's shown
7 a reduction in greenhouse gasses, and it's time to
8 move forward.

9 The key issue now is the mitigation --
10 further mitigation of greenhouse gasses. Northwest
11 Innovation has set aside significant money to look at
12 mitigation.

13 I think there's three potential mitigation
14 projects in Cowlitz County that should be looked at,
15 but also have a -- a reduction in greenhouse gasses.
16 Two are multiuse trails.

17 One is a trail of the Six Rivers Trail that
18 will go from the north county line to the south county
19 line using existing bike, multipurpose trails, county
20 roads.

21 The other is a rails-to-trails project to
22 convert the old Weyerhaeuser railroad into a multiuse
23 trail.

24 The third project, which would have a
25 significant and increased reduction in greenhouse

1 gasses, would be Senator Weber's -- or excuse me,
2 Commissioner Weber's Community Forest.

3 These projects will not only continue to
4 reduce greenhouse gasses, they will also improve the
5 quality of place for Cowlitz County and be an overall
6 win.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. LUND: Thank you.

9 Next we will have Representative Jim Walsh.

10 MR. JIM WALSH: Hi. I'm Representative Jim
11 Walsh, representative from District 19, Position One.

12 And my district reflects Senator Takko's
13 district. It goes out along the river up to the
14 coast, and then up the coast until it hits Aberdeen.

15 I'm strongly in favor of this project and
16 the jobs and the economic opportunity that it'll
17 present. I'm in favor of the good science that
18 supports it, that shows that there will be a net
19 beneficial effect to the overall carbon levels
20 globally.

21 And, you know, we talk a lot about jobs, and
22 the need for jobs in this area. And that's a true
23 need. But there are specific programs that this
24 project will support and enable and develop that are
25 critically important.

1 One of those -- there are several. But one
2 of those that really is key is the pre-apprentice
3 program that we are developing, together with the
4 building trades here in the school districts that will
5 channel young people at the high school level into a
6 pre-apprentice training program, that will show them a
7 path to a -- to a good life.

8 We talk about family-wage jobs all the time.
9 But that becomes kind of abstract in many cases. The
10 pre-apprentice program isn't abstract. It's very
11 practical and direct. And it shows the young person
12 how they can live a -- a good and productive life
13 working the trades.

14 And this is something that this area has
15 traditionally been strong in. And this project, and
16 projects like it, will allow that pre-apprentice
17 program through the high schools to thrive.

18 And it'll allow young people to see a way to
19 stay here, to not have to leave this area in order to
20 find gainful employment and a fulfilling career.

21 This is what we want here. We want to
22 develop local talent. We want to develop the local
23 tax base so that our local governments can be
24 independent and thriving entities.

25 This project will help all of that come

1 together. And I encourage you to consider that.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. LUND: Thank you.

4 Next we'll have Council Member Scott Vydra.

5 MR. SCOTT VYDRA: Scott Vydra, Longview,
6 representing Longview City Council, Position Two.

7 Thank you very much for having us this
8 evening.

9 At this time of year, government agencies,
10 such as the City of Longview, are setting their
11 biennium budgets. Tax revenues fund two-thirds of our
12 budgets.

13 Projects such as this are important, not
14 just for the jobs they bring, but for the taxes they
15 generate, for our schools and for our city. These
16 taxes are what pay for our libraries, our sidewalks,
17 our parks, as well as our police and fire.

18 I urge you to support this project and allow
19 it to move forward, compliant with all state and
20 federal permitting requirements.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. LUND: Thank you.

23 Next we have Nicki Walters with the 29th
24 Legislative District.

25 MS. NICKI WALTERS: Oh. I'm sorry.

1 Hi. My name's Nicki Walters. I'm a
2 representative from the 29th LD.

3 Northwest Innovation Works claims that the
4 methanol plant will be a clean industry by using
5 natural gas instead of coal in China. They are, in
6 essence, saying they cannot stand any more polluted
7 air in China and want to export it to Washington.

8 The very inference that natural gas is
9 better than coal is also being disproven. It is
10 true that natural gas will create less CO2 when
11 burned. But there's much more damage done by natural
12 gas leakage when producing it at the fracking well
13 site.

14 Natural gas is mostly methane. And it is
15 one of the worst greenhouse gasses possible. In fact,
16 it is 86 times worse than CO2 for trapping heat in the
17 atmosphere over a 20-year period.

18 So when a small fracking leak occurs at the
19 well, somewhere between 3 and 17 percent of the
20 natural gas is released. This amount is multiplied by
21 86 times for CO2 comparison in burning coal.

22 So there is no benefit. Probably it's more
23 like a disadvantage in burning natural gas instead of
24 coal.

25 This is contrary to what NWIW would lead you

1 to believe. It's greenwashing.

2 What I also want to talk about is hemp.
3 Hemp is in the farm bill, and it's becoming legal
4 federally any day now. All we have left is the
5 president to sign it. It already passed the House,
6 and it already passed the Senate. It passed
7 everything.

8 That's what we need to focus on. It could
9 replace everything.

10 MS. LUND: I'm going to remind you again not
11 to have auditory reactions to comments, please.

12 So next we have Kathleen Sullivan with
13 Clatsop County.

14 MS. KATHLEEN SULLIVAN: Hello. Thank you
15 for letting us be here tonight. My name's Kathleen
16 Sullivan, and I'm a Clatsop County Commissioner. I
17 live in Astoria, Oregon.

18 I live along the mighty Columbia River. And
19 I was active in -- along with many other people in the
20 County over a decade fighting against that liquefied
21 natural gas export facility. I think there were two
22 to three that -- that we ended.

23 And if this one doesn't go here, it's
24 possible that it's going to go to Columbia County,
25 which is down -- down the road from us.

1 I don't know how, in 2018, we can doubt
2 climate change, particularly after this last summer.
3 I think it's been proven that fossil fuels harm the
4 environment, harm the climate. And when we have the
5 oil industry lying since the 1980s, knowing full well
6 what fossil fuels do to our climate.

7 And now we have -- they're presenting
8 information that is not accurate about methane leaking
9 with fracked gas. It's just -- besides the -- it's
10 just difficult.

11 But the other thing is, what's the other
12 cost? There are green jobs that won't hurt the
13 environment. There are -- we have alternative energy
14 that will take care of this without using fossil
15 fuels.

16 I think, as decision-makers, we have to be
17 courageous, and we have to say no. We have to take
18 the moral higher ground.

19 Climate change threatens the planet. It
20 threatens all life on this planet. And I don't think
21 we need -- we cannot be okay with something that's
22 going to -- for the next four years is going to lock
23 us in to using fossil fuel. This is a mistake.

24 And I'm speaking up here for myself.
25 Although I'm -- I'm an elected official, I'm speaking

1 for myself. But I am also speaking for most of my
2 neighbors and my family.

3 MS. LUND: Thank you.

4 MS. KATHLEEN SULLIVAN: So thank you.

5 MS. LUND: Thank you.

6 Our next speaker -- and I apologize if I
7 mispronounce names -- Cathy Spofford. Cathy? Here
8 she comes.

9 So I'm going to remind people, if your name
10 is on this list, if you could meander to the front,
11 there are seats in front.

12 If you've already spoken, if you could
13 vacate the seats in the front to give other people the
14 opportunity, that would be lovely.

15 Thank you.

16 MS. CATHY SPOFFORD: Good evening.

17 I'm not a scientist. I'm just a mother and
18 grandmother who's very concerned about the future of
19 my children and grandchildren.

20 The 2018 intergovernmental panel on climate
21 change written by 91 scientists and in 40 countries
22 paints a dire picture of the consequences of climate
23 change, and warns that if we do not make drastic
24 changes now, by 2040 we will have a world in crisis,
25 with worsening food shortages, wildfires, drought and

1 floods.

2 In 2040 my grandchildren will only be 26 and
3 27. This is not the world I want to leave them.

4 The Kalama methanol refinery would
5 contribute to climate disaster and lead us in the
6 opposite direction of where we need to go. Fracked
7 gas is not a clean replacement for oil and coal. It
8 is just another polluting fossil fuel.

9 The SEIS downplayed the full climate impact
10 of this project, underestimating the amount of methane
11 released as it is extracted, transported, treated and
12 stored.

13 We cannot afford to lock in this kind of
14 dirty fossil fuel infrastructure for the next 40
15 years. We don't have the time.

16 I call upon you, Govern Inslee and the
17 Washington State Department of Ecology, to examine
18 this DSEIS and oppose this project.

19 Thank you.

20 MS. LUND: Thank you.

21 Next we have Alex Uber.

22 MR. ALEX UBER: Thank you very much. My
23 name is Alex Uber. I'm a lifelong Pacific
24 Northwesterner.

25 And if you can hold off on the clock a

1 little bit to give me a little more time to talk here.

2 About a year ago my wife and my son spent a
3 month in Indonesia to study the beautiful place. But
4 I recall explaining any son all the plastic garbage we
5 saw out on the water and on the beach.

6 But really, plastic pollution in the ocean
7 is really much easier to explain to an 11-year-old
8 than air-pollution-driven climate change.

9 And I wonder what kind of future I can
10 explain to my son, if we did not underwrite the fossil
11 fuel industry with government tax breaks, loan
12 guarantees, externalized environmental costs, and
13 other subsidies.

14 Fracking immense volumes of gas in the
15 Canadian wilderness and piping it to the Pacific
16 Northwest and shipping it to Asia just perpetuates the
17 fossil fuel addiction that sacrifices our kids'
18 future.

19 The impacts of climate-change pollution are
20 manifested right here in the Columbia River, as it
21 heats up, and salmon struggle to survive and migrate
22 through the river.

23 And ironically, with the hot Columbia River,
24 the Kalama River creates a cold-water refuge for
25 salmon. And the Kalama River should be protected and

1 restored as a refuge and not industrialized.

2 This EIS is flawed. The life cycle analysis
3 (unintelligible) to gas (unintelligible) where it is
4 fracked and transported, and it underrates the point
5 of impact by using a 100-year-impacts time frame
6 instead of the more appropriate 20-year time frame,
7 which better matches the analysis for methane
8 emissions.

9 But most important, the EIS portrays the
10 project impacts as climate beneficial by comparing the
11 fracked gas to coal as a feed stock in plastic. It
12 should instead stay focused on the actual impacts of
13 the 2.17 million tons of CO2 emitted each year.

14 So it doesn't matter if the pollution comes
15 from the coal we or China dig out to burn, or the
16 methane we pull from the fracked bedrock in British
17 Columbia. It all takes us to the same very dangerous
18 place.

19 Thank you very much.

20 MS. LUND: Thank you.

21 Next we have Tim Norgen.

22 MR. TIM NORGEN: Hi. My name's Tim Norgen.
23 I'm a laborer at Local 737 down in Portland. I'm one
24 of these state co-leads, I guess. I'm one of the
25 people who could come up here and work.

1 That being said, I'll -- by the way, I took
2 time off work. I took a little early day out of a
3 ten-hour day. I keep getting called out. Every time
4 I get onto the out-of-work list, I keep getting called
5 out in a couple days. So work's not been scarce for
6 anyone in our union. Good-paying work.

7 Anyway, I came out here, because this
8 proposition is one more thing to get out of the way.
9 This is bad for business for any of us working folk in
10 the unions.

11 The idea of building something that's going
12 to ship fuel over the Asia, instead of building
13 manufacturing centers that we could be multiple
14 projects on here, that's (unintelligible) for business
15 to make.

16 If we really want to support work for
17 ourselves, I think we should get out and actually do
18 something about these free trade bills that are
19 shipping all that stuff overseas.

20 Okay. That -- that aside, I've heard a lot
21 of people bumping their gums about the idea that this
22 whole -- it's -- it's somehow clean to burn LNG. And
23 when you look at the basic science from extraction to
24 export, which is what this is happening to -- burning
25 it is nothing.

1 But all of that's dumping a bunch of
2 methane. It's been proven a bunch of times it's worse
3 than coal. It's not doing anything good for the
4 climate whatsoever.

5 And by the way, most of those union folks,
6 we have families. We've got a reason. We want these
7 freaking jobs to support our families.

8 Well, if you're looking at any of the actual
9 science coming out from the majority of the world's
10 scientists who love it, we're looking at some feedback
11 loops that are going to kill the species.

12 I mean, when we look at the science, if you
13 look at feedback loops happening right now, we're
14 already over the brink of a few. I mean, this
15 species, let alone the rest of them, is going to be
16 extinct a few years. We could slow down by doing
17 something about it.

18 MS. LUND: Thank you.

19 MR. TIM NORGEN: But we're dealing with some
20 major stuff with climate change alone.

21 MS. LUND: Thank you. Your time is up.

22 MR. TIM NORGEN: Thanks.

23 MS. LUND: Next we have Nadia Naimon.

24 MS. NADIA NAIMON: Hi. My name is Nadia
25 Naimon. And thank you for taking the time to listen

1 to us today.

2 I am profoundly concerned about the
3 pollution in the plant and the fracked gas it will use
4 in tremendous quantities. The SEIS fails to address
5 accurately how much pollution this refinery will
6 cause, and how serious this pollution impact will be.

7 The Kalama methanol refinery will be one of
8 the largest polluters in Washington by any math.

9 I am just as concerned about who is paying
10 for this, taxpayers and local landowners.

11 First, I think it's appalling that people
12 are facing eminent domain for a pipeline to send
13 fracked gas to China in the form of methanol. This is
14 immoral and seems to violate the common-sense idea of
15 what is public benefit.

16 In the end, our neighbors will be
17 subsidizing this project with their land.

18 We will also pay for it. The developer has
19 asked the U.S. Department of Energy for a \$2 billion
20 loan guarantee. This means we may foot the bill
21 and -- the bill for this entire monstrosity when it
22 fails.

23 In addition to the possible \$2 billion loan
24 guarantee, NWIW is seeking hundreds of millions of
25 dollars in grants, loans and taxpayer -- tax breaks.

1 For example, Port of Kalama has asked the federal
2 government in Washington State for a total of
3 \$23 million in grants to build a dock and a road for
4 their refinery, as well as a \$15 million loan to drill
5 a well.

6 And we will subsidize this project with our
7 health. People will breathe the pollution from this
8 refinery, and they will pay the cost with their health
9 care bills, not the Chinese government.

10 We shouldn't be subsidizing the Chinese
11 government's gambit in Kalama. And we shouldn't trust
12 the developer to produce a clear-eyed analysis of the
13 impacts of this proposal.

14 I urge Governor Inslee and the Department of
15 Ecology, along with Port and the County, to step up
16 and deny this project.

17 Thank you.

18 MS. LUND: Thank you.

19 Next we have Sally Keeley.

20 MS. SALLY KEELEY: Hello. Sally Keeley --
21 K-E-E-L-E-Y -- 20-year resident of Kalama, a mother,
22 and a professor of mathematics.

23 Northwest Innovation Works and fossil fuel
24 lobbyists, life-cycle associates are taking us for
25 fools. No reasonable person can think that building a

1 massive methane-guzzling refinery will be good for the
2 environment.

3 Northwest Innovation Works has lied to us
4 from the beginning, and not just to, We, the people.
5 They lied at a presentation to the Northwest Gas
6 Association in June 2016 stating, quote, Methanol has
7 a long safety record on the Columbia River.

8 Northwest Innovation Works lied when they
9 assured that the methanol produced would be used to
10 make plastics. Section 4.3 of the DSEIS states quote,
11 NWIW intends to ship all of the Kalama methanol to
12 China NTO production.

13 But there's absolutely no assurance the
14 Chinese government will use the methanol to make
15 plastics. In fact, the opposite. Chairman of NWIW's
16 parent company in China stated that the refinery's
17 output could replace diesel coal and gas with methanol
18 to power vehicles.

19 Even the DSEIS admits, China is a global
20 leader in methanol fuel. The probable use of the
21 methanol produced in Kalama would be as a fuel source.
22 The SEIS should properly account for those GHG
23 emissions, so that we know the exact amount of climate
24 pollution to expect. But the SEIS claims to reduce
25 global GHG emissions by asserting North American gas

1 would replace Chinese coal, but offers no evidence.

2 In fact, NWIW President V. Godley said,
3 quote, He doesn't know if any coal-based methanol
4 plant could actually shut down as a result of these
5 projects. There's no way NWIW can guarantee what
6 happens once it has been sold to a foreign country.

7 Don't let NWIW spin their lies anymore. If
8 allowed to build this refinery --

9 MS. LUND: Thank you.

10 MS. SALLY KEELEY: -- will become
11 Washington's top polluter --

12 MS. LUND: Thank you.

13 MS. SALLY KEELEY: -- by --

14 MS. LUND: Your time is up. Thank you.

15 Our next commenter is Eileen Fromer.

16 MS. EILEEN FROMER: F-R-O-M-E-R.

17 Northwest Innovation Works uses greenwashing
18 to the Nth degree when they claim to, quote, Want more
19 environmental stewardship. Their use of methane to
20 produce plastic only adds to greenhouse gases in the
21 atmosphere. Emitting methane in any amount is no way
22 to get to a reduction in emissions or a clean energy
23 future.

24 Fracked gas to methanol leaks methane. And
25 the only question is, how much? The company has

1 grossly underestimated the leakage rate of methane at
2 .32 percent. While multiple comprehensive studies
3 have found leakage rates from 1.1 percent up to
4 9 percent, the company claims a leakage rate of .32,
5 just one-third of the lowest credible leakage rate
6 measured before this ridiculous claim was made by the
7 company.

8 Their leakage claim is made on -- is based
9 on curative studies that fracking companies
10 self-report. And it obviously is to their advantage
11 to underestimate leakage.

12 Yesterday, on OPB's Think Out Loud, Kent
13 Caputo of Northwest Innovation Works suggested that
14 methanol will, quote, displace dirtier pathways,
15 unquote, meaning coal.

16 Frankly, this project is barely a burp in
17 the huge coal expansions currently into China. They
18 are building 700 new coal plants, most all in China,
19 and one-fifth outside of China.

20 Mr. Caputo emphasized that the company
21 agrees that it's, quote, a global issue, unquote.
22 More green-washing.

23 We have serious climate issues to solve.
24 And using language to cover up adding more greenhouse
25 gas emissions into the atmosphere solves nothing.

1 Facts matter.

2 Emitting methane in any amount is not an
3 adequate response to our very serious climate crisis.

4 MS. LUND: Thank you.

5 Next we have Liz Elliott.

6 MS. LIZ ELLIOTT: Hello. My name is Liz
7 Elliott, and I'm here to speak in opposition to the
8 Kalama methanol refinery proposal.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to speak on
10 this matter.

11 I -- I'll keep it brief. I oppose the
12 methanol refinery. This is 180 degrees from the
13 direction that we need to be going.

14 The risks are significant. The
15 environmental degradation is significant. We should
16 not be investing in fossil fuel refineries. We should
17 be investing in renewable resources -- energy
18 resources.

19 The air pollution is significant. The
20 plastics pollution is significant. And this -- this
21 proposal should be -- it should not be approved. This
22 is a disaster, and I ask that you deny this proposal.

23 Thank you.

24 MS. LUND: Thank you.

25 Next we have Deborah Cogan.

1 MS. DEBORAH COGAN: Good evening. My name's
2 Deborah Cogan. And my name is spelled C-O-G-A-N.

3 I've never been to a rally like this before.
4 I've never been to -- to a hearing like this before.
5 But I feel so incredibly strong about this issue.

6 I care so passionately and enormously about
7 the environment. And this project doesn't care a whit
8 about our environment.

9 All we hear from our elected officials who
10 have been speaking tonight about the -- the importance
11 of this is that it's money. It's the jobs. There are
12 many other creative ways that we can find to provide
13 jobs for the people in our community.

14 We also know that --

15 MS. LUND: I'm going -- I'm going to pause
16 this. If you can't respect the ground rules, we're
17 going to have to close the hearing. So please respect
18 them.

19 MS. DEBORAH COGAN: We also know that our
20 neighbors up in Tacoma were faced with the same
21 project a while back. And they came together as a
22 community to have their -- have their say, and it was
23 rejected.

24 And I'm so hopeful that that is exactly
25 what's going to happen with this project.

1 It's completely 180 degrees from what we
2 want to do. We want to decrease our use of fossil
3 fuels. We don't want to frack the coil. We don't
4 want to build methane plants in our environment.

5 We don't want to create more plastics that
6 will pollute not only our landfills, but our waterways
7 and our oceans, and endanger and destroy all of the
8 living sea creatures that we have that are now really
9 at risk because of so much pollution and plastic that
10 we have already created.

11 It's appalling that anyone would consider a
12 project like this. And I'm hoping -- I'm hoping that
13 everyone will be reasonable about the fact that we
14 want to save our environment, not destroy it.

15 Thanks.

16 MS. LUND: Thank you.

17 Next we have Linda Garcia.

18 MS. LINDA GARCIA: Good evening. I'm Linda
19 Garcia. I'm from Vancouver, Washington.

20 My community just fought for five long years
21 to stop the largest coal terminal in North America
22 from being built there. This isn't my first time at
23 rodeo, and sadly, most likely, will not be my last.

24 I am deeply concerned that the proposed
25 methanol refinery targets the town of Kalama with

1 additional pollution burdens, when it already
2 struggles with its unfortunate location near the
3 freeway, high unemployment and poverty,
4 higher-than-average cancer rates, and coal and oil
5 trains that already come through.

6 The inevitable increase in pollution
7 associated with locating the world's largest
8 fracked-gas-to-methanol refinery is an unacceptably
9 heavy load to place on this town.

10 The Port of Kalama and Cowlitz County are
11 deliberately downplaying the harmful impacts, while at
12 the same time using unproven assumptions to justify
13 their support for a refinery that betrays their
14 constituents.

15 Once again, profits for a foreign company
16 are being put over the health, safety and well-being
17 of all residents, all for short-term gains for just a
18 few. They put this foreign company first and their
19 own people last.

20 The oil industry tried to tell us in
21 Vancouver that oil spills were good for fish and
22 wildlife. The gas industry is trying to tell you that
23 the world's largest methanol refinery is good for our
24 climate. We see right through this.

25 From Clark County to Cowlitz County, we're

1 standing together for healthy communities and healthy
2 climate. Cowlitz County, we have your backs. You can
3 lean on us.

4 The Port of Kalama and Cowlitz County must
5 do better. Governor Inslee and the Department of
6 Ecology must say no to this refinery.

7 And I certainly hope that you're prepared to
8 hear out past 9 p.m. the thousand-plus people that are
9 standing behind me waiting to have their voices heard.

10 Thank you.

11 MS. LUND: Okay. Thank you.

12 The next speaker is Karen Fletcher.

13 So we can only have one speaker at the same
14 time, so --

15 MS. KAREN FLETCHER: My name's Karen
16 Fletcher, and I'm joined by the Portland Raging
17 Grannies. We would like to sing our opposition to
18 this project.

19 MS. LUND: So we're doing one speaker at a
20 time. If one person wants to sing, they can sing
21 their comments for two minutes. But we're not doing
22 multiple speakers at once.

23 MS. KAREN FLETCHER: We're going to say the
24 same thing. We're going to sing.

25 MS. LUND: You're going through your time

1 right now. So --

2 (Singing)

3 MS. LUND: We're going to turn off the mike.

4 Thank you.

5 (Singing)

6 MS. LUND: So we're going -- so we're going
7 to close the hearing if you can't respect the rules
8 that we set.

9 (Singing)

10 MS. LUND: So I'm going to remind you
11 again -- look, there are a lot of people who signed up
12 to speak tonight. We want to give you -- the reason
13 we have ground rules, is to give people an opportunity
14 to speak.

15 When you have these outbursts, it takes up
16 the time, because I have to say this.

17 So let's move along. We're going to have
18 another speaker. And then we're going to take a
19 little break.

20 So our next speaker is -- is that Karen
21 Fletcher?

22 Okay. So then we have Marilou Haas.

23 MS. MARILOU HAAS: My name is Marilou Haas.
24 My last name is spelled -- H-A-A-S.

25 I'm here to oppose this project. The

1 fracked-gas-to-methanol refinery in Kalama is bad for
2 Washington, for Oregon, where I live, and for the
3 world.

4 We have 12 years to take action to keep
5 global warming below 1.5 centigrade. Reducing carbon
6 dioxide and methane emissions immediately gives us the
7 chance to do that.

8 The world's largest fracked-gas-to-methanol
9 refinery threatens our health, our safety and our
10 climate, and my grandchildren and my
11 great-grandchildren, if I ever have any.

12 Please start over and study the true impacts
13 of this refinery, not some cherrypicked numbers.

14 I'm proud of the Northwest's history of
15 environmental leaders. Oregon and Washington have
16 been those leaders. Fracking harms our health, our
17 environment, and it causes climate change.

18 Let's join those states -- Washington join
19 those states that have rejected fracking and embraced
20 renewable energy. Governor Inslee, lead us to reject
21 the fracked-gas-to-methanol plant in Kalama.

22 Moving forward on this plant is a step
23 backward, and we don't have time to move backward.

24 Thank you.

25 MS. LUND: Thank you.

1 We're going to take a --

2 (Audience outcry)

3 MS. LUND: Seriously?

4 We're going to take a 10-minute break; okay.

5 And we'll reconvene at 7:00.

6 (A recess was taken from 6:50 p.m. to

7 7:02 p.m.)

8 MS. LUND: So we're going to get started.

9 I'm going to ask you to please take your seats.

10 And so our next speaker -- I know everyone
11 is really eager to speak. And we'll get started again
12 when we sit down, and it gets quiet, and we can hear
13 our speaker.

14 Bill Spencer is going to be the next
15 speaker.

16 MR. BILL SPENCER: Thank you for allowing me
17 to come and comment on this important project.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Who are you?

19 MR. BILL SPENCER: I believe it is
20 important --

21 MS. LUND: I'm sorry. Can I ask you to say
22 your name again for the room.

23 MR. BILL SPENCER: Yeah. My name is Bill
24 Spencer. I'm the Commissioner of the Cowlitz County
25 Cemetery District 6. Our district covers the Rose

1 Valley and Mount Pleasant Cemeteries. This will be
2 where the pipeline will be running by.

3 This project is a hybrid project. And while
4 many of us have stated it is green, I believe both
5 sides are correct. It is green -- green for money,
6 and green for the protection of our environment.

7 It is important that you know that this
8 project starts with the extraction of natural gas and
9 ends with a product that is arrived at the customer.
10 This means the methanol plant and the natural gas
11 supplied via pipeline is one project and not two. One
12 cannot be without the other.

13 I have two points I wish to share with you.

14 First of all, the required supply for
15 natural gas is presently proposed through the
16 Williams Pipeline. This pipeline is going to be
17 threatening the Mount Pleasant Cemetery property,
18 which is now a recognized Washington State Historic
19 Landmark.

20 It's important we recognize the cultural
21 risk that will be breached if this pipeline has an
22 explosion, and it can destroy the last remaining place
23 that has -- the resting of many of our important
24 people.

25 The cemetery holds strong history from the

1 1800s that includes World War I vets, World War II
2 vets, Korean War, Civil War, and the Spanish-American
3 War.

4 We also have Native Americans, descendants
5 of the Mayflower, and individuals from the Clark
6 expedition. Our cemetery also has many other
7 important family, friends and local history that must
8 not be threatened.

9 My point is this: EIS does not take into
10 account the cultural risks and the source of the
11 natural gas.

12 Air quality's my second concern. Because of
13 the local fires we've had this year and the stagnant
14 air, where has that been brought into the air quality
15 standards?

16 And these are my main points. But I wish to
17 thank -- and I believe everybody's point is important
18 tonight. I believe in both sides of this fight. And
19 thank you.

20 MS. LUND: Thank you.

21 We have two more elected officials who are
22 going to speak. Mike Wallin is next. And I
23 understand Ed Orcutt is here. We're going to ask him
24 to make his way to the front.

25 MR. MIKE WALLIN: Hello. Thank you.

1 I'm Mike Wallin. Last name is W-A-L-L-I-N.

2 I'm a member of Longview City Council. But
3 the comments I make are my own comments.

4 We've been hearing from many of our
5 residents who are asking that local governments find
6 greater ways to pay for things we want, public safety,
7 high technical, labor-intensive, time-critical public
8 safety; right? Health programs that are affordable
9 and accessible for everyone.

10 We all want greater social programs. We all
11 want greater social services. This project offers
12 clean air with reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
13 It offers clean water with a zero discharge, and
14 conservation.

15 This partnership, I think, highlights
16 China's growing confidence in the people of the State
17 of Washington. I think that bodes well for
18 Washington's future.

19 When you think about the global trade and
20 where we're at in our communities and our global
21 partnerships for trade -- in fact, this is one of the
22 largest foreign-direct investments a Chinese company's
23 ever made in the United States. It moves our clean
24 energy future forward at a very rapid pace.

25 Thank you for hearing my comments.

1 MS. LUND: So I'm going to take this
2 opportunity again to remind you of the ground rule --
3 rules for speaking tonight.

4 As I mentioned, if you want to speak, you
5 need to sign up to speak. We are taking one speaker
6 at a time. We are recording this.

7 We would like to ask people to spell
8 their -- say their name, spell their last name. It
9 would also be helpful if you say where you're from.

10 To accommodate as many speakers as possible,
11 your comments are limited to two minutes. We will cut
12 you off if you go over two minutes.

13 Please be respectful as a member of the
14 audience. I see many silent expressions of support.
15 Thank you for being respectful and doing that.

16 The clapping, cheering and jeering just
17 disrupts people and launches me into this speech,
18 which no one enjoys.

19 Intimidation, such as confronting, blocking,
20 interfering with attendees will not be tolerated. We
21 will stop speakers, and we will close the hearing if
22 this kind of action takes place.

23 The project co-leads, Ann Farr and Elaine
24 Placido, reserve the right to close the meeting at any
25 time if disruptions interfere with the opportunity for

1 participants to make oral comments.

2 I will remind you that we are also taking
3 written comments. So if do you not have an
4 opportunity to speak this evening, you can provide
5 written comments.

6 Okay. Ed Orcutt is going to speak later.
7 So we're going to move on to Alice Shapiro, our next
8 speaker.

9 Thank you.

10 MS. ALICE SHAPIRO: Hello. My name is Alice
11 Shapiro -- S-H-A-P-I-R-O. I'm from Portland, Oregon.

12 I had some written, prepared comments. But
13 I think I'm just going to ask people to start thinking
14 out of the coal box and out of the fossil fuel tank.

15 Fossil fuel is a dying industry. I have
16 grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and I also
17 understand the need for people to have employment.

18 There are clean jobs. There is wind. There
19 is solar power.

20 And in addition to the Chinese proposing to
21 open more coal plants, they are also manufacturing the
22 solar panels and the wind turbines that could be
23 manufactured here in the Pacific Northwest.

24 These are clean jobs. These are family-wage
25 jobs. These are high-paying jobs that could be easily

1 brought here and provide what we need without
2 polluting our environment.

3 As people have stated, the methane leakage
4 and the greenhouse gas effects of methane, among many
5 other things, have been underestimated by the studies
6 that have been done.

7 I was also thinking about another project
8 that could be done, both expanded where I live and
9 here in Washington, would be public transit projects,
10 which would take away the need for so much fossil
11 fuel.

12 I look forward to leaders with innovation.
13 I look forward to leaders who are willing to step up
14 to the plate.

15 Back in 1970s the late George Bush ran on a
16 platform of realizing that we needed to clean up the
17 environment and reduce fossil fuels. He was bought by
18 the coal and oil industries. It's time to stop that
19 insanity now.

20 Thank you.

21 MS. LUND: Our next speaker is Mark McLeod.

22 MR. MARK McLEOD: Hello. I'm Mark McLeod --
23 M-C, capital L-E-O-D.

24 I'm here to speak against this project.
25 There is one thing we need to do with fossil fuel --

1 all fossil fuel, and that's to leave it in the ground.

2 There is one way we need to power ourselves
3 into the future, and that's with clean energy.

4 I urge you, and I urge the governor to
5 oppose this project.

6 MS. LUND: Thank you.

7 Our next speaker is -- is it Marilee Dea?

8 MS. MARILEE DEA: You're close.

9 MS. LUND: Close? Sorry.

10 MS. MARILEE DEA: My name is Marilee Dea --
11 D-E-A -- and I'm a pediatric nurse practitioner. And
12 I coordinated the lead and asthma prevention program
13 in Multnomah County.

14 We found folks that live near air-polluting
15 industrial plants and busy diesel truck roadways have
16 40 percent higher rates of asthma episodes. Why?
17 Because smoke, dust, diesel, particulate matter causes
18 lung irritation.

19 The Kalama methanol refinery will have a
20 mild, high plume releasing carbon monoxide, nitrous
21 oxide, sulphur dioxide, volatile organic compounds and
22 fine particulate matter.

23 People living near this plant will be at
24 risk for asthma because of the visible and invisible
25 irritating chemicals that they breathe.

1 Have you ever seen anyone in a severe asthma
2 attack or someone in your family who has asthma? It's
3 very scary. When the irritants are inhaled, the
4 airways swell. Mucus is released, chest tightens,
5 airways narrow, wheezing and coughing start. It's
6 difficult to get air in and out. Sounds like this
7 (indicating). Fear and confusion result because of
8 lack of oxygen.

9 What should you do? Run for their inhaler,
10 their emergency meds. I had a friend die at the
11 coast, because they didn't have their asthma emergency
12 meds.

13 Is this a life you want for Kalama? This
14 refinery and the double chain -- the supply chain of
15 the fracked gas it uses will release methane, as
16 you've heard. Methane is 20 to 80 times worse than
17 CO2 for our atmosphere. It is not clean. It's as bad
18 as coal.

19 The IPCC recently stated that we only have
20 12 years to turn away from all fossil fuels to
21 renewable. So the proposed project is going in the
22 wrong direction for our children's future, for our
23 patients with asthma.

24 We do -- do not allow this refinery to be
25 built on and by our majestic Columbia River.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. LUND: Thank you.

3 Carol Kindt.

4 MS. CAROL KINDT: Hi. My name is Carol
5 Kindt -- K-I-N-D-T. I'm from Tacoma, Washington. I'm
6 a member of 350 Tacoma.

7 I want to point out that, as a retired
8 attorney, I never once dealt in speculation. And yet,
9 both this draft SEIS and a similar draft SEIS in
10 Tacoma deal in speculation.

11 This DSEIS relies on highly-speculative
12 assumptions about global methanol markets and China's
13 use of coal-based methanol production.

14 The report relies on a series of
15 unsubstantiated assumptions about global methanol
16 markets, energy commodity prices, Chinese government
17 policy, and U.S. China trade relations.

18 To conclude, that the project results in a
19 net climate benefit because it will displace methanol
20 produced through dirtier coal-based methods.

21 It is far from certain that the methanol
22 produced at Kalama will displace any methanol that is
23 already being produced in China. And it is similarly
24 unsubstantiated that it would displace coal-derived
25 methanol, in particular.

1 As a person who's a member of 350 Tacoma who
2 has already seen this go down in Tacoma and come down
3 here, it's time to stop unsubstantiated claims to
4 strengthen your argument.

5 MS. LUND: Our next speaker is David
6 Cordero.

7 And just a reminder to please silence your
8 phones.

9 MR. DAVID CORDERO: I'm David Cordero --
10 C-O-R-D-E-R-O -- Longview. I'm a retired earth
11 science instructor from Lower Columbia College.

12 And I must say, having worked there for over
13 20 years, I know that this area needs jobs. But it
14 needs jobs that will not only benefit this area, but
15 the whole lower Columbia region, the states of
16 Washington, Oregon, all of the United States,
17 North America, and the world.

18 I'm suspicious when the largest
19 methane-producing -- production facility is going to
20 be stored here -- or sited here, the largest coal
21 exporting facilities, et cetera.

22 All fossil fuels are stored carbon dioxide.
23 And some fossil fuels, methane, are much worse than
24 carbon dioxide in terms of greenhouse gasses.

25 Much of Kalama, Kelso, Longview, the lower

1 Columbia is at sea level. Climate change is causing
2 the sea level to rise.

3 Fracking is bad for the environment. It's
4 bad for the subset that leads to fracturing of rock,
5 movement and pollution of groundwater, escape of
6 gasses, such as methane.

7 From studying this proposal, it seems to me
8 that this is going to only increase the production of
9 fracked gas. And it's also going to increase the
10 production of plastics, which have had a terrible
11 impact on the environment in our oceans. So I'm
12 opposed to this project.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. LUND: Thank you.

15 Next we have Cam Keely.

16 MS. SALLY KEELEY: My name is Cam Keely --
17 K-E-E-L-Y -- and I'm a 17-year-old resident of Kalama,
18 Washington.

19 I, along with many others, have serious
20 concerns about the claims in the DSEIS. And today I'm
21 focusing on the big 100-year timeline.

22 Carbon emissions estimates in the SDEIS rely
23 on a 100-year average, which actually minimizes the
24 full impact of this refinery. Most of the damage done
25 by fracked methane gas is in the first 20 years.

1 Methane is 86 times stronger of a heat-trapping gas
2 than CO2 over a 20-year period.

3 The DSEIS even states that the plan for the
4 methanol refinery to exist for 30 to 40 years, so
5 spreading the GHG emissions over a century, is a
6 blatant misrepresentation. We don't have 100 years to
7 decarbonize.

8 How does Northwest Innovation Works and the
9 Port of Kalama spin their truth in this statement in
10 their favor? By cherry-picking data to put in the
11 DSEIS.

12 One glaring example is using stats from the
13 United Nations IPCC 2007 assessment, but not even
14 referencing the more recent IPCC 2014 assessment, or
15 their 2018 special report, which warns we only have 12
16 years to cap global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius
17 above preindustrial levels, beyond which we will
18 experience significantly-worsened fires, droughts,
19 floods, extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of
20 millions of people.

21 The authors state urgent and unprecedented
22 changes are needed to reach this target. Building a
23 massive fracked gas refinery, obligating us to decades
24 of a new fossil fuel infrastructure, is a wrong
25 direction to move in for a state that should be a

1 leader in environmental innovation.

2 Instead, we need to promote clean, renewable
3 energies for a sustainable future. Just say no.

4 And if I could add one more thing, it's not
5 only about your unborn grandkids or the salmon in the
6 river. Climate change effects are happening right
7 now. People are dying and getting hurt.

8 Don't subject yourself to being held
9 responsible for this.

10 Thank you.

11 MS. LUND: Thank you.

12 Next we have Deborah Bancroft.

13 MS. DEBORAH BANCROFT: That's --

14 B-A-N-C-R-O-F-T.

15 My name is Deborah Bancroft, and I live in
16 rural Onalaska, Lewis County, Washington.

17 In my 47 years in the Pacific Northwest I've
18 witnessed the energy industries attempts to exploit
19 and profit from our geography and our natural
20 resources before. I'm proud to have played a part in
21 the movement that stopped two nuclear power plants
22 from going online in Satsop, Washington.

23 The key to winning widespread local support
24 for our cause was helping citizens understand the
25 financial burden of being -- that was being placed on

1 the taxpayers. This Kalama project appears to be a
2 similar boondoggle.

3 How does permitting this huge project
4 benefit the citizens of Washington State or our
5 nation's taxpayers? The questions I want you and
6 Governor Inslee to consider are, Who benefits, and who
7 pays?

8 The proposed Kalama plant is not a clean
9 energy innovation. It converts fracked gas into
10 liquid methanol. And both processes, fracking and
11 refining, create environmental pollution.

12 This is not a clean energy solution. NWIW
13 is a profit-seeking venture for the Chinese government
14 and for a New York City private equity firm.

15 If the DOE approves a loan guarantee sought
16 by NWIW, and if the never-before-built-at-this-scale
17 project should fail, then you and I, as taxpayers,
18 could be stuck for up to the entire -- the estimated
19 project cost of over \$2 billion.

20 And how often do large construction projects
21 meet their cost estimates? Didn't happen with the
22 nuclear power plants.

23 MS. LUND: Thank you.

24 MS. DEBORAH BANCROFT: Who benefits, who
25 bears --

1 MS. LUND: Your time is up. Thank you.

2 Our next speaker is Bill Adams.

3 MR. BILL ADAMS: Thank you. My name is Bill
4 Adams, and I'm from Des Moines, 98198.

5 If this methanol project goes forward, yes,
6 it will give your area more jobs and more tax revenue,
7 which will certainly help your economy. It has also
8 been argued that since it would be a natural
9 gas-powered methanol refinery, it will help the
10 environment by reducing the need for coal-powered
11 methanol refineries in China.

12 On the surface, things look good. But
13 they're based on short-term thinking and, to a certain
14 extent, tunnel vision.

15 Recognizing the long-term and the bigger
16 picture if the project goes forward, two things will
17 happen, and they're not good.

18 One, the refinery's voracious appetite for
19 320 million cubic feet of natural gas daily, about
20 twice that of all commercial business in our state,
21 means more fossil fuel extraction to satisfy their
22 demand.

23 More extraction is not the answer to
24 combating climate change, according to 97 percent of
25 the world's climate scientists. They're in full

1 agreement we need less extraction to help us
2 transition to a clean, renewable energy economy.

3 Two, most of the gas used would be forced
4 out of the ground by hydraulic fracturing, also known
5 as fracking. I think you all know that fracking has
6 some very nasty side effects, chief of which is
7 methane leakage, averaging 3 percent, and documented
8 at three to four times that in Montana and North
9 Dakota and Utah. It rivals burning coal for retention
10 of greenhouse gas.

11 Those that want this project to move forward
12 are ignoring the obvious. More fossil fuels are not
13 the answer. I'm with 97 percent of the scientists who
14 say we need less.

15 MS. LUND: Thank you.

16 MR. BILL ADAMS: Thanks.

17 MS. LUND: Thanks.

18 Our next speaker is Carrie Parks.

19 MS. CARRIE PARKS: Hi. I'm Carrie Parks.
20 I'm a resident of Vancouver, Washington and a
21 third-generation Washingtonian.

22 You want to bring this methanol plant here
23 for only 200 jobs. But do you really feel okay about
24 trading that for the thousands of jobs that it will
25 cost our natural-resource-based economy in Washington?

1 Since money seems to be the only thing that
2 counts with some of -- with some people, let me talk
3 about money and jobs for a minute.

4 Last summer we had week after week of thick
5 smoke in western Washington because of the wildfires
6 in California and BC. The year before that, a
7 terrible wildfire in the Columbia River Gorge that
8 lasted for months destroyed many businesses. They're
9 saying this is the new normal because of climate
10 change.

11 Increasing pollution is increasing the risk
12 of catastrophic fires. We saw a little town in
13 California that was wiped off the map this year. What
14 about those people and their jobs? Do you care about
15 them?

16 97 percent of our shellfish farmers are
17 reporting financial damages to their businesses,
18 because pollution is causing the ocean to acidify,
19 dissolving the shells of our oysters, clams and crabs,
20 killing them or making them too small to harvest.
21 Just in the past few weeks, the crab harvest off our
22 coast has been shortened because of this.

23 What about those jobs? Some of those
24 fishermen have had jobs -- those jobs for several
25 generations. Your methanol plant will make it harder

1 for them to keep their jobs.

2 And what about our regular fishermen?

3 Toxins from harmful algal blooms closed the fisheries
4 along our coast in 2015, and we saw salmon die-offs
5 because of the warm water temperatures in the rivers
6 and streams. What about the jobs that depend on that?

7 The declining snow pack has cut our ski
8 season shorter and shorter. Climate change will cut
9 all snow-based recreation by 70 percent. Our
10 agriculture jobs depend on the snow pack.

11 Govern Inslee and the Department of Ecology
12 should take over this process. Inslee has said we're
13 the first generation --

14 MS. LUND: Thank you.

15 MS. CARRIE PARKS: -- to feel the sting of
16 climate change --

17 MS. LUND: Thank you.

18 MS. CARRIE PARKS: -- and the last
19 generation --

20 MS. LUND: Ma'am, your two minutes are up.
21 Thank you.

22 The next speaker is Justin Sellers.

23 MR. JUSTIN SELLERS: Hi. My name is Justin
24 Sellers. I'm a long-time resident here in Southwest
25 Washington. I live in Ridgefield, Washington, and I'm

1 president of the labor union in southwest Washington.

2 The Columbia Riverkeepers were approached
3 with an independent life-cycle analysis of the
4 methanol plant. The report has been completed, and it
5 is out. And the group hasn't come up with any reason
6 to question the findings that it came out.

7 The group seems to have forgotten Northwest
8 Innovation Works at putting zero liquid discharge, so
9 the methanol plant has no discharge into the Columbia
10 River. And they are unaware that the Northwest
11 Innovation Works has committed to offset all
12 greenhouse gas emissions leaked to the plant within
13 Washington State.

14 I thought climate change was the biggest
15 challenge to the environment. But maybe a
16 soberly-engineered industrial plant that has been
17 shown to really respond to climate change is as bigger
18 threat to this professional environment --
19 environmental organizations.

20 Thank you.

21 MS. LUND: Thank you.

22 The next speaker is Marianne Maudlin.

23 MS. MARIANNE MAULDIN: Hi there. My name is
24 Marianne Mauldin -- M-A-U-L-D-I-N -- Portland, Oregon.

25 Failing to answer the question, how much

1 greenhouse gas pollution will this refinery and its
2 pipelines be responsible for? That was the question
3 this SEIS -- SEIS was supposed to answer.

4 In an effort to distract from the real
5 answer to this question, which is millions and
6 millions and tons of pollution, the SEIS focuses
7 instead on speculation with displacing allegedly
8 dirtier forms of energy.

9 And when the SEIS does get around to
10 addressing how much pollution would come from this
11 facility, it completely lowballs the analysis by
12 understanding the amount of methane pollution that
13 comes from fracking, collecting and piping fracked
14 gas, and using it in a refinery.

15 The methane pollution values used in the
16 life-cycle associate's underlying analysis are
17 basically the same as the Tacoma LNG facility, table
18 B3 in the appendix, appears in both analysis for this
19 instance.

20 In both cases the company provides
21 unreasonably low -- by an order of magnitude at
22 least -- rates of methane pollution in gas production
23 and transmission.

24 By using more accurate methane pollution
25 information, the pollution impact of the refinery

1 would balloon by millions of tons each year. In
2 short, the SEIS didn't answer the very basic question
3 asked: How much greenhouse gas pollution will this
4 plant cause?

5 Let me answer it for you. Too much.

6 MS. LUND: Okay. Ma'am, thank you.

7 MS. MARIANNE MAUDLIN: Thank you.

8 MS. LUND: Time is up.

9 Our next speaker is Diana Winther.

10 MS. DIANA WINTHER: Hi. My name is Diana
11 Winther, and I'm here to speak on behalf of the NWIW
12 projects. I live here in Longview.

13 I know there are a lot of folks who discount
14 environmental benefits of this project, because it
15 involves a natural gas. I understand that they're
16 passionate about this issue. But I believe that
17 passion is misguided.

18 Let me explain why by way of an analogy.

19 I work as a labor attorney for a
20 construction union. The construction industry has a
21 history of being a challenging place for women. My
22 union is committed to changing that, as are many other
23 building trade unions.

24 For example, we've adopted gender-neutral
25 language in our collective bargaining agreements. We

1 have a women's committee designed to support women
2 advancing in leadership roles. We require diversity
3 in sexual harassment training for our apprentices.
4 And we're working on providing inclusive bias training
5 for our contractors.

6 Implementation of these changes has been
7 delivered and careful -- and not as fast as some would
8 like. But using this transitional approach doesn't
9 mean that my union doesn't think that this is
10 important. We just knew that we couldn't force rapid
11 change if we truly wanted that change to be
12 sustainable.

13 The move to a greener economy also requires
14 a transitional approach, although in this case, it is
15 because we are not in a place where we can eliminate
16 our dependence on plastics entirely. The car you rode
17 here in, the cell phone in your pocket, perhaps the
18 coat you're wearing, manufacturing those involves
19 methanol. The medical equipment over at PeaceHealth
20 that may be used to save the life of someone you love
21 requires plastic.

22 So if we accept that plastic is not going
23 away overnight, then we have to recognize that the
24 NWIW project is an opportunity to make this necessary
25 product in a way that's cleaner, and in a way that is

1 produced in China. It can be done here in Washington
2 with stricter controls and requirements than anywhere
3 else in the country.

4 This dramatic improvement over status quo,
5 and by saying no, we are saying that an
6 environmentally-responsible industry is still not good
7 enough to come to Washington. If he say no, we are
8 saying that burning coal to make methanol is
9 acceptable.

10 Saying no to this product doesn't make any
11 one of us use less plastic. It just means that no one
12 in the state gets the benefit from manufacturing that
13 plastic. If you refuse to transition in order to
14 create change, you wait a lot longer for real and
15 lasting change.

16 MS. LUND: Thank you. Thank you.

17 Our next speaker is Dena Turner.

18 MS. DENA TURNER: Yeah, my name's Dena
19 Turner. It's -- D-E-N-A -- Turner.

20 Kate would be next. Do you want me to
21 speak?

22 MS. LUND: Yes.

23 MS. DENA TURNER: Okay. Thank you.

24 Yeah, I'm speaking as a concerned citizen
25 against the plant, and I'm concerned about future

1 generations. I'm concerned about my two sons and
2 potential, and yet unborn, grandchildren. I'm
3 concerned how climate change due to fossil fuel use
4 will affect future generations.

5 I speak today to ask you to consider the
6 future of our children and our grandchildren. That
7 would be your children and mine.

8 Northwest Innovation Works is a fossil fuel
9 company owned primarily by the Chinese government. It
10 proposes to bring Canadian fracked gas to Southwest
11 Washington. The keywords here are fossil fuel.

12 The UN International Panel on Climate Change
13 tells us the consequences are dire if we do not take
14 immediate steps to reduce release of our
15 climate-changing gasses into the atmosphere.

16 NWIW's refinery in Kalama compounds the
17 already dire situation. It would pollute as much as
18 1.2 million cars. It would lock in fossil fuel use
19 and climate change in hydrocarbons for decades.

20 Again, I ask you to consider the future of
21 our children and grandchildren. That is your children
22 and mine.

23 We do not have decades to lower our carbon
24 footprint. The situation must be addressed now.
25 Please say no to a Kalama methanol refinery. Say no

1 to NWIW. Say yes to our children and grandchildren.
2 That would be your grandchildren and my grandchildren.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. LUND: Thank you.

5 Next is Mack McKinley.

6 THE COURT REPORTER: You skipped somebody.

7 MS. LUND: Oh. Did I?

8 MS. KATIE BECK: You skipped me.

9 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: You skipped
10 Katie.

11 MS. LUND: Sorry.

12 And can you say your name, please?

13 MS. KATIE BECK: Katie Beck.

14 MS. LUND: Katie Beck.

15 MS. KATIE BECK: Katie Beck. That's
16 B-E-C-K.

17 MS. LUND: Sorry about that.

18 MS. KATIE BECK: And I'm from Vancouver,
19 Washington.

20 As coal plants are shuttered across the
21 United States, our decisions for energy replacement
22 options will affect our climate, our health and our
23 security for years to come.

24 The fossil fuel industry has long touted gas
25 as a bridge to a carbon-free energy mix, asserting

1 reductions in climate pollution, while clean energy
2 technology develops.

3 The truth is that our clean energy future is
4 here now, creating jobs and cutting pollution through
5 solar, wind and energy-efficiency projects.

6 The gas plants we build now will likely be
7 with us for decades to come. We must more rapidly
8 reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and replace it
9 with truly clean alternatives, such as wind, solar and
10 energy efficiency, not build a new fossil fuel
11 backbone for our energy grid at a time when clean
12 energy is cheap and plentiful.

13 Climate impacts from fracked gas are one
14 aspect of a larger problem. Concerns about this dirty
15 fuel run much deeper and deserve intense scrutiny.

16 Many of these additional impacts are primary
17 concerns for communities living on the front lines
18 where these impacts occur. They include, but are not
19 limited to, contaminated -- contaminated groundwater
20 from fracking, earthquakes from fracking, explosions
21 due to leaking pipelines and storage facilities,
22 nitrogen oxides and other air pollutants from
23 smokestacks at end-use facilities, upstream emissions
24 of traditional air pollutants, such as smog and
25 soot-forming volatile organic compounds, and air

1 toxins, such as benzine, a known carcinogen.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. LUND: Thank you.

4 Next is Mack McKinley.

5 MR. MACK MCKINLEY: Hi, I'm Matt McKinley --

6 M-C-K-I-N-L-E-Y. I live in Portland about a mile from
7 the Columbia River.

8 With alcohol, methanol is sub-poison. It's
9 been said that a major impediment to dealing with
10 climate-related environmental devastation is that
11 we're addicted to fossil fuels.

12 That's true. But it's also true that we're
13 addicted to alcohol.

14 It appears that includes even this kind of
15 alcohol that nobody drinks. Why else would we be
16 willing to sacrifice and put at risk the Columbia
17 River, its watershed, its shorelines and all the life
18 that inhabits them?

19 If someone is asking for help in committing
20 a self-destructive crime that sucks up resources and
21 puts communities, life and earth itself in tremendous
22 danger, our proper response is, first, to do
23 everything we can to stop them; and secondly, to seek
24 help for their obvious mental derangement.

25 If we want to become caretakers of humanity

1 and stewards of the earth, a good place to start is
2 putting an end to this very harmful project.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. LUND: Thank you.

5 Our next speaker is Walter Shriner.

6 MR. WALTER SHRINER: Thank you.

7 My name is Walter Shriner. I'm a resident
8 of the Columbia watershed.

9 I'm here today both as a parent concerned
10 the world we are leaving for our children, and as a
11 scientist and science educator concerned that
12 decision-makers, such as yourselves, are provided with
13 valid information to evaluate a project such as this.

14 As you know, we are already feeling the
15 direct impacts of climate or of global warming. The
16 science is clear. We must act quickly to avoid
17 catastrophic changes to the liveability of our planet.

18 We have critical choices to make. To choose
19 a bright future means we must use the best information
20 available.

21 Unfortunately, the information in the draft
22 supplemental environment impact statement is seriously
23 flawed. The current SEIS misleads the project's
24 impact on our climate and fails to accurately reflect
25 the risks that this project poses to both people and

1 the environment.

2 For the purposes of this comment, I'll
3 highlight two issues that I think are most egregious.

4 First, as you've heard many times already,
5 the SEIS underestimates both the amount and the
6 potency of methane that would be associated with the
7 Kalama facility due to increased fracking. And it
8 only provides in-state mitigation.

9 In short, it tries to downplay the negative
10 impacts of the project on our health, and the health
11 of our planet's atmosphere.

12 Second, it is based on fantastical and
13 speculative assumptions and a logical shell game that,
14 at best, is wishful thinking, and at worst intentional
15 deception.

16 These are easily -- these assumptions are
17 easily dismissed not only by science, but also by --
18 contradicted by the chairman of the Kalama project's
19 parent company. There's not much more to say about
20 that.

21 Northwest Innovation Works is either
22 woefully ignorant of its own company's plans and
23 current trends in the energy industry, or they are
24 being intentionally deceptive in their rush for
25 profit.

1 Thank you again. And I hope you will --
2 you, Governor Inslee and Washington DEQ will make the
3 best -- use the best available science in --

4 MS. LUND: Thank you.

5 MR. WALTER SHRINER: -- consideration for
6 your decisions.

7 MS. LUND: Thank you.

8 The next name on our list I believe we
9 already heard from, Nicki Walters, unless there are
10 two.

11 MS. NICKI WALTERS: No. I've already been
12 granted my time --

13 MS. LUND: Thank you.

14 MS. NICKI WALTERS: -- as an elected
15 official.

16 MS. LUND: Okay.

17 MS. NICKI WALTERS: But I ask that this
18 time --

19 MS. LUND: You can't concede time.

20 So the next speaker will be Adam Davison.

21 MR. ADAM DAVISON: Good evening. My name is
22 Adam Davison, Kelso, Washington.

23 As a lifelong resident of this community and
24 member of two local construction unions that will be
25 on this project, as well as over 19 years' experience

1 in the petroleum gas pipeline industry, I can assure
2 you that I have as much financial interest as nearly
3 any other local resident to see that this project goes
4 ahead.

5 But outside of money, not one other thing
6 about this project makes sense. I really hope the
7 good people of this community can come together and
8 see through the gaslighting. You see this as
9 equivalent to my neighbor saying, Hey, I need you to
10 dump some of this poison in your drinking well,
11 because mine is getting horribly toxic from making all
12 this cheap plastic that we've been enjoying so much.

13 What if we just stop using this plastic? I
14 mean, this ongoing poisoning of our own water, air,
15 and land is only killing ourselves. It reminds me of
16 a heroin junkie that feels they're certainly okay, as
17 long as they can find another vein in their toe or
18 some other part of their body.

19 We've just passed legislation to begin
20 killing predatory sea lions -- predatory. The forests
21 are dying at a staggering pace. The elk have hoof
22 rot. The deer have mange.

23 Smelt and steelhead runs in the Cowlitz
24 River are nearly nonexistent. Salmon runs are a tiny
25 fraction of what they were just 35 years ago. Razor

1 clam digs are usually not allowed due to high levels
2 of toxins.

3 So maybe it will be when they start killing
4 predatory bald eagles. Or maybe predatory bears. Or
5 maybe when the very last steelhead makes its way up
6 the Kalama River. Or when all the local rivers are
7 deemed not only unsafe to drink, but unsafe to even
8 swim in. When will you say enough?

9 I've had the good fortune to work with many
10 of the would-be potential constructions and possible
11 permanent employees that would be hired by Northwest
12 Innovation Works. And I can tell you that they are
13 some of the hardest-working, most dedicated and
14 intelligent men and women I have ever met.

15 So make no mistake. They will find work.

16 MS. LUND: Next is Patricia Weber.

17 I'm going to remind you again, please,
18 silent expressions of support are fine.

19 MS. PATRICIA WEBER: I'm Patricia Weber --
20 W-E-B-E-R -- Corvallis, Oregon.

21 And I'm here to speak against the project.

22 The methodology used in the life cycle
23 analysis in the DSEIS that addresses climate impacts
24 for upstream fugitive methane emissions for 95 percent
25 of the fracked gas for the plant is incorrect.

1 There are four basic problems with the
2 analysis.

3 Number one, GH Genius is not an appropriate
4 software for modeling large fossil fuel infrastructure
5 projects. This software was developed for
6 manufacturers to biofuels to demonstrate compliance
7 with clean fuel standards.

8 The applicant claims that it has been used
9 successfully in Canada for this type of LCA, but this
10 claim is unsubstantiated.

11 Number two, compression -- compressor
12 stations are excluded from leakage numbers.
13 Compressor stations leak methane like sieves. The
14 methane and other GHG emissions from all compressor
15 stations and other transition points need to be
16 included in the LCA. Where there are valves, you will
17 find leaks.

18 Number three, a steep discount for future
19 Canadian federal regulations is applied, which is not
20 applicable. BC receives an exemption from the
21 regulation that allows them to submit their own plan
22 to meet national climate goals. The preliminary plan
23 BC submitted shows methane emission regulations that
24 are much weaker than the prescribed federal ones would
25 be.

1 Number four, the BC provincial government is
2 not a credible sort of emissions data. Research by
3 the David Suzuki Foundation at Montney basin well head
4 shows that BC inventories are vastly underreported.
5 Similar research in Alberta shows the same thing.

6 Earlier this year the Environmental Defense
7 Fund published a study that shows methane emissions in
8 the U.S. are much higher than the EPA had estimated.
9 In short, every time someone looks closely at fugitive
10 methane, they find that they are higher than
11 government estimates. The onus is on the applicant to
12 provide credible data collected via the types of
13 rigorous methods described in the EDF report.

14 Thank you.

15 MS. LUND: Thank you.

16 Our next speaker is -- I think it's Cecile.

17 MS. CECILE GEMEZ: Hello. My name is Cecile
18 Gernez. I am an organizer with the Sierra Club.

19 I'm here today for two reasons. First, I
20 want to live into my golden years. And with climate
21 change, I would be unable to do that.

22 Second, I made many good friends here in
23 Cowlitz County and Clark County, especially Kalama,
24 and I want them to be able to breathe clean air and be
25 safe from explosions.

1 So let's start with climate change. I'm a
2 young adult, and I want to plan for my future. It's
3 literally impossible for me to do that if I don't even
4 know that this planet will be liveable by the time I
5 retire. How am I supposed to plan my life if I can't
6 be certain that the climate will be sustainable for
7 human life?

8 This is a stress that I carry every day.
9 The DSEIS for this project hugely underestimates the
10 climate impacts of it. The study either ignores or
11 downplays multiple comprehensive studies by
12 significantly higher leakage rates and global warming
13 potentials for methane.

14 The Sierra Club took it into our own hands
15 and surveyed many studies, and concluded that a
16 3 percent leakage rate represents a national average.

17 We only have 12 years to act on climate.
18 Why, then, are we a 100-year global warming potential
19 for methane rather than a 20-year global warming
20 potential?

21 Please force whoever's writing the final
22 supplemental impact statement to incorporate a large
23 survey of the literature for both the global warming
24 potential and the leakage rates of methane. And
25 please have them rationalize which numbers they use.

1 Next, let's talk about the wonderful
2 activists that I have met in Southwest Washington and
3 Tacoma and in Seattle.

4 Who here is opposed to the methanol plant?

5 All right. So all of these people are
6 people who I love. And they're either in Kalama or in
7 the blast zone or along pipeline routes or affected by
8 climate change.

9 MS. LUND: Thank you.

10 MS. KATIE BECK: Please don't hurt my
11 friends with this project.

12 MS. LUND: Thank you.

13 Next is Mark Keeley.

14 MR. MARK KEELEY: Mark Keeley, a 20-year
15 resident of Kalama.

16 The DSEIS loudly states that the building of
17 world's largest methanol refinery and export terminal
18 in Kalama would have a net climate benefit. NWIW
19 suggests that building it would be better than -- for
20 the climate than not building it.

21 Life Cycle Associations, a PR firm for big
22 oil and gas, hired to write the GHG analysis,
23 cherry-picked the outlier data to make their case.
24 This refinery would take fracked gas from Canada,
25 transport it hundreds of miles to Kalama through

1 60-plus-year-old pipelines that have a history of
2 leaks and explosions, refining it into methanol using
3 a process that's never been used before, load it onto
4 super tankers and ship it through the Columbia River
5 estuary over to Asia.

6 Every step of this process leaks methane
7 gas. Leakage rates of three percent have as much
8 global warming potential as coal. Recent
9 well-consulted studies find that methane leaks of 1.9
10 to 17 percent.

11 NWIW chose to use the industrial
12 self-reported rates -- or the industry's self-reported
13 rate of point -- or 0.32 percent. This is simply not
14 reasonable or realistic.

15 NWIW was court-ordered to accurately report
16 all the GHG emissions. How insulting it is to the
17 republic to produce this bogus document. Don't buy
18 their spin.

19 Thank you.

20 MS. LUND: Thank you.

21 We're -- we're going to take a 10-minute
22 break and will resume with Therese after that.

23 (A recess was taken from 7:48 p.m. to
24 8:01 p.m.)

25 MS. LUND: Okay. Welcome back.

1 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Can you just
2 restate who you folks are? Because many people missed
3 the introduction.

4 MS. LUND: We're going to do -- so we're
5 going to do some brief announcements.

6 We're not going to go through the whole
7 introduction again, because we're trying to get a
8 bunch of speakers in, since so many people signed up
9 to speak.

10 A few announcements before we take our next
11 speakers.

12 First, I'd like to ask you to please refrain
13 from approaching the officials during comments. It's
14 very distracting, particularly walking in back here.

15 It's also not necessary for you to hand in
16 your ticket when you come up to speak. Just, you
17 know, come up front before your name is up, while it's
18 on the screen, and then proceed to the podium to
19 speak.

20 Also, another announcement, somebody left
21 their glasses on this desk. We have taken them to the
22 sign-in desk. So if you're missing your glasses, they
23 might be at the sign-in.

24 Okay. We're going to proceed with Ed
25 Orcutt.

1 MR. ED ORCUTT: Good evening. For the
2 record, I'm Ed Orcutt. I'm the state representative
3 of the 20th District.

4 I'm here on my behalf. There hasn't been
5 anything passed by the legislature, so my comments are
6 my own.

7 I'm a resident of Kalama. I live just a
8 short distance from where this plant will be built.
9 In fact, I probably will see it from my home. I'm
10 standing here in support. I'm asking for you to
11 support the SDEIS and to approve the shoreline permit.

12 I believe that this plant is going to be
13 built somewhere in the world. And I believe that the
14 most environmentally-responsible place to build it is
15 right here in the state of Washington.

16 The reason why I say that is we have some of
17 the strictest environmental rules in the world. I've
18 been to some foreign countries, and I've seen what the
19 air quality is there. And it isn't anywhere near as
20 good as the air quality is here.

21 All's you have to do is look at the pictures
22 of Beijing for the Olympics in 2008 to see that.

23 I think it's critically important that any
24 emissions that they do, they have indicated that they
25 are going to mitigate any emissions. And I think

1 that's a -- a very important aspect that they're going
2 to do.

3 The investments that they make through that
4 mitigation is something that's going to advance
5 technology for clean energy. And I think that's
6 something that's going to continue to provide benefits
7 for many years to come.

8 So it's time to bring the jobs here. It's
9 time to make sure that this is done in the cleanest
10 way possible. And I think that can only be done right
11 here in the United States. And this Kalama plant is
12 the place to do it.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. LUND: Thank you.

15 Again, I'm going to remind you, please,
16 silent expressions of support or opposition are fine.
17 But saying things out loud just delays things.

18 Our next speaker is Bill Josh.

19 MR. BILL JOSH: Bill Josh, City of Longview,
20 elected (unintelligible) committee officer from
21 (unintelligible) district. My comments are my own,
22 not representative of any party or any other
23 organization.

24 Tonight I recognize that nothing I will say
25 will convince the environmentalists here to change

1 their mind in support of this project.

2 We all know the benefit and the good
3 Northwest Innovation Works will bring to our community
4 and to our region. The opportunity of this project is
5 without question.

6 What I would like to say, though, speaks to
7 a more holistic approach to how we should think about
8 this project and others. Without companies like
9 Northwest Innovation Works willing to put their
10 capital, time and talents into projects like this, our
11 region would suffer immensely.

12 The union workers that depend on these
13 projects would continue to move further and further
14 away to work in Portland or elsewhere and not here in
15 Cowlitz County. We need this project in Cowlitz
16 County to better develop our communities, pay for
17 vital services and projects.

18 It will help build bridges and provide for
19 services and paved roads not only in the County but
20 into the future. Our children and our grandchildren
21 deserve opportunities. And because of our constant --
22 and because of constant opposition, those
23 opportunities continue to dwindle.

24 MS. LUND: Sir, I'm going to ask you to wrap
25 things up. We had a delay with the timer.

1 MR. BILL JOSH: Behind me, you'll see a sea
2 of red. The project (unintelligible) will provide a
3 lot of green in the form of a greener economy and an
4 influx of money and revenues to our local economy.

5 MS. LUND: Thank you.

6 Our next speaker is Therese Livella.

7 MS. THERESE LIVELLA: Good evening. My name
8 is Therese Livella. I am a farmer from La Center,
9 Washington.

10 As Kent Caputo pointed out in his OPB
11 interview yesterday, NWIW is, quote, from a business
12 perspective, betting -- betting that there will be
13 more demand for their products, namely plastics and
14 fuels, in the years to come.

15 On this point he may be correct. Since I
16 have been alive on this planet, our human population
17 has grown from 3.84 billion to 7.7 billion, and it
18 shows no sign of stopping. More mouths mean more
19 need.

20 When Caputo goes on to say that we agree
21 that we should move away from fossil fuels, but that
22 we should do it over time, what he really means to say
23 is that, from the business perspective, there is no
24 money in recycling.

25 From the business perspective, the choice is

1 not, do the right thing or do the wrong thing. From
2 the business perspective, the choice is to do one of
3 two wrong things, coal or gas.

4 The time for that way of thinking is over.
5 Caputo and the DES -- DSEIS make assumptions that
6 because of methanol, China would be inclined to close
7 coal-fired plants. The DSEIS provides no guarantee of
8 this. From a business perspective, that would be a
9 very bad bet.

10 According to the United Nations IPCC report
11 released this year, we have just 12 years to reverse
12 our greenhouse gas emissions. To think that we can do
13 this while bringing new fossil fuel projects online is
14 false logic.

15 One of the main mitigation methods cited in
16 the DSEIS is to use carbon credits as an offset. We
17 do not need more offsets. We need actual reductions.

18 Thanks to the new farm bill, hemp is about
19 to be made legal again. Let's court an industry that
20 can actually make a difference in our world, rather
21 than just betting that they will help anyone but
22 themselves. Deny this project and support a new and
23 innovative industry --

24 MS. LUND: Thank you.

25 MS. THERESE LIVELLA: -- that would supply

1 the region with thousands of jobs --

2 MS. LUND: Thank you.

3 MS. THERESE LIVELLA: -- truly cleaner
4 fuel --

5 MS. LUND: Ma'am --

6 MS. THERESE LIVELLA: -- medicine
7 (unintelligible) from --

8 MS. LUND: Thank you. Your time is --

9 MS. THERESE LIVELLA: -- friendlier
10 plastics.

11 Thank you.

12 MS. LUND: Our next speaker is Steve Perkel.

13 MR. STEVE PERKEL: Hi. My name's Steve
14 Perkel, and I'm from Vancouver, Washington.

15 All of us in this room are breathing the
16 same air. According to the Department of Ecology,
17 motor vehicles and factories in our air shed produce
18 900 tons per day of chemicals known to cause birth
19 defects, asthma and cancer. Every breath we take
20 contains dozens of harmful pollutants.

21 You can see the pollutant -- the pollution
22 when you look at the hills. It's washed out of the
23 air into the Columbia when it rains.

24 You may not see the harms unless you work in
25 a cancer clinic, but they are real. Benzine is

1 carcinogen. Your EIS mentions that benzene needs to
2 be monitored, but not regulated. Why monitor, if
3 there is no cap?

4 Although the EPA is in charge of enforcing
5 the Clean Air Act, we have cancer alleys in America.
6 How can that be?

7 It's because monitoring -- monitoring is
8 minimal, and the EPA standards and enforcements are
9 weak. Epidemiologists tell us that the closer you
10 live to a petrochemical facility, the greater the
11 chance for cancer in people and fish.

12 We need to clean our air before we give
13 Northwest Innovation Works permits to pollute more.
14 Ask the Department of Ecology to be the lead agency,
15 and start over with the EIS.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. LUND: Thank you.

18 Our next person is -- I'm going to mutilate
19 this name -- Uriah -- Mr. Chipman.

20 MR. URIAH CHIPMAN: My name is Uriah
21 Chipman -- C-H-I-P-M-A-N. I'm a resident of
22 La Center, Washington, and I'm here representing the
23 operating engineer's union, Local 701. And I also
24 drove here, and I'd like to keep it that way.

25 The methanol plant is clean. The opponent's

1 call the methanol plant a refinery. It is not.
2 They're trying to frighten people.

3 I know the refineries, and Northwest
4 Innovation Works is not building one. All the
5 environmental studies have taken the methanol plant
6 apart, put it back together. To repeat, this is not a
7 refinery.

8 The draft describes together, to repeat, no
9 interaction with Columbia River. The state of our low
10 emissions technology and other innovations, the oil
11 industry spent 30 millions to defeat the carbon tax in
12 November. Northwest Innovation did the exact
13 opposite.

14 It has volunteered to offset a hundred
15 percent of its own greenhouse gas emissions. I ask
16 the opponents here tonight, what refinery would that
17 do that?

18 Thank you.

19 MS. LUND: Thank you.

20 Our next speaker is Cam Ewry.

21 MR. CAMERON EWRY: All right. So my name is
22 Cameron Ewry -- E-W-R-Y. But that's probably because
23 of my bad handwriting.

24 I'm an apprentice-level electrician with
25 JH Kelly, and I'm a member of IBEW Local 48.

1 But I just wanted to say that I find this
2 rather confusing when people say they care about the
3 future generations while they're currently struggling
4 to provide for their family and to find just a stable
5 source of income based on just dated science and
6 fear-mongering about the (unintelligible) being
7 breathable in X amount of years when the number keeps
8 changing.

9 This project will bring jobs and new
10 technologies in an effort to reduce pollution. If the
11 efforts to create a cleaner process is not made here,
12 the effort will be ignored and outsourced to countries
13 that don't care about greenhouse gasses at all.

14 And as someone said earlier tonight,
15 plastics and petroleum has been ingrained into our
16 society -- into our society and will not go away
17 overnight.

18 And I believe efforts to make the process
19 cleaner should be recognized and embraced, rather than
20 stamped out and ignored when looking into the future.

21 MS. LUND: Thank you.

22 Next is Paul Thiers.

23 MR. PAUL THIERS: Hello. My name's Paul
24 Thiers. I'm a professor at Washington State
25 University, Vancouver.

1 I'm trained as a political scientist, and my
2 primary research area is China. I have published on
3 Chinese energy policy and climate change policy.

4 In response to a community member's request,
5 I've read the drafts of the DSEIS and the supplemental
6 GHG analysis. Obviously, there's a lot of problems
7 with these documents, and other people will be
8 speaking to that tonight.

9 The one thing I want to speak to
10 specifically is with regards to the Chinese market for
11 this product.

12 The claim of neutral or -- or a net
13 reduction of greenhouse gas emissions relies on this
14 idea that the -- that the methanol will be used to
15 feed the chemical industry.

16 In fact, if the price of oil is higher than
17 80 to \$100 a barrel, that may be the case. But when
18 oil drops below \$80 a barrel, naphtha cracking, the
19 traditional method for making olefins, ethylene in
20 China is the cheapest and preferred method.

21 And since we're just over \$50 a barrel now,
22 I think there's almost no chance that any of this
23 product will be used to offset coal.

24 I have the information to back that up, if
25 you like, and I'll be submitting in written comments.

1 Appendix F of the supplemental GHG analysis
2 is entitled, Energy Crisis. But it's telling that
3 that entire appendix never mentions oil prices.

4 If the price of oil is taken into account,
5 it's very clear that this product is going to end up
6 being used as transportation fuel, which will change
7 the GHG analysis completely. And I think that the
8 DSEIS needs to be redone for that reason.

9 Thank you.

10 MS. LUND: Our next speaker is Shane Stacy.

11 MR. SHANE STACY: Shane Stacy -- S-T-A-C-Y.

12 I'm a Longview resident, and I'm here as a
13 proud member of Local 196 Piledrivers. And I
14 represent the 24,000 carpenters, piledrivers,
15 millwrights, DIS and (unintelligible) of the Pacific
16 Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters.

17 We support this project and the jobs it will
18 bring for our community. We need viable projects that
19 harness these traditional fuels until more
20 environmental-friendly green energy becomes
21 technologically and fiscally viable.

22 The (unintelligible) workers of Cowlitz,
23 Lewis and Clark County are counting on these jobs to
24 support our families and communities. Please make it
25 a passionate and responsibility -- a responsible

1 decision to support the hard-working men, women and
2 families that are counting on these projects like this
3 to earn a living wage and benefits.

4 And also, I'd like to let everyone know that
5 if you are opposed to these fossil fuels, when you're
6 walking home tonight, to please wear a vest, so we can
7 see you.

8 MS. LUND: Our next speaker is Zeb Bailey.

9 MR. ZEB BAILEY: My name's Zeb Bailey. I'm
10 here with the -- I live locally in Kelso. I'm out of
11 the 701 operating engineers with a full, large family
12 of skilled trades workers.

13 We're here to support this, because our
14 standards for stuff now are way higher than even what
15 they used to be way back in the day when all these
16 older people were actually up there doing work, when
17 they were actually more polluting than it is now.

18 Our standards and our codes and everything
19 now is up higher. It is not down low. We're not here
20 to spill all over. We are here with codes and
21 safeties set in place.

22 If it doesn't get built here, probably end
23 up getting over in China. And all those codes over
24 there are way low.

25 You want to look at all your red shirts, all

1 that leftover red dye that they use over there to make
2 those shirts get dumped in the earth.

3 I know what happens. I've had friends that
4 have went over there. They've seen it. And it's
5 sickening -- sickening what they do over there. They
6 ain't going to regulate it over there. They're going
7 to regulate it over here.

8 There's nothing wrong at all with having the
9 high standards of regulations that we have here in
10 this state. And it's -- there's nothing that's going
11 to doubt in my mind.

12 Plus, all the skilled trades workers that
13 are here in support of it, they have been certified.
14 They've been doing it for years and years and years.
15 And nothing but better has come from now than it was
16 back in the day.

17 Because all of our codes, all of our rules,
18 regulations, standards are higher. They're not down
19 low on the ground. This ain't a refinery.

20 This is going to actually produce local jobs
21 that people need.

22 Thank you.

23 MS. LUND: Our next speaker is Tracy
24 Ceravello.

25 MS. TRACY CERAVELLO: My name is Tracy

1 Ceravello -- C-E-R-A-V-E-L-L-O. And I live in
2 Ridgefield, Washington.

3 In the early 1800s the southern United
4 States had a booming economy. They grew plentiful
5 crops, supplied cotton to the world, and built
6 beautiful towns and lavish plantations. The big
7 problem was that this prosperous economy was only
8 achieved by immoral means, slavery.

9 Just as it is evil to profit from the
10 enslavement of a race, so it is immoral to endanger
11 the existence by endangering future generations by
12 perpetuating the use of fossil fuels in two name of
13 family-wage jobs.

14 Knowingly building new fossil fuel
15 infrastructure at this time with the overwhelming
16 scientific evidence of how climate change is
17 inextricably caused by our use of fossil fuels is
18 undeniably immoral. You are burdening my kids and
19 future generations with your indefensible decision.

20 The IPCC states that we must reduce
21 greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2030.

22 The Trump administration made it so fossil
23 fuel companies no longer have to monitor or report
24 methane leaks for mining sites or along pipelines.
25 How can we say what the greenhouse gas emissions are

1 going to be from this, if there's no monitoring or
2 reporting required any longer?

3 How can anyone say that this methanol plant
4 is good for the environment when greedy companies
5 don't even have to report leaks of this potent
6 greenhouse gas? How can we possibly hope to meet the
7 IPCC's target of a 50 percent reduction in greenhouse
8 gasses, when you are to build new fossil fuel
9 infrastructure?

10 Looking back it is easy to see that the
11 abolitionists were on the right side of history. The
12 world is watching. Which side of history will we be
13 on?

14 Thank you.

15 MS. LUND: Thank you.

16 Our next speaker is Michelle -- I'm not
17 going to even try it.

18 MS. MICHELLE DEVLAEMINCK: Hello. My name
19 is Michelle Devlaeminck. That's --

20 D-E-V-L-A-E-M-I-N-C-K. I am from Vancouver,
21 Washington. And I'm recently graduating from
22 Washington State University in Vancouver with my
23 bachelor's in science and environmental science.

24 I'm also a board member, a social media
25 manager, and a project leader for the Northwest

1 Ecological Research Institute, which is a nonprofit
2 organization that supports research in the Pacific
3 Northwest.

4 We are already in what scientists term the
5 sixth mass extinction. This means that biodiversity
6 is decreasing rapidly, and we will never get the
7 chance to see many of the rare and wonderful creatures
8 and plants that used to exist throughout the land and
9 waterways.

10 Species are dying off because of the
11 unsustainable way that we are using the natural
12 resources that we all share, and because of the
13 alterations that we are making to the environment.

14 In school I heard this comparison with
15 biodiversity that really stuck with me.

16 So imagine you're taking apart a machine,
17 because ecology works like a machine. Each of the
18 components work together for the system to function.

19 Now imagine after you take apart the
20 machine, that you start throwing away some of the
21 pieces. How well do you think the machine can
22 function once you put it back together?

23 Businesses can't function long-term unless
24 they develop sustainable business practices. Natural
25 gas or any fossil fuel is not sustainable.

1 We need to switch towards renewable energy.

2 That's really -- we need to be --

3 MS. LUND: Thank you.

4 MS. MICHELLE DEVLAEINCK: -- innovators
5 with renewable energy --

6 MS. LUND: Thank you.

7 MS. MICHELLE DEVLAEINCK: -- at the state.

8 MS. LUND: Thank you.

9 Our next speaker is Andrew Schafer.

10 Just a reminder that if people would please
11 move up to the front before your name is called. So
12 everybody whose name is on the screen, if you --
13 there's seats just for you in the front. It means
14 more people will get to speak.

15 MR. ANDREW SCHAFER: Hi. I'm Andrew
16 Schafer. I'm a lifetime resident of Kelso,
17 Washington, proud member of Local 26, steamfitters and
18 plumbers.

19 The Columbia Riverkeeper pushed for an
20 independent life-cycle analysis of the methanol plant.
21 This report has been completed, and the group hasn't
22 come up with any reason to question the findings. The
23 group seems to have forgotten the Northwest Innovation
24 Works is putting the zero liquid discharge to the
25 methanol plant, and has no discharging at the Columbia

1 River.

2 And are they aware that Northwest Innovation
3 has committed to offsetting all the greenhouse gas
4 emissions linked to the plant within the state of
5 Washington?

6 I thought that climate change was the
7 biggest challenge to the environment. The
8 immediate -- a superly engineered industrial plant
9 that's been shown to really respond to climate change
10 is a bigger threat to professional environmental
11 organizations.

12 Also, the no action emission alternative in
13 the draft supplemental EIS is dangerous. All the new
14 reports coming out agree. More greenhouse gasses are
15 being released around the world. We have to do
16 something big, and we have to do it now.

17 What kind of person or organization walks
18 away from this opportunity to reduce -- to reduce
19 global greenhouse gas emissions by as much as
20 14-and-a-half million metric tons per year? Why
21 wouldn't -- who wouldn't want to end the greenhouse
22 gas emissions of 2.2 million cars?

23 And that figure is just in the state of
24 Washington. They also have to reduce the greenhouse
25 gasses every year through the state laws.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. LUND: Our next speaker is Willie Myers.

3 MR. WILLIE MYERS: Hi. My name is Willie
4 Myers. I'm the executive secretary/treasurer of the
5 Columbia Pacific Building and Construction Trades
6 Council. I represent the union men and women in the
7 construction industry in Northwest Oregon and
8 Southwest Washington.

9 Cowlitz County lags behind the rest of
10 western Washington in employment and much-needed
11 social services, health outcomes, school funding and
12 other indicators.

13 We all know that this community needs
14 family-wage jobs. The life cycle analysis shows that
15 this project lives up to what the company has been
16 saying, that we can create family-wage jobs while
17 making a difference on climate change globally.

18 Now we can build and operate an industrial
19 plant that set an environmental standard for Cowlitz
20 County and western Washington -- or Washington State,
21 as well as the entire world.

22 We will be proud to go to work building the
23 methanol facility here at home. The thousand jobs
24 that are going to be created during the peak
25 employment of the construction of this facility are

1 much needed in this -- in this region.

2 So thank you for your time.

3 MS. LUND: Thank you.

4 Our next speaker is Don Steinke.

5 And again, lots of seats up here for all of
6 your names.

7 MR. DON STEINKE: S-T-E-I-N-K-E. I'm Don
8 Steinke from Vancouver.

9 And we may need another public hearing, if
10 everybody doesn't get to speak tonight.

11 40 years ago -- 44 years ago the nuclear
12 industry rolled into the Northwest proposing 20
13 nuclear power plants. The building trades backed them
14 up. They supported those plants who rushed in -- who
15 rushed us into one of America's largest boondoggles.

16 Together they told us they would -- we would
17 shiver in the dark if we didn't have all those nuclear
18 power plants. They told us they sorely needed jobs.
19 That's what they always say, regardless of the
20 impacts.

21 We wasted \$5 billion on those plants before
22 we pulled the plug. Our pension funds paid for that
23 mistake. Then Trojan was closed, because it was not
24 safe. Who paid for that boondoggle? Who is still
25 paying for it?

1 In all these cases the building trades got
2 paid. Advocating for large energy projects and making
3 us pay for it is what they do in exchange for a
4 project labor agreement. I'm getting tired of it.

5 Congress recognized that local
6 decision-makers can be blinded by wishful thinking,
7 and thus they created Northwest Power and Conservation
8 Council to serve as a watchdog over the local
9 decision-makers.

10 In the meantime our economy surged, we
11 became more efficient, and we didn't shiver in the
12 dark, like they said we would. This project will be
13 another boondoggle, and our pension plans may suffer
14 the consequence.

15 You need to start over with the
16 environmental impact study, your economic analysis
17 based on the price of coal -- of oil being over \$100 a
18 barrel rather than where it is now.

19 I ask the Port of Kalama and Cowlitz County
20 to recuse themselves from this decision-making in this
21 case, because you have a conflict of interest. Start
22 over. Ask the Department of Ecology to be the lead
23 agency. Get it right.

24 All those who oppose this project, please
25 stand.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. LUND: Thank you. Time is up.

3 The next speaker is Cameron Wilkinson.

4 MR. CAMERON WILKINSON: Good evening. Thank
5 you for your time.

6 My name is Cameron Wilkinson. I'm a citizen
7 in Cowlitz County. I reside in Kelso, Washington.

8 In December 2016, the DIS in -- the DEIS was
9 released for Northwest Innovation Works for the
10 proposed plant to be built in Kalama. The report made
11 claims of building the plant would have net positive
12 effect on the global greenhouse gasses.

13 Specifically, that by building a plant and
14 shipping methanol to China, that methanol would
15 replace coal in China's production processes resulting
16 in -- at a significant reduction of GHG, with using
17 methanol for producing products in China is
18 significantly cleaner than the coal in China currently
19 used.

20 Opponents, however, were not satisfied that
21 the DEIS provided enough research into the overall
22 effect of building the plant. The opponents wanted
23 the State to consider not only the impact of building
24 a plant in Washington State, they wanted a more
25 thorough study on both the upstream, the GHG that was

1 produced in fracking, the natural gas that the final
2 client would use, and the downstream GHG produced in
3 transporting and burning the methanol in China.

4 Fair enough.

5 A month-and-a-half ago an independent and
6 thorough study was released that shows building a
7 proposed methanol plant in Kalama, Washington will
8 reduce global greenhouse gasses by as much as
9 89 percent of all private cars on Washington State
10 road -- State roads.

11 The response from the opponents, ignoring
12 the study.

13 Thank you for your time.

14 MS. LUND: Thank you.

15 Our next speaker is Melanie Rios.

16 No? Okay. We're going to move on to the
17 next person, Vicky Bucklin.

18 And again, I'm going to ask you to please
19 come to the front.

20 Do we have Vicky Bucklin? Last call.

21 How about Ryan? Ryan? I see people moving.

22 Are you Ryan?

23 MR. RYAN STARIHA: Yeah.

24 MS. LUND: So Jean, Christina, Cynthia,
25 Chris, Steven, Jim, Gary, seats for you right here.

1 MR. RYAN STARIHA: Ryan Stariha --
2 S-T-A-R-I-H-A.

3 Short and sweet, I really like what you guys
4 are doing. I like everything I see, helping me
5 support my family if this thing goes in.

6 I'm a construction pipefitter, and you
7 should keep fighting.

8 Thank you.

9 MS. LUND: Thank you.

10 Next we have Jean Rosenbalm. Jean?

11 All right. No Jean.

12 How about Christina Irwin?

13 All right. Cynthia. And can you say your
14 last name, please.

15 MS. CYNTHIA SVENSSON: I'm Cynthia
16 Svensson -- S-V-E-N-S-S-O-N. And I live in Kalama.

17 It's obvious to everyone that building the
18 world's largest methanol plant using fracked gas piped
19 down from Canada and Panamax tankers to cross the
20 Pacific Ocean is going to result in sending
21 world-class amounts of greenhouse gases into the air.

22 The DSEIS proves that, though it's very
23 conservative in its estimates.

24 There are two real questions on the table:
25 NWIW maintains the proposed methanol plant will be

1 better for the environment, because it will replace
2 coal-fired plants in China with a net result of fewer
3 greenhouse gasses.

4 This is, of course, no guarantee of this.
5 And knowing China's manufacturing history and public
6 policy, it's suspect, to say the least.

7 Just this morning Reuters News Service
8 quoted U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolton as
9 saying, quote, China uses bribes, opaque agreements,
10 and the strategic use of debt to hold states in Africa
11 captive to Beijing's wishes and demands.

12 How can the Pacific Northwest even consider
13 putting itself on a par with struggling African
14 nations that have to sell their health and resources
15 just to survive?

16 So methanol in USA or China? Of course,
17 it's safer and more environmentally-responsible to
18 make it here. But it follows that it's also safer and
19 more responsible to make the plastic here, then. It's
20 also far better for us to make all the finished
21 products from the plastic.

22 When we ship a minimally-processed natural
23 resource out of our country, we are shipping thousands
24 upon thousands of jobs with it.

25 Is that two minutes or -- so --

1 MS. LUND: You have ten seconds.

2 MS. KATIE BECK: Sorry.

3 This is a poor trade-off, a hundred jobs for
4 thousands and thousands, not to mention the ugliest
5 pollution and world-class disaster risk.

6 MS. LUND: Thank you.

7 Next we have Chris Turner.

8 MS. CHRIS TURNER: Hi. My name is Chris
9 Turner.

10 This draft is imaginary, unrealistic and
11 unprofessional. Cowlitz County and the shoreline
12 board should require that this draft be thrown in the
13 trash, not revised.

14 First, they do not calculate the emissions
15 and leakages from the pipeline, storage facilities,
16 methanol used as fuel, compare realistic vessel tanker
17 transportation to alternative destinations, or up to
18 650 non-shore-powered vessels using laborers each
19 year.

20 Northwest has used unrealistic figures for
21 emissions that they do calculate.

22 Second, they say Northwest Innovation will
23 voluntarily mitigate all GHG emissions from Washington
24 State, including those outside our facility. Yes,
25 they actually said every industry's emissions, falsely

1 mentioning multiple times they pressured credits and
2 contributed to a mitigation fund.

3 Today Washington State does not have a
4 carbon exchange, nor do we have a mitigation fund.
5 Substantial changes.

6 Northwest intends to discharge wastewater to
7 the fire pond in violation of the shoreline's ELT
8 (phonetic) condition as well as ecology's water
9 quality permit that does not allow wastewater
10 discharges to surface waters.

11 Northwest has failed in six years to design
12 an earthquake soil stabilization plan for in project.
13 A major reason EFSEC denied a permit for Tesoro's oil
14 terminal in Vancouver was due to similar seismic risk,
15 even though multiple expert earthquake engineers
16 repeatedly designed and revised their inch-by-inch
17 plan.

18 The site plan in this draft is an old
19 redated 2016 plan. Northwest fails to mention that
20 the two large air separation units, infiltration pond,
21 and fire pond are still in the shoreline district. In
22 addition, the foam building is now improperly
23 positioned.

24 MS. LUND: Thank you.

25 MS. KATIE BECK: Thank you.

1 MS. LUND: The next speaker is Steven
2 Bruckner. Steven? Do we have Steven?

3 How about Jim Byrne?

4 MR. JIM BYRNE: I am Jim Byrne --
5 B-Y-R-N-E -- and I live in Ridgefield, Washington.

6 You heard people say that methane is one of
7 the worst, with a whole host of greenhouse gasses. I
8 believe that's true.

9 In addition to its explosive potential, we
10 run the risk of methane leaking from every well,
11 compressor throughout the pipeline, extending from
12 British Columbia to Kalama.

13 Fracking is one of the most dirty methods of
14 extracting gas from the ground, so it increases the
15 potential leaking.

16 I'm worried about Kalama and its air
17 quality. Methanol in the Columbia River is not a good
18 mix. I'm worried about the methanol as its placed on
19 ships moving across the Pacific.

20 I have concerns about the draft
21 environmental's impact statements. I don't believe
22 that it would lower world greenhouse gasses. I think
23 the data was cherry-picked, and I don't believe it.

24 I also -- there's no final conclusions about
25 what will happen to the methanol once it reaches

1 China. The jet stream will be more than sufficient to
2 bring whatever air pollution and bad air across the
3 Pacific and back to Washington.

4 China will be happy to send us plastic
5 bottles and plastic to our shores, and we're already
6 drowning in our own plastic pollution.

7 Our health, our planet's health, and our
8 grandchildren's health depends on good air quality. I
9 see this as a health versus dollars issue, with health
10 being more important. We can do better.

11 Thank you.

12 MS. LUND: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Gary Young.

14 MR. GARY YOUNG: Hi. My name's Gary
15 Young -- Y-O-U-N-G. I'm from Boring, Oregon.

16 I spent six years in the United States
17 Marine Corps, and I am currently a construction
18 electrician.

19 In both those fields I faced very dangerous
20 situations. And I've learned firsthand that the best
21 way to deal with life in dangerous situations is to
22 make decisions based on facts.

23 There have been a lot of statements and
24 comments made here today based on emotion. I
25 understand that. It's a scary time. We all agree

1 with that. Nobody's disputing that.

2 But we also know the facts. We have the
3 facts. And that's what the decisions are safely best
4 made on is based on the facts. And that's what I
5 would ask all of you, to base your decisions on the
6 facts.

7 And one of those facts that is very
8 compelling for me is that this -- this project -- or
9 these types of plants are going to be built around the
10 United States and other places, likely, that aren't
11 going to be built to the standards that Northwest
12 Innovation have proposed.

13 We can build this project here and build it
14 safely, and it will reduce that future scare of the
15 environment problems that we're having. And we can
16 use that as a model for other projects. It's a way to
17 transition.

18 Nobody's throwing down their phones and
19 walking away from their cars to help the situation
20 we're in. It's a process. It's a transition.

21 Thank you for your time.

22 MS. LUND: Thank you.

23 Our next speaker is Terry Casby.

24 Terry? No?

25 How about Anna -- is it Doty?

1 MS. ANNA DOTY: Yes.

2 Hello, my name is Anna Doty. I am a fossil
3 fuel campaign manager of the Washington Environmental
4 Council.

5 I'm here tonight on behalf of hundreds of
6 our members in Southwest Washington who are concerned
7 and alarmed by the deeply inadequate and misleading
8 SDEIS for the proposed Kalama methanol facility.

9 I'm going to be brief here in acknowledging
10 the hundreds of people who have come here tonight to
11 share their concern and will not be given the
12 opportunity to speak.

13 Among our many concerns with the SEIS are
14 the inappropriate and unenforceable -- unenforceable
15 assumptions regarding displacement and mitigation, the
16 inaccurate leakage rates for methane associated with
17 this facility, and the misleading use of a long-term
18 global warming potential which dangerously discounts
19 the potency of methane pollution in contributing to
20 global climate change.

21 Washingtonians deserve to know the true
22 climate, safety and health impact of this facility.
23 This SEIS does not meet that mandate, and this project
24 should not move forward.

25 MS. LUND: Thank you.

1 The next speaker is Susan Monson. Susan?

2 Susan.

3 How about Paul Albrecht? No Paul.

4 How about Jim Bernthal. We have a winner.

5 Again, please, please come to the front if
6 your name is on the screen.

7 MR. JIM BERNTHAL: Hi. My name is Jim
8 Bernthal, spelled -- B-E-R-N-T-H-A-L. I'm a long-term
9 resident of this state and this region.

10 While tonight's hearing is focused on the
11 greenhouse gas impact of this project, also I remain
12 concerned that the methanol refinery would have
13 additional negative impacts on the community.

14 To be clear, the SEIS totally blew it by
15 failing to provide an accurate analysis of the
16 greenhouse gas impacts. But the Port and the County's
17 ongoing failure to assess the other impacts of this
18 project really bothered me as well.

19 The project would necessitate the
20 construction of a Kalama lateral pipeline. This
21 involves a threat of eminent domain, a private company
22 taking Washingtonians' private land in court for the
23 benefit of the Chinese government.

24 And there will be more pipelines to come.
25 Because the volume of gas proposed for use in this

1 refinery is staggering.

2 The project would release tons of harmful
3 air pollution into a region already burdened by high
4 asthma rates. Some of these pollutants, such as
5 volatile organic compounds, can lead to the formation
6 of low-level ozone that can harm people's lungs. And
7 that's particularly true of children, the elderly, and
8 other sensitive populations.

9 In short, it should come as no surprise that
10 this SEIS fails to account for the greenhouse gas
11 pollution at the global level, when the same reviewers
12 wouldn't take a serious look at the local impacts
13 related to the pipelines and air pollution.

14 And in closing, I ask Governor Inslee and
15 the Washington Department of Ecology to see through
16 this mess of the SEIS draft and reject this project
17 soundly.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. LUND: Thank you.

20 Mary Byrne.

21 MS. MARY BYRNE: Hello. My name is Mary
22 Byrne -- B-Y-R-N-E -- and I'm from Ridgefield,
23 Washington.

24 I'm strongly opposed to this world's largest
25 methanol refinery in Kalama. This refinery will

1 negatively impact Kalama, surrounding communities, as
2 well as our entire planet.

3 This project will result in gas pipeline
4 expansions for the potential of land to be seized in
5 eminent domain, as the gentlemen mentioned about the
6 cemetery.

7 Fracking is a hazardous extraction process.
8 For me, I look no further than Oklahoma. I never
9 heard of earthquakes there until there was fracking.
10 I never heard of water going on fire until there was
11 fracking.

12 I think Mother Nature has made it pretty
13 clear that fracking is exceptionally hazardous. It
14 causes catastrophic explosions, deadly health issues,
15 and massive amounts of global warming emissions.

16 Please, say no to this refinery. Protect
17 public health and safety, and protect the only planet
18 we can live on.

19 Think of those who are here now and those
20 who are to follow. Without clean air and water and
21 climate change being brought under control, we will
22 not survive.

23 It saddens me to realize that in 2018 we are
24 discussing the expansion of fossil fuels rather than
25 expanding research and development and expansions of

1 renewable energy sources, such as wind and water, and
2 bringing family-wage-earning jobs through those means
3 rather than fossil fuels.

4 Thank you.

5 MS. LUND: Thank you.

6 Next we have Jim Clute.

7 MR. JIM CLUTE: Hello. My name is Jim
8 Clute -- C-L-U-T-E. I'm a 30-year resident of
9 Washington State, currently in Salmon Creek, in the
10 Vancouver area.

11 I'm an engineer, a father. I've worked in
12 engineering. I've helped build production facilities
13 in Europe, the U.S., in China, and in India.

14 I am a supporter of raising all voices around
15 the world, and believe that around the world we need
16 to approach and deal with climate change as it affects
17 our -- our future livability on this planet.

18 I do believe we need a valid environmental
19 study for this plant. If, indeed, a valid
20 environmental study justified that this improved
21 global warming, I would be supportive.

22 However, I believe the current environmental
23 study grossly underestimates the effects of methane
24 releases from our natural -- from our natural gas
25 production processes, and that this study needs to be

1 | 1 redone by the DES for a valid study.

2 I am in great -- I'd like to recognize those
3 who would like to work on this plant. I do believe
4 that the U.S. manufacturing trades and the
5 construction trades are amongst the best in the world.
6 I would love to see that plant be a biomethane
7 generation plant or another plant that can positively
8 influence the needs for our productive economy, as
9 well as improve our environmental prospects for the
10 future.

11 I do not believe the current proposed plant
12 is the right path, and I encourage you to revisit it.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. LUND: Thank you.

15 Our next speaker is Dorothea Simone.

16 MS. DOROTHEA SIMONE: Hello. I'm Dorothea
17 Simone -- S-I-M-O-N-E.

18 Greetings to all, and thank you for
19 listening to the public today. Please have a second
20 hearing to listen more.

21 As a retired nurse I've been against
22 frack -- fracking of gas for many years because of the
23 extreme health hazards and public safety dangers.

24 This proposal would be like bringing
25 fracking right into Kalama, but worse. Kalama is

1 already a cancer alley of sorts due to pollution.
2 So this cannot happen. What about clean energy
3 instead?

4 It is shocking that the Chinese government
5 is backing this new and extraordinarily dangerous
6 methanol refinery to export methanol to China, because
7 this would pollute our world from here to China and
8 back.

9 People say they do not want government to
10 regulate them. But I do want the Chinese government
11 to regulate us here.

12 The company's idea of shipping methane in
13 six tankers per month on the Columbia River is
14 nonsensical. The methane spill would devastate river
15 life. The danger of a methane spill in the Columbia
16 River makes this refinery too risky.

17 The Port of Kalama and Cowlitz County
18 received money from NWIW, making them thus unqualified
19 to decide about the dangers to citizens.

20 The company may not know the risks of
21 earthquakes that are expected in Washington State.
22 Make them aware.

23 What if we decide not to pollute our world
24 anymore? Let us bring clean energy instead.

25 Thank you.

1 MS. LUND: Thank you.

2 Next we have Bill Sampson.

3 MR. BILL SAMPSON: Hi. My name is Bill
4 Sampson, and I'm an environmentalist and Washington
5 State resident. Thank you for listening to all of our
6 testimony today.

7 With that being said, this supplemental
8 impact statement is embarrassing. If I were you, I
9 would be embarrassed to release this.

10 You were asked to accurately study the life
11 cycle visions of this project, which were left out of
12 the first environmental impact statement. By studying
13 more, the draft somehow comes to the conclusion that
14 it would have even less of an environmental impact
15 than before. That just doesn't make any sense.

16 This project increases investments in fossil
17 fuel usage at a time when we need to be investing in
18 renewable green energy alternatives.

19 You need to start over. You need to study
20 the life cycle impacts of this project accurately
21 without omitting many, many peer review studies about
22 the latest science on methane pollution.

23 Please use up-to-date numbers. Please start
24 over and do it right. Stop wasting time and do it --
25 oh. Wait. Where am I? Sorry.

1 Please start over and do it right. Stop
2 wasting time doing it wrong.

3 Better yet, since you have failed twice to
4 produce a realistic environmental impact statement, I
5 want to call on Governor Inslee, our climate action
6 governor, to stand with us against this project. I
7 want to call on Governor Inslee and the Department of
8 Ecology to reject this project.

9 Thank you.

10 MS. LUND: Next we have Scott van Sickle.

11 MR. SCOTT VAN SICKLE: Hello. My name is
12 Scott van Sickle -- V-A-N -- S-I-C-K-L-E.

13 You'll have to forgive me. I don't really
14 have a prepared speech. I wasn't really even
15 expecting to get called. I -- I left work and
16 whatnot, because unlike the vast majority of people
17 who came out here donning their red shirts to say,
18 Kill this project, I -- I'm still a working guy, just
19 like everybody else. I'm not even one of the union
20 guys. I -- I'm not even -- I'm not even one of those
21 guys.

22 So I just came out here, because I live in
23 Cowlitz County. I don't have an hour-and-a-half bus
24 ride home on a fossil-fuel-powered vehicle to get
25 home. When I leave here, I'm going to drive 15

1 minutes up the road and go home.

2 I just came up here to encourage you to go
3 forward with the project, because at some point in
4 time you've got to have the industry. Our kids have
5 got to work somewhere.

6 You know, with the stringent regulations
7 that are underneath to build this thing, clearly,
8 clearly, it's -- it's not going to be a bad thing.
9 It's shown it will reduce greenhouse gasses, so on and
10 so forth. You guys have heard it all.

11 I'm not going to waste your time anymore.
12 You guys have a good night.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. LUND: Thank you. Next we have Bryce
15 Henshaw.

16 Bryce? No Bryce.

17 Okay. How about Celeste? Celeste?

18 Enid? Do we have Enid Cox?

19 Are you Enid? No. Just someone walking on
20 the side.

21 How about Amelia?

22 Claudia. Are you Claudia?

23 MS. CLAUDIE RIEDENER: Yes.

24 MS. LUND: Okay.

25 MS. CLAUDIE RIEDENER: I still am.

1 Hello. Good evening, everybody. My name is
2 Claudia Riedener. Many times tonight we have heard
3 that, besides money, the main reason for this project
4 is so the Chinese can turn off coal -- coal-fired
5 plants.

6 Indeed, in 2015 President Xi made such
7 promises and said China would wean itself off coal.

8 Yet in September of this year, in September
9 of 2018 the BBC and The Guardian did an analysis of
10 satellite images of China. And what they found is
11 that China had been building hundreds of new
12 coal-fired plants. And they have taken plants that
13 were offline back online. So the appetite -- appetite
14 in China for coal is growing.

15 It's not only growing in their own home
16 country. Indeed, from reports from the National
17 Geographic from last year, we learned that China is
18 financing and building hundreds of new coal-fired
19 plants in Africa.

20 Many people in Africa are on the streets,
21 and they're demonstrating against this. They don't
22 want this dirty -- dirty energy in Africa either. But
23 yet they have no power to stand up. And they're being
24 exploited.

25 So don't believe it when they tell you they

1 will take off coal-fired plants. It is not true.

2 The people in Danyang, China would be
3 recipients of this methanol, if it's not being used
4 for fuel, but as a feed stock, as promised. The
5 people in Danyang have been in the streets by the tens
6 of thousands. And do you know why? Because the
7 plastic factories in China are polluting the air so
8 badly that the people in Danyang cannot breathe.

9 Do we want to further that? Do we want to
10 be the plastics (unintelligible) to the world and
11 pollute the air here, and pollute it over there as
12 well?

13 And then lastly, I want to remind you, right
14 now, today, the Chinese government is holding over a
15 million Uyghur Muslims. They are forced the eat pork
16 and alcohol. You are supporting this.

17 MS. LUND: Thank you.

18 Next, we have Corey Balkan.

19 MR. COREY BALKAN: Thank you.

20 Corey Balkan, Longview, Washington. I live
21 in Cowlitz County, work in Cowlitz County, raise my
22 family in Cowlitz County.

23 Northwest Innovation Works' Kalama
24 Manufacturing & Maritime Export Facility has
25 continually met every challenge presented throughout

1 this long, arduous permitting process and has proven
2 to be an innovator exceeding expectations, being the
3 first company to propose a zero liquid discharge
4 system, eliminating all the water discharge into the
5 Columbia River, having an independent life cycle
6 analysis completed, which concludes the project
7 results and the removal of up to 21 million metric
8 tons of climate-change-inducing carbon dioxide
9 globally, annually -- that's 2.2 million cars -- and
10 then committing to offset a hundred percent of the
11 greenhouse gas emissions in our state.

12 This is unprecedented. Then throw in the
13 \$200 billion of capital investment, all the associated
14 jobs and new tax base.

15 I support issuing permits needed to commence
16 this development. And I encourage anybody involved to
17 do so.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. LUND: Thank you.

20 We have an announcement.

21 MS. FARR: Good evening, everybody.

22 For those of you that missed the
23 introductions, I'm Ann Farr. I'm the super
24 responsible official for the Port of Kalama. And
25 Elaine Placido is my co-lead official for Cowlitz

1 County.

2 First, we want to say to all of you how much
3 we deeply appreciate your comments tonight. We do
4 listen. We want to encourage people also to recognize
5 that written comments have equal weight in the
6 process. We do read all of them.

7 We appreciate everyone who's here, your
8 respectfulness of each other in the process.

9 It's our understanding that there are a
10 number of people -- although we've had some
11 significant attrition -- who have signed up to speak.
12 So we are extending the hearing until 10 p.m. The
13 hearing will close at 10.

14 Thank you.

15 We will take a ten-minute break. And please
16 recognize that these breaks are mainly to accommodate
17 our court reporter. All the comments are being
18 recorded, and she has to take a break.

19 So thank you. We'll reconvene at 9:10 and
20 close the hearing at 10 o'clock.

21 (A recess was taken from 8:58 p.m. to
22 9:11 p.m.)

23 MS. FARR: Hi everybody. We're going to
24 start again. It's one more announcement from me. And
25 thank you for the person that reminded me.

1 And, you know, we will be accepting written
2 comments until 5:00 December 28th.

3 And like I said, all of those written
4 comments are read. They're equally considered.

5 You can submit a comment by letter. You can
6 submit a comment by email. You can submit a comment
7 on a form that's on the project website. It's on the
8 rule material that you have.

9 You can also comment tonight. There are
10 comment cards out in the lobby.

11 So thank you. December 28th at 5:00. And
12 we'll accept all of your comments until then. You
13 can -- you will have no time restrictions and no
14 length restrictions on those comments.

15 So please feel -- please do feel free to
16 comment in writing.

17 Thanks.

18 MS. LUND: Great. Thank you.

19 We do have some elected officials who will
20 give comment. So we have Mayor Helenberg.

21 MR. PAUL HELENBERG: Paul Helenberg from the
22 City of Castle Rock, long -- lifelong member of
23 Cowlitz County, and a proud retired member of plumbers
24 and pipefitters Local 26.

25 And I'd like to just say I'm a hundred

1 percent behind this project. I think Northwest
2 Innovation has went well beyond anything I can
3 imagine, trying to be environmentally sound.

4 And with that project, it brings much-needed
5 money. I know everybody talks about money. But
6 unfortunately, the County and each one of our great
7 cities in the county could use extra income in their
8 general funds.

9 And by doing -- you know, we're on the north
10 end of the county, and we'll probably benefit the
11 least. But it all goes around.

12 And I want to move forward with this
13 project. And this has been going on way too long,
14 costing the company way too much money. And I think
15 we need to just get going with it, and get it over and
16 done with, and start construction.

17 Thank you.

18 MS. LUND: Thank you.

19 And then we have Kelburn Koontz.

20 MR. KELBURN KOONTZ: Thank you.

21 My name is Kelburn Koontz. I'm the current
22 Chair of the Cowlitz County Republican Party.

23 I'm not representing them tonight. I'm
24 actually just speaking for myself.

25 I'm from Kelso. I drove 2.2 miles to get

1 here.

2 How many miles is it from Seattle? How many
3 vehicles were used and gallons of gas burned for the
4 red shirts to drive here tonight? That's a lot of
5 money going to oil companies, a lot of carbon dioxide
6 generated to protest greenhouse gasses.

7 It takes a lot of privilege to be able to
8 afford the luxury of time and money to make the trip.
9 I know I could not afford the time to go long
10 distances on a work night.

11 The facts -- the facts are, this area is an
12 industrial area. The economy, people's lives, the
13 very existence of our town here depend on industry.
14 Right now, as we speak, the men and women in this area
15 make products that are sold all over the globe. I
16 know, because I work with them.

17 In order for this area to survive into the
18 future, we must replace industry that is left. Our
19 towns need jobs. Every mill or industrial job has a
20 multiplying effect, supporting many, many businesses,
21 families and municipalities.

22 This project has already passed the required
23 processes. No need to keep moving the goalposts.
24 Let's get to work.

25 Thank you.

1 MS. LUND: Thank you.

2 Next, Corey Balkan.

3 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: He already
4 spoke.

5 MS. LUND: Oh. Sorry about that. I thought
6 it was familiar.

7 Okay. Steve Burger. Steve?

8 How about Rachael Hogan?

9 MS. RACHAEL HOGAN: Hello. My name's
10 Rachael Hogan -- H-O-G-A-N.

11 You're a candy sort of person. So picture
12 yourself at home making a comfortable living with
13 plastics and fuel, which everyone needs.

14 So in the backyard you happily buzz off all
15 your trees, rip out shrubs, bulldoze the hell out of
16 the land and penetrate the dirt, shooting chemicals
17 and steam into the ground to force the stuff you need
18 to let go.

19 Build a damn and pull all the junk and store
20 it in a toxic tailing pond, which, thank God, you
21 don't have to clean up -- benzine, hydrocarbons,
22 bitumen, BTEX poisoning every bug and bird landing
23 nearby, along with your cat and dog, and, oh, what the
24 hell, the kids, too, since they play there.

25 Instead, let's say they survive. Their

1 babies would, at best, be maladjusted, but maybe not
2 even make it. Ah, never mind.

3 All the while, eat a sandwich. Do a puzzle.
4 Sit in a comfy chair day after day under toxic clouds
5 chugging away as far as the eye can see, send your
6 neighbors across town to the cemetery early. Ah, but
7 the sound of money in the bank.

8 As is routine, you deliver. We even wind
9 your methanol skiff far down a narrow creek through
10 this obstacle course of rocks and water, swishing,
11 securing your boat, back and forth, to your boss.

12 Only today a prop catches a rock or
13 something by the embankment, which is really not your
14 fault that some of the load got away. But next time
15 you'll be all the more ready. And at least you're
16 okay.

17 Methanol travels in a blanket of quiet
18 erasing. Microorganisms, the otter puffs, fish fry
19 darting right into it, people. But you and that
20 gorgeous kitchen, not daring any longer to use water
21 from your tap. Go to the store and get jugs of it
22 while supplies last. Then return to fracking and
23 leaking for your boss, envisioning how best to
24 accomplish this Northwest Innovation on a massive
25 scale.

1 I'm opposed to this project.

2 MS. LUND: Thank you.

3 Next we have Kim Metzger.

4 MS. KIM METZGER: Kim Metzger, Kalama,
5 Washington.

6 It's interesting, don't you think, recently
7 Cowlitz County, along with many other communities,
8 were stopped by trying to over-recycling plastic.
9 China will no longer take it. Even now, counties and
10 states are passing laws to limit the use of various
11 plastics.

12 Then why would we, as a whole, want to send
13 methanol to China so they can make more plastic? And
14 why, when China uses methanol for other purposes?

15 Let's put our thinking caps on and take our
16 blinders off. We're selling out our future
17 generations and the environment, for what? A few jobs
18 and the almighty dollar.

19 This methanol refinery isn't worth it. Say
20 no to the methanol refinery. It's not worth the
21 future.

22 This is not just about Kalama. We are all
23 in this together.

24 Thank you.

25 MS. LUND: Thank you.

1 Peter Mogielnicki.

2 MR. PETER MOGIELNICKI: That's very good.

3 MS. LUND: It's hard.

4 MR. PETER MOGIELNICKI: That's a difficult
5 name, and you did a great job.

6 Pater Mogielnicki -- M-O-G-I-E-L-N-I-C-K-I.

7 I'm a retired professor of internal
8 medicine. And as someone in that job, I often had the
9 task of reviewing submitted articles, submitted
10 scientific articles for whether or not they'd be
11 published in a scientific journal. And so I've had
12 some experience in judging whether or not a scientific
13 analysis is adequate or not.

14 One of the first things that you look for
15 when you're looking at a scientific study is whether
16 or not there's been data cherry-picking.

17 And I have to say, as we've already heard,
18 that there's a lot of evidence that there's been some
19 pretty serious cherry-picking done in this
20 supplemental environmental impact statement.

21 For example, one of the statistics quoted
22 for methane leakage is something like, I believe,
23 .32 percent of the flow of methane, when really, the
24 studies have that as the low end of the range, and
25 that the range goes all the way up to something like

1 12 percent, and some studies even as high as
2 17 percent.

3 A fair SEIS would have looked at that whole
4 range and said, Yes. Here's the range. We're hoping
5 ours is down at the low end.

6 And that's not the only problem with this --
7 with this environmental impact statement. One of the
8 arguments -- major arguments that it relies on, as I'm
9 sure you've already heard, is the fact that somehow
10 this is going to reduce -- this is going to produce a
11 lot of greenhouse gas, a massive amount of greenhouse
12 gas. But after all, it's going to be less than what
13 would happen if you -- if you burned coal to produce
14 the same amount of energy.

15 That is a big, big assumption. And there
16 are lots of holes in it, as you've already heard.
17 Those two things alone would mean this study would
18 never get published.

19 So I think the SEIS is very, very
20 inadequate, and I hope you see the same thing.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. LUND: Thank you.

23 Next we have Dennis Potter. Dennis?

24 No Dennis.

25 Okay. Kelly O'Hanley.

1 DR. KELLY O'HANLEY: My name is Dr. Kelly
2 O'Hanley -- O-H-A-N-L-E-Y -- Portland, Oregon.

3 I'm an obstetrician/gynecologist. I also
4 hold a degree in public health.

5 What I have come to understand is that
6 cigarettes are actually good for us. Ignorance is
7 strength. And freedom is slavery.

8 I believe that, with this supplemental DEIS,
9 Northwest Innovation Works has more than earned its
10 name. What could be more innovative than to string
11 together wouldn't-it-be-great-if-it-were-true
12 assumptions to conclude that global greenhouse gasses
13 would decrease? I think whoever innovated this
14 approach deserves a promotion.

15 Greenwashing is truth washing. China's
16 malactions led to decreased coal production in
17 accordance with methanol purchase. But isn't that a
18 really small point, after all? Methanol can still be
19 a bridge fuel to a clean energy future.

20 Ignorance is strength. Northwest Innovation
21 Works chose a 100-year time frame to assess methanol's
22 impact on global warming. Apparently, we can extract,
23 transport, refine and use fracked gas to our heart's
24 content, and the world will still be a happy, healthy
25 place in a hundred years. I'm glad to know this.

1 Greenwashing is truth washing. We need not
2 fear that plastics from methanol will litter Asian
3 beaches to end up in the bellies of fish and whales.
4 As we know, Asian countries have among the world's
5 most stringent waste regulations and enforcement.
6 Thank goodness.

7 Fellow citizens, please help me -- help
8 ensure that Northwest Innovation Works be granted the
9 greenest of green lights to proceed. Whisper words of
10 wisdom. Let it be.

11 MS. LUND: Thank you.

12 I'm just going to remind you again. I know
13 it's a long night. But we're asking you to please
14 keep your reactions silent.

15 You can raise your hand, thumbs up, thumbs
16 down. But cheering, clapping, laughing just delays
17 it, because I have to say this.

18 Okay. Next we have Bea Wilson. Bea?

19 All right. Megan Richie?

20 MS. MEGAN RICHIE: Hi. Megan Richie,
21 Longview, Washington. Last name, R-I-C-H-I-E.

22 The SEIS falsely grandioses the presence of
23 coal-based methanol in the market. But then it
24 falsely assumes that the methanol produced from
25 fracked gas would directly replace the other methanol.

1 It's an easy ploy to create a false
2 comparison, to try to make the world's largest
3 fracked-gas-to-methanol refinery look good -- look
4 green.

5 And do not be fooled. The SEIS is missing
6 the point. This is a distraction. And the reality is
7 this: The proposed refinery would use
8 300 million cubic feet of fracked gas each day. And
9 that's a tremendous amount of fossil fuel.

10 The process will release millions of tons of
11 greenhouse gas pollution. And the SEIS has failed in
12 accurately addressing this pollution. This is an
13 addiction that needs an intervention. I'd like to
14 bring that up from another speaker.

15 I do not want Cowlitz County or the Pacific
16 Northwest to be known as China's drug dealer. Climate
17 change affects across all borders, and we have a
18 global responsibility to invest in businesses that
19 reduce greenhouse gasses, not lock them in the way of
20 fracked gas for the next 30 years.

21 Given the repeated inability of Northwest
22 Innovation Works and other agencies to take this
23 analysis seriously, I call upon Governor Inslee and
24 the Department of Ecology to deny the methanol
25 refinery.

1 Thank you.

2 MS. LUND: Thank you.

3 Next we have Mark.

4 MR. MARK UHART: Hi. Good evening. My name
5 is Mark Uhart, and I live in Kalama, Washington with
6 my wife Gloria.

7 We moved here three years ago. And it was
8 our vote to move to the area, so we would have the
9 great view of the Columbia River, and we would have
10 clean air, and we can enjoy ourselves. And I don't
11 know if that's going to be in our future now.

12 When I read the original EIS report, it was
13 not the information that was in the report that
14 alarmed me. It was the information that was not in
15 the report that alarmed me.

16 It was actually the section on esthetics.
17 And they showed pictures of what the plant was going
18 to look at from about five different angles. But it
19 didn't show what it was going to look like with the
20 clouds of -- you know, the cloud vapors up to
21 3,200 feet, and seven kilometers up and down the
22 river.

23 And it was their convenience not to put that
24 in the report. And it's important to view -- and it's
25 important for you to not know what questions -- or not

1 to take the facts that are in there, but know what
2 questions are to be asked. That's what good
3 scientists do is they ask the right questions. And
4 that's what good leaders do. And I don't see that's
5 what's been done.

6 You know, I believe in science, and I
7 believe in the scientific predictions that we have.
8 And what we're looking forward to in a crisis, and
9 where we -- you know, in this plant, we're putting
10 out -- in a cradle-to-grave approach, we're putting
11 out 200 -- 200 billion pounds of CO2 a year, from the
12 time of extraction to the time that that methanol is
13 either burned, or it's being used in the plastics or
14 whatever. 200 billion a year.

15 I don't think I can live with that. And I
16 don't think that our kids are going to be able to live
17 with that.

18 The rewards -- the rewards versus risk tells
19 me that this plant should not be built, from an
20 ecological standpoint, from an economical standpoint,
21 from an environmental standpoint, and from a strategic
22 standpoint.

23 You know, in closing, I would just say that,
24 you know, I hope you will not support this project.
25 If you look at the number of people that you had out

1 here today, they're telling you the same thing.

2 Thank you.

3 MS. LUND: Thank you.

4 Next we have Paul Spindell. Paul?

5 Okay. How about Dane -- is it Munton? No
6 Dane?

7 All right. Marion Fish? No Marion?

8 Carolyn Crawford. All right. Carolyn.

9 MS. CAROLYN CRAWFORD: My name is Carolyn
10 Crawford. I'm from Naselle, Washington along the
11 coast. And I'm at the end of the Columbia.

12 I guess what we're going to get --

13 MS. LUND: I'm sorry. Can you move the mike
14 a little bit, so we can hear you?

15 MS. CAROLYN CRAWFORD: Move what?

16 MS. LUND: The microphone.

17 MS. CAROLYN CRAWFORD: Okay.

18 The Chinese company, Northwest Innovation
19 Works, claims the fracked gas will come exclusively --
20 exclusively from Canada.

21 This is not true. It is ridiculous for a
22 company to take gas from only the one source over
23 30 years in a volatile market. And there are -- there
24 is no requirement that Canada be the source.

25 The methanol which could be used as fuel

1 will be put on ships and sailed down the Columbia
2 River. There is a risk of spills and pollution on the
3 Columbia River, putting our salmon and orca at risk.

4 There is a conflict of interest. The Port
5 is receiving income from the company. Cowlitz County
6 is being promised additional income through taxes and
7 philanthropic donations from NWIW.

8 They should not be the lead agencies on this
9 environmental review. The Governor and Department of
10 Ecology need to be involved with stopping this plant
11 from being built.

12 Thank you.

13 MS. LUND: Thank you.

14 Next we have -- it's Toma Devers?

15 MS. TOMA DEVERS: Hello. I'm Toma Devers.
16 I'm from Portland, Oregon.

17 I'm here to talk about a couple of things.
18 Fire and heat, you know, the numbers are in. And
19 every summer it's getting hotter. The fires get
20 worse. Let's think about Paradise, California, where
21 84 people got incinerated by flames that they couldn't
22 escape from.

23 We have Governor Brown in California now
24 discussing the need to build fire shelters, not miles
25 away from people's homes, but, like, 40 feet away from

1 people's homes.

2 So I mean, we could start some green new
3 jobs building those fire shelters for people, because
4 we know that we're on the list right behind California
5 with drought and mega rising temperatures.

6 Do we really want to see that happen to our
7 fellow citizens? Do we want to see them burn -- to be
8 burned alive in the fires, because we'd like to ignore
9 the science behind -- between fossil fuels leading to
10 climate change? Is that the kind of people we are?

11 I think we can do better. I think we can,
12 like, choose some higher ground and be better human
13 beings.

14 Because we have to stop these -- we have to
15 stop these fossil fuel developments, coal, oil and
16 gas. And we've got to think about banning fracked gas
17 from the west coast, to put an end to this time we
18 have to put into coming here and listening to these
19 arguments, and standing up and fighting -- continuing
20 to fight these horrific, unreasonable projects that
21 put all of our lives at threat, including the animals,
22 the four-legged, along with the human beings.

23 So, you know, it's definitely a time that we
24 need to be thinking about alternatives. You know, we
25 can think about building things and putting people to

1 work.

2 You know, there's other things we can be
3 building, like giving -- getting behind Alexandria
4 Ocasio-Cortez' Green New Deal. We start building
5 solar and wind infrastructures. We can start building
6 facilities and infrastructures that's going to save us
7 from these mega fires.

8 We need to be putting our energy there,
9 because it's only going to get hotter.

10 MS. LUND: Thank you.

11 Next we have Rebecca Winnier. Rebecca?

12 How about Marjorie Munsons. Marjorie?

13 Is it Licia? We're going to be going
14 through this list.

15 Okay. Bradley Thompson. Bradley?

16 MR. BRADLEY THOMPSON: Thank you for staying
17 late.

18 My name is Bradley Thompson. I'm a
19 registered nurse and a volunteer member of 350 Tacoma.

20 I'm an advocate for public health and the
21 environment. I'm also an advocate for justice,
22 prosperity, and the economic wealthy and front-line
23 communities like Kalama.

24 What is prosperity? It's about jobs and
25 money, sure. But ask somebody who's fighting off a

1 life-threatening illness what prosperity looks like,
2 and they're more likely to talk about family,
3 relationships, pets, nature and health.

4 The interesting thing about climate change
5 is that it doesn't discriminate. It threatens
6 everything.

7 Two major climate reports were released
8 recently, both with dire warnings. If we don't make
9 rapid and drastic changes to almost every aspect of
10 our society, then we face catastrophic destabilizing
11 consequences that are irreversible within human time
12 spans.

13 And just how long do we have to accomplish
14 that? Well, according to the world's leading climate
15 scientists, we've got less than 12 years to cut our
16 dependence on fossil fuels in half, and less than 30
17 years to end that dependence altogether.

18 So let's see. What have we been discussing
19 here tonight? That's right. A new 50-year fossil
20 fuel infrastructure project that would dramatically
21 ratchet up our state's dependence on fracked fossil
22 gas, which leaks polluting methane all along the
23 supply chain. Methane, which is 86 times more potent
24 as a global warming accelerant than carbon dioxide.

25 So I can tell you what prosperity doesn't

1 look like. It doesn't look like massive stranded
2 fossil fuel assets that leave communities in the
3 lurch. It doesn't look like communities that are
4 hitching their economic futures to dying fossil fuel
5 industry.

6 It doesn't look like selling off our
7 abundant natural resources, our clean water and clean
8 electricity, so that foreign countries can make cheap,
9 disposable plastics that poison our environment.

10 That's not prosperity. That's madness. And
11 as people and as a state, we must do better. I'm
12 calling on Governor Inslee and Washington Department
13 of Ecology to deny this project.

14 Thank you.

15 MS. LUND: Thank you.

16 Joy Ellison. Joy?

17 How about Joan Rothlein?

18 Daemen. Daemen?

19 Alan Smith?

20 MR. ALAN SMITH: My name is Alan Smith from
21 Portland, Oregon.

22 252 million years ago the greatest
23 extinction event ever occurred caused by magma rising
24 and burning seams of coal. At that time 96 percent of
25 all marine species were wiped out, along with

1 70 percent of all vertebrate species on land.

2 The current rate that we are putting CO₂
3 into the atmosphere is ten times greater than the rate
4 that occurred then.

5 In Antarctica, the rate that the ice is
6 melting is now five times greater than it was a decade
7 ago. According to the 2018 national climate
8 assessment, over 90 percent of current global warming
9 is caused by humans.

10 According to a German group that tracks coal
11 development, in Asia alone there are 1200 coal-fired
12 power plants either under construction or in the
13 planning stages.

14 The incoming director of the Potsdam
15 Institute said, I quote, We know that we're moving in
16 the wrong direction. We need to bend the global
17 carbon emissions no later than 2020, in two years'
18 time, to stand a chance to stay under 2 degrees
19 Celsius.

20 The SEIS claims that the Kalama refinery
21 would cause 2.2 million metric tons of CO₂ pollution
22 per year. This would be totally unacceptable, even if
23 it were true.

24 However, the SEIS presents a grossly
25 inaccurate picture of the pollution that would be

1 associated with this project. It fails to use a
2 meaningful global warming potential for methane, and
3 it grossly underestimates the amount of methane
4 leakage likely to occurred. It says 0.32 percent
5 based on a sample bottom-up study.

6 MS. LUND: Thank you.

7 MR. ALAN SMITH: This refinery must not be
8 built.

9 MS. LUND: Thank you.

10 Next we have Nena Caver. Nena?

11 How about Sarah McKensie. Sarah?

12 Bob Laytoe? Are you Bob walking up the
13 side? No, not Bob.

14 Okay. Ann Littlewood.

15 Terri Davern.

16 Charles Bridgecrane.

17 Gregory Monahan.

18 How about Carol Onasch?

19 Mike Taley.

20 Eric -- I can't even see it.

21 What's your last name, Eric?

22 MR. ERIC NERISON: Nerison.

23 MS. LUND: Nerison.

24 MR. ERIC NERISON: Hi. My name's Eric
25 Nerison. And I am a resident of Kalama.

1 I've lived in Kalama now for four years.

2 And I wanted to just speak in support of the project.

3 You know, there's been a lot talked about
4 today, and a lot of complicated issues that we've kind
5 of strung together.

6 And I guess, for me, I was at the first
7 hearing four years ago and listened to a lot of
8 testimony. And one of the things that stands out to
9 me is that we really have a company who's looking to
10 hook up to public -- to utilities that all the rest of
11 our community, both individuals and businesses, are
12 hooking up to to -- to engage in business. And they
13 have complied with all of the requests from the State
14 of Washington to do that.

15 And when there were questions about that
16 compliance and -- and addressing the environmental
17 issues, they -- they took a step further and looked at
18 how this project would affect the -- not just the
19 Kalama community, which I live in, but the global
20 community as well.

21 And they went far and above what you would
22 see in other situations.

23 So they're complicated issues. And really,
24 the only way -- the only path forward through these
25 complicated issues is innovation. And we're not going

1 to get to innovation in any arena without -- without,
2 you know, being creative and looking at different
3 solutions.

4 None of those solutions that -- that are out
5 there are perfect. We're not going to find a perfect
6 solution. But the ones that have been proposed have
7 been thoroughly vetted. And at some particular point
8 we have to trust the science, trust the leaders,
9 and -- and see what the possibilities are. Because
10 that innovation will bring further innovation.

11 MS. LUND: Thank you.

12 Next we have Betsy Porter. Betsy?

13 How about Dwain Buck? Dwain?

14 MR. DWAIN BUCK: Right here.

15 MS. LUND: So again, just a reminder, if
16 your name is on this list, it would be so helpful if
17 you came up to the front.

18 MR. DWAIN BUCK: Too late now. Sorry.

19 MS. LUND: I know. I know. Next time.

20 MR. DWAIN BUCK: Good point.

21 Thank you very much. I appreciate you
22 giving me the opportunity tonight.

23 My name is Dwain Buck. I'm mostly a
24 lifelong resident of the area. And I've seen it go
25 through many recessions. And we're always the first

1 to go into recession and the last to come out of it.

2 I don't see much -- we don't get much
3 community and the statewide help when those times
4 happen.

5 In this instance, this is a viable option
6 for us -- not a perfect option, but a viable option to
7 increase the economy of this -- this area. Most of
8 our communities, Longview, Kelso and the other cities,
9 have a deficit -- run a deficit, because we're
10 restricted by the tax -- amount of tax money that they
11 can -- they can earn.

12 And it's -- it's very difficult models that
13 we can't fix, and different things -- we have to take
14 money from our beloved library, because we need a fire
15 truck and things like that that are kind of important,
16 and the tough decisions that our leaders and people
17 have to make.

18 This would take the edge off of us making a
19 lot of really difficult decisions. And I think the
20 community itself is responsible for making those
21 decisions.

22 I appreciate the people and the concern.
23 And I know it's heartfelt concern for people to come
24 from other areas and -- and visit our community. I
25 hope they stop in -- in our stores, and they -- they

1 eat at our restaurants, and they buy our fuel and --
2 on the way home. So that -- that will help. It all
3 helps.

4 And I do understand the concern. I do feel
5 like some of the science is skewed. And a lot of the
6 people here are -- it's politically driven.

7 And my -- my drive is not politically
8 driven. I really do care about the community I live
9 in. And I raised children here who are now traveling
10 the world.

11 And some of the -- some of the opinions that
12 I've heard in the -- in the -- like, in Africa, for
13 instance, the coal facilities are very well welcomed
14 there, because they -- sometimes, some of those
15 communities -- my daughter lives in Africa. Sometimes
16 they have heat for maybe two or three hours a day --

17 MS. LUND: Thank you. Your time is up.

18 MR. DWAIN BUCK: -- and it's difficult for
19 them.

20 MS. LUND: Thank you.

21 MR. DWAIN BUCK: I'm in favor of the
22 project.

23 MS. LUND: Thank you.

24 Next we have Vasiliy Bondarchuk.

25 Are you Vasiliy?

1 MR. PAUL WAGNER: No. I just want to let
2 you know I'm representing my nation and my chieftain
3 family, and I would like to have an opportunity to
4 have my voice heard. Because you have not heard from
5 any indigenous people.

6 MS. LUND: Are you a member of a tribal
7 council?

8 MR. PAUL WAGNER: I am a chieftain of Samish
9 Nation (phonetic).

10 MS. LUND: So let me confer with our
11 officials; okay?

12 MR. PAUL WAGNER: Thank you.

13 MS. LUND: Okay. We're going to take the
14 next person on the list, and we need to confer on
15 something.

16 So Chris Farar? We didn't have Vasiliy.
17 Just pause for a moment.

18 (There was a brief pause in the proceeding.)

19 MS. LUND: Okay. Come on up.

20 MR. PAUL WAGNER: (Speaking in native
21 language.)

22 I am Chiopin and Samish (phonetic). And
23 English name, Paul Wagner.

24 I'm here today sharing with you on behalf of
25 the children of today. Today our children deserve a

1 future. Your children deserve a future. We've cared
2 for all life here, where you step upon the bones of
3 our ancestors. Since time immemorial, we've cared for
4 every living thing.

5 My mom would speak to the water. She was
6 taught to speak to the water before she even went into
7 the water, in the creek, in our village. That's
8 called respect. My grandma taught her, If you respect
9 nature, nature will respect you back.

10 For tens of thousands of years, we respected
11 everything here. We created Paradise. And we held it
12 for tens of thousands of years.

13 164 years, Jay Inslee. 164 years,
14 Department of Ecology. We're looking at the collapse
15 of our entire climate. Our rivers are dying. Our
16 salmon are going extinct. What do we have to do to
17 let you know, you're going to harm your own children?

18 Our people said, if you know where you come
19 from, our wisdom keepers -- if you know where you come
20 from, you will know where you are going.

21 The colonial world has never looked at where
22 it has come from, not once. It's afraid. It's afraid
23 to look at the weight and death of all life. It's
24 ashamed. Well, now it's time to be an adult --

25 MS. LUND: Thank you.

1 MR. PAUL WAGNER: -- to stand up for the
2 children of now --

3 MS. LUND: Thank you.

4 MR. PAUL WAGNER: -- and into the future.
5 That's your job.

6 MS. LUND: Sir, thank you. Your time is --

7 MR. PAUL WAGNER: You need to become an
8 adult in this society. And you --

9 MS. PLACIDO: Time's up.

10 MR. PAUL WAGNER: -- need to care for the
11 children.

12 Thank you.

13 MS. LUND: Chris -- did we have ...

14 Okay. So we've extended this meeting to
15 allow for comments. And please keep the disruptions
16 to a minimum, so that we can get as many people to
17 comment as we have signed up.

18 Okay. Chris Farar, did we find Chris?

19 How about Madison?

20 Mike Ellison? Do we have Mike?

21 Terry Vetter. I see someone standing -- no.

22 Terry?

23 How about Kyra Plume?

24 Anton Bredl.

25 Shannon Miller. Sharon Miller? Shannon?

1 MS. SHARON MILLER: Sharon.

2 MS. LUND: Sharon. My eyes are going.

3 After nine they turn off.

4 MS. SHARON MILLER: That's okay.

5 MS. LUND: Thanks.

6 MS. SHARON MILLER: Good evening. My name
7 is Sharon Miller -- M-I-L-L-E-R. I'm a resident of
8 southwest Washington, living in Vancouver, asking for
9 clean air and a healthy climate for my family, your
10 families, and all of us who are witnessing the events
11 of climate change.

12 As others have testified this evening,
13 approval of the construction of the Kalama methanol
14 facility is not consistent with the globally-agreed
15 climate goals of keeping global warming at less than
16 2 degrees Celsius.

17 It does seem to be believable that China,
18 who signed on to the Paris agreement, might want to
19 build their refinery in another country like the U.S.,
20 after the U.S. withdrawal from that agreement, to
21 mitigate global warming.

22 With the U.S. withdrawal from the agreement,
23 I believe that our nation's responsibility has become
24 a local responsibility. At our local level we must be
25 responsible citizens of the earth, and this project

1 falls in our area of responsibility.

2 As a child, I identified Kalama with Chief
3 Lelooska, who carved beautiful totems to display in
4 the community along the shores of the Columbia River.
5 Kalama was a small scenic community along that river.
6 I wonder what the Kalama of the chief's era would feel
7 about the choices that we make today, either blind
8 fracked gas and other dirty fossil fuels, or two,
9 clean technologies.

10 The SEIS states that the Kalama facility
11 would operate for 40 years. That means that four
12 decades of fracking, water, air and plastic pollution.

13 Where is our sense of responsibility?

14 At this time of the year, when we focus on
15 love of family, let's be responsible to our families
16 and their futures. Let's do the right thing, right
17 now. Please do not allow for meeting of any fracked
18 gas facilities.

19 Thank you very much for hearing our
20 testimony tonight.

21 MS. LUND: Thank you.

22 Susi Hilbert -- oh. I'm sorry. Dave
23 Hopkins. I skipped over. Dave Hopkins?

24 Okay. How about Susi?

25 MS. SUSI HILBERT: Hi, I'm Susi Hilbert. I

1 live in Longview, Washington. And have for 44 years.

2 I am not for this refinery at all. I have
3 some technical things that I wanted to say. But I
4 also wanted to say that when a company doesn't have
5 the -- has a name that doesn't tell what it does,
6 there's something wrong.

7 That's the point in the beginning. I don't
8 like it. There's something wrong. If it's a gas
9 company, it says the gas company. If it's an electric
10 company, it's a -- Northwest Innovation is very
11 nebulous, and I think it's for a reason.

12 The SEIS uses unrealistic data about methane
13 pollution. And I think that some of us are not aware
14 of looking at all these things, because we don't
15 really know. And -- but we do need to be careful,
16 because there are things that are researched that --
17 that show fallacies in this report.

18 It claims that Northwest, NWIW, as a
19 methanol refinery would cause an equivalent 2.17
20 million metric tons of carbon dioxide pollution each
21 year; okay. That's a huge amount of greenhouse gas
22 emissions, and it would make NWIW one of the top
23 causes of climate pollution in Washington.

24 Even so, the SEIS grossly and --
25 underestimates NWIW's actual climate pollution by

1 assuming a methane leakage rate of just .32 percent.
2 This was mentioned by another man before. I say you
3 can't just look at the lowest. You have to look at
4 the whole thing.

5 Multiple comprehensive studies have found
6 significantly-higher methane leakage rates. To reach
7 the impossibly-low .32 percent leakage rate, the SEIS
8 cherry-picks from a few studies where fracking
9 companies voluntarily self-reported their methane
10 leakage rates, based on calculating the leakage from
11 a -- various pieces of equipment.

12 MS. LUND: Thank you.

13 MS. SUSI HILBERT: Oh. I'm sorry.

14 MS. LUND: It's time to stop. Thanks.

15 Fred Suter? Fred?

16 How about Dan?

17 MR. DAN SERRES: So I think the spelling is
18 off. It's Dan Serres -- S-E-R-R-E-S. That's my bad,
19 my handwriting for sure.

20 I'm Dan Serres. I'm the conservation
21 director at Columbia Riverkeepers.

22 Just a couple notes I wanted to make about
23 the supplemental EIS, most of the fuller-written
24 technical comments, before the end of the comment
25 period.

1 The first is that the current tariff
2 situation is not included -- doesn't appear to be
3 included in the SEIS, although it relies on its big
4 market analysis to try to find some carbon benefit.

5 Of the second omission is -- continue to be
6 the lack of addressing new pipelines, which would be
7 necessary to feed this facility. We don't buy that
8 you can send 300 million cubic feet of gas to Kalama,
9 and another 300 million to Oregon for a second
10 methanol refinery, without building a large new supply
11 pipeline, and then allows eminent domain to send gas
12 as methanol to China.

13 I don't think this is what people imagined
14 when they contemplated eminent domain, using it to
15 (unintelligible) for overseas shipment of fossil fuel.

16 The SEIS was supposed to answer a pretty
17 simple question is, How much greenhouse gas pollution
18 would this project create?

19 And as someone noted earlier, it basically
20 failed to answer that question directly. They tried
21 to dance around the issue and create a strongman of
22 potential offset, speculative other fuels overseas.

23 When you take a straightforward look at what
24 this project will do, it will create millions and
25 millions of tons of greenhouse gas pollution. If, as

1 the previous speaker said, you use a more accurate
2 methane leakage rate, it actually creates millions of
3 tons more greenhouse gas pollution than they admit in
4 this analysis.

5 So the SEIS underestimates both the amount
6 and the potency of methane, the powerful greenhouse
7 gas that would be associated with this facility due to
8 the increased fracking, and the entire process.

9 Thank you.

10 MS. LUND: Thank you.

11 Next we have Steve Reed. No Steve.

12 Okay. Not Steve Reed.

13 How about Nate Stokes?

14 MR. NATE STOKES: Hello. My name is Nate
15 Stokes, resident of Vancouver, Washington. I'm here
16 representing the operating engineers Local 701.

17 I'm going to make it short and sweet, and
18 then I have a couple of questions for the audience.

19 Short and sweet is we are fully supportive
20 of this. And we feel like Northwest Innovation has
21 went above and beyond what they have asked to -- to
22 do, to build this project.

23 So like I said, we support the project.

24 One thing I would like to know is how many
25 people here actually are willing to give up for their

1 stand and park their cars and walk home? Drop their
2 cell phones and give up everything that we are doing
3 right now as this environment?

4 They're worried about it, so we need to do
5 something about it. We do build solar farms. We do
6 build wind farms. But that's not getting us to and
7 from where we need to go.

8 So like I said, operating engineers are
9 fully in support of this project.

10 Thank you.

11 MS. LUND: Thank you.

12 Next we have Dan Roberts.

13 MR. DAN ROBERTS: I'm Dan Roberts --
14 R-O-B-E-R-T-S. I'm a retired physician, formerly of
15 Kalama. We now live in Lake Oswego.

16 At age ten what I didn't like about the
17 little steam engine as I struck the match, lighting
18 the little burner, it was a quiet and invisible flame.
19 I had trouble telling when it was lit, and it was easy
20 to singe my fingers.

21 I suspect my father had the same problem
22 during his childhood nearly a century ago.

23 That clean fuel that powered this toy steam
24 engine that survived from my father's childhood was
25 methanol. Methanol was discovered in the 1600s. It's

1 now the second-most transported commodity worldwide.

2 In the last 75 years it's become the vehicle
3 of choice for storing and transporting carbon in a
4 high-energy form that can be used as a safe and
5 clean-burning fuel, or as a barometer of the things we
6 all use every day, carpets to cameras to carbon fiber.

7 Now we're talking about aircraft and
8 automobiles made from carbon fiber, because its
9 reduced weight reduces -- makes carbon fiber vehicles
10 more fuel-efficient.

11 As the SEIS points out, Northwest
12 Innovation's methanol plant will reduce worldwide
13 greenhouse gas emissions by displacing coal-fired
14 plants.

15 The draft EIS does not calculate the
16 greenhouse gas emissions reductions expected from
17 conversion to carbon fiber aircraft and service
18 vehicles. That conversion is currently in its infancy
19 and will be impacted directly or indirectly by this
20 methanol plant and others like it.

21 My wife and I support Northwest Innovation
22 Works' plans to build a methanol plant in the city of
23 Kalama -- or the Port of Kalama.

24 MS. LUND: Next we have Sherri Bush. And
25 this is going to be our last speaker this evening.

1 MS. SHERRI BUSH: Hello. My name's Sherri
2 Bush -- B-U-S-H. And I am a resident of Vancouver,
3 Washington.

4 I have a Bachelor of Science in Earth and
5 Environmental Science from the University of
6 California, Irvine. And I have extensively studied
7 both current and future impacts climate change will
8 have globally and locally.

9 Recently you may have heard that west coast
10 fishing and crabbing groups are suing fossil fuel
11 companies for their role in climate change. For these
12 industries in particular, climate change is warming
13 the ocean, leading to toxic algal blooms, and changing
14 the chemistry of the oceans as increased CO2 uptake
15 makes sea water more acidic.

16 While these groups are primarily from
17 California and Oregon, Washington fishing and crabbing
18 groups could follow suit.

19 Why? Because the -- for decades fossil fuel
20 companies have lied about, misled the public, and
21 underestimated their role in creating climate change.

22 So these groups want fossil fuel companies
23 to take responsibility for their past and current
24 pollution and propaganda. Here and now we can stop
25 fossil fuel pollution and propaganda.

1 I ask you to deny this permit altogether, as
2 the DSEIS has many misleading findings and/or
3 estimates the role this methanol refinery will have on
4 greenhouse gas pollution.

5 For instance, I am discouraged to see that
6 this impact statement does not take or use realistic
7 percentages for methanol leak -- methane leakage that
8 will come from LNG extraction and transport, as it
9 uses low-end estimates.

10 A comprehensive study done by the
11 Environmental Defense Fund found that the EPA
12 underestimates methane leakage by 60 percent. And
13 Northwester Innovation Works' analysis does not even
14 come close to the EPA's estimates.

15 I have that cite -- cited for you here.
16 Thank you for your time.

17 And if you do not deny the permit, then I do
18 call upon the Governor and Department of Ecology to
19 take over the process.

20 Thank you very much.

21 MS. LUND: Thank you.

22 Thanks -- thanks everyone for attending this
23 evening and for your comments.

24 I do just want to reiterate, that if you
25 didn't have a chance to comment orally, you can submit

1 written comments, either filling out a form, you can
2 email them, or you can mail them. Comments will be
3 taken until December 28th, at 5 p.m.

4 (The public hearing concluded at 10:00 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Sinead R. Wilder, a Certified Court Reporter for Washington, pursuant to RCW 5.28.010 authorized to administer oaths and affirmations in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that at the time and place set forth I reported in Stenotype all testimony adduced and other oral proceedings had in the foregoing matter; that thereafter my notes were reduced to typewriting under my direction pursuant to Washington Administrative Code 308-14-135, the transcript preparation format guidelines; and that the foregoing transcript, pages 1 through 163, both inclusive, constitutes a full, true and accurate record of all such testimony adduced and oral proceedings had, and of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and CCR stamp at Vancouver, Washington, this 28th of December, 2018.



SINEAD R. WILDER
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate No. 3227

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