

Southwest Clean Air Agency  
NWIWK - Public Hearing Transcript  
Cowlitz PUD Auditorium  
January 4, 2017 7:00 PM

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Uri Papish: It is approximately 7:00 PM and we are at the Cowlitz County PUD Auditorium. My name is Uri Papish, Executive Director of the Southwest Clean Air Agency. I am the presiding officer for this hearing and as such I am taking comments on the behalf of the Southwest Clean Air Agency. If you haven't done so already, those wishing to provide comments on the record, you must sign in or sign up on the green sheet in the back of the room or the lobby area.

The job of the presiding officer is to hear and acknowledge comments and not to respond to them. After the public commenting period SWCAA will prepare a summary of comments with SWCAA's responses. The full recording of this hearing will be posted on SWCAA's website so you'll all have access to it. I'm going to have Paul Mairose call out people's names to provide testimony and it will be the same format that we did for the question and answer where five people will be queued up and then each person's testimony will be limited to two minutes. Also, when you come up, please make sure you state your name for the official record.

Paul Mairose: Okay. First five people. Dylan, and I don't have a last name [Avimuzo]. Hold on. Rayburn. Rashenda Fairhurst. Sandra Davis. Tom Gordon. Diana Winther. Please come up.

Right here. Speak right into the mic, real close. State your name.

Dylan Rayburn: Hi. My name is Dylan and I'm seven years old.

Paul Mairose: Wait. Here, use this one.

Dylan Rayburn: Hi. My name is Dylan and I am eight years old so my generation is the future. Building a methanol plant in my hometown, Kalama, doesn't make any sense to me. My generation is learning that we need to stop using fossil fuels and that many places around the world are now banning fracking. I really don't understand why Kalama thinks a giant methanol plant is the future when the whole wide world can see that fossil fuels are the past.

Grown up's today know that they have to take action to save the environment for kids like me so we have clean air, soil, and water and a climate that's good for humans and our food. We're counting on you. You know that fossil fuels are not clean, green energy. Everyone in my second grade class knows it so surely you must too. I really don't understand why you want to put a fossil fuel plant in my backyard. That's not a good thing for me or anyone else to grow up next to. Please think about the future. Don't chain our town to the destructive fossil fuel past.

Now I have to go because it's almost my bedtime. Thank you.

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Uri Papish: Thank you, John.

Paul Mairose: Let me see if I can put this up over here.

Richenda Fairhurst: My name is Reverend Richenda Fairhurst. I'm the pastor at the Camas United Methodist Church in Camas, Washington. I'm also the Pacific Northwest Coordinator for the Pacific Northwest Conference for Peace and Justice. What I want to really talk about today is neighborliness, being a good neighbor. We can't imagine that a methanol plant here, where it's already a sacrificed zone, right? There's already particulates in the air and it doesn't really matter what else that we put in here [inaudible 00:04:38] besides 200 whole jobs justifies that but I'm going to push back and say that it's not just about this coastline. It's not just about this community, which is an important community but we are like a giant vacuum cleaner sucking fracked gas out of the North Dakota area, out of the Canadian tar sands and all of that sucked frack gas impacts everybody all the way down the line.

When we talk about water waste. We talk about upstream and downstream but we also talk about that when we talk about pipelines being upstream and downstream. Nobody wants to be upstream, downstream of a pipeline full of fracked gas. It's going to leak and crack and contaminate waterways in farmlands. I was at standing rock and I saw the difficulty people have with trying to communicate that their water is important. That emanate domain cannot be used to benefit a company instead of people who breathe and drink water and have children who want to go to second grade and third grade and fourth grade and have a good, productive life. We are Americans. We are innovators. We are smart and we do not need to rest on this ancient technology.

I get the argument that this is a transitional period. You bet it is but it's not one we should rest in while we busily spew out fracked gas all across the country as it squirms downstream to us and we become the recipients of this toxic brew. No, to the [inaudible 00:06:12] Pipeline. Yes, to good technologies and a future for us and our kids and this beautiful place. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Next. State your name.

Thomas Gordon: My name is Thomas Gordon. On December 11, 1983, Sunday, ammonia from a leaking valve at the Borden Ice Cream plant in Houston, Texas ignited and destroyed the plant. Luckily, as a maintenance man from the plant knew where the leak was, put on special gear and a face mask to protect himself. The firemen assisting. The ammonia exploded. No one was hurt or killed as bricks rained down. A few minutes later they would have been nearer to the leak and the outcome tragic. The ignition source was later determined to be a broken light bulb. While a manhole cover flew over one fire fighter ...

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- Audience: Speak into the microphone. Use the microphone. We can't hear you.
- Thomas Gordon: Okay. The worst damage for the firemen was some ice cream sticks stuck to the front of one of their trucks. Some ice cream sticks were found a mile away. In Kalama, how far are the ammonia tanks going to be from the methanol tanks? If an explosion occurred and ruptured a methanol tank would wind drifts send the methanol to Kalama where many would die? This and many other things need to be taken into consideration in building a plant using new technology to make methanol. At the very least, instead of building a massive new plant, shouldn't a smaller, pilot plant be built first to determine the feasibility of this venture?
- As envisioned now in the right conditions, fog from this plant would cover I-5 leading to accidents. On many levels, this project is a disaster waiting to happen. Thank you.
- Paul Mairose: Okay.
- Diana Winther: Hi. My name is Diana Winther and I work as an attorney. I have spent most of the day in a deposition, a deposition that should have ended before lunch.
- Audience: Microphone.
- Diana Winther: Sorry.
- Paul Mairose: There you go. Real close.
- Diana Winther: It took much longer because the attorney asking the questions had a bad habit of asserting facts that were not in the record and was characterizing the witness's statements. An attorney does this intentionally because they're trying to frame the situation in the best possible light for their case but luckily the other attorneys could object when this happens so the focus remains on the actual facts. I was really glad to hear, tonight, that the most useful comments citizens could make tonight are about the facts. If there are factual errors or holes in the technical review that the committee did and the facts demonstrate that Northwest Innovation Works has gone above and beyond what is required to safely build and operate this plant.
- I would encourage all those in this room to look past the mischaracterizations and assertions of facts that are not actually present in the permitting process, the fears about acid rain and toxic emissions. Instead, I hope the focus will be on the facts regarding the family wage jobs that this plant will provide, the needed economic boost to the community, and the positive addition of a transitional fossil fuel plant operating here in America where there are higher environmental standards rather than elsewhere on this planet. Thank you.

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Paul Mairose: Sandra? Is Sandra here?

Sandra Davis: My name is Sandra Davis. I live in Longview.

Audience: Closer. Louder.

Paul Mairose: You have to be real close.

Sandra Davis: Really?

Paul Mairose: Yeah.

Sandra Davis: I just wanted to comment about Northwest Innovation Works PR for this project has always been how green this project is and they're planning to use the ULE process. I'm asking Southwest Clean Air Agency to condition their permit on this specific process and not any other process. Since this process is unproven, we don't know if they can actually fulfill that promise so that's my question, or my comment.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Next five people. Grant Sawyer. Diane Dick. William Brake. Becky Meyer. Don Steinke. Somebody, step forward.

Grant Sawyer: My name is Grant Sawyer. I live in Portland, Oregon. I'm a former 26 year resident of Cowlitz County. I can't believe I'm up here again after years of fighting these fossil fuel facilities. The facts show that fossil fuels are what are causing climate change and there's no reason we need to build this project in Kalama and endanger the lives of the nearby residents if something happens with what's an unproven technology on such a massive scale. It's unconscionable for Southwest Clear Air Agency to approve this project without, like someone else suggested, a pilot project being build first to see how it works and how safe it is. Then explode that and see how many people that kills before they build a bigger one. It's just outrageous that we're still discussing these same issues. Thank you very much.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Next.

Diane Dick: Diane Dick, Longview. Department of Ecology should conduct a second tier toxic air pollutant review for diesel engine exhaust particulates as the project emissions exceed the ACL standard by a factor of more than five. In the FEIS, appendix D it was noted, I quote, "Background DPM concentrations were not considered because no data are available."

This data needs to be obtained and considered as the location of the methanol refinery is in a narrow transportation quarter with a major highway, major railway, and major ship channel, all major producers of DPM. Department of

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Ecology should prepare a permit for prevention of significant deterioration as PM emissions of at least 64 tons per year is a significant increase, especially when combined with the secondary precursor emissions of nitrous oxide at 75 tons per year. Under normal operations, nitrous oxide levels would rise to 72% of the max and under several scenarios to 92%.

Department of Ecology should prepare a PSD permit because overall PM data is suspect when compared to similar data from the proposed Millennium Bulk Coal Terminal Project. In the Innovation Works FEIS under Normal Operations for the ULE Process, the total PM emissions are 64 tons per year. This would produce PM 10 at 11 micrograms per cubic meter. By comparison with MBT Coal Terminal, the USACDEIS states that the MBT total project area PM 10 at seven tons per year with a 24-hour model, the impact of 66 micrograms per cubic meter. Confusingly, the SWCAA NWIW technical document gives values of over 60 TPY for each of the PM and I would assume some are included in the other.

Essentially, for 65 tons of PMT which produces a 24-hour emission of 11 micrograms, for MBT, seven tons produces 66. If NWIW was modeling PM 10 like MBT then the result in value would be multiple times the allowable max. Kalama's methanol refinery will be a major polluter in an environmentally sensitive river valley already hosting major polluters. As such, it should be subject to rigorous permitting review not so far provided. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Times up. Thank you.

William Brake: I am William Brake, a retired chemical engineer and registered professional engineer with a 35 year career in the natural gas business, an 11 resident of Vancouver, Washington. I have been actively involved in the proposed methanol plant for the past 27 months and made several comments on the project in [inaudible 00:15:03] scoping, 56 DEIS comments, 35 FEIS comments, and was mentioned by name 77 times in the FEIS. The various documents are fragmented and incomplete and do not provide a realistic base of information for the required 21 unique permits for this methanol project. The SWCAA 400-113 regulations to define a major, stationary source project, however, because this project has less than 100 tons per year of any pollutant, it is considered a minor stationary source project.

The Kalama methanol plant will be the 11th largest greenhouse gas facility in Washington and the third largest greenhouse gas facility in Cowlitz County. I ask that the SWCAA regulations be reviewed for loopholes in the regulations. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

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Don Steinke: Hello. Don Steinke, Clark County. I'm a retired Science teacher from Fort Vancouver High School. I oppose the methanol refinery because it would emit one million tons of CO2 every year without sequestration. We've already put too much CO2 into the air. We may already have crossed the tipping point for irreversible global warming. This is not counting the abundant methane leaks from the pipelines and the fracking fields. The supporters of the methanol refinery are giving us a false choice. They say because of worldwide demand for methanol, either build this refinery here or they'll just build it somewhere else and pollute more. That's what they always say.

I invite the building trades to work with us in the alliance for jobs and clean energy instead of supporting every energy project regardless of the consequences. There's no way you could approve this project if you care about climate change. There is no such thing as innate demand. Demand is created. Cancer rates always increase, the closer people live to a chemical facility. There are places in America called Cancer Alleys, even though they comply with the Clean Air act. I've worked with agency inspectors. Public complaints mean nothing to them. They go the last mile year after year working with the polluters seeking compliance.

If they issue a fine as a last resort, the money usually pays for the pollution abatement equipment that was needed in the first place. Now we see that Pulp and Talbot Company is suing Ecology, \$20 million, for allowing them to pollute at Port Gamble. First require sequestration and stop the fugitive emissions. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Becky. Becky Meyer. She's not here. We'll move on to the next five. Elona Stienke. Andrea Brenway. Sally Keely. Catherine Shudy. Come on up.

Cambria Keely: Hi. My name is Cambria Keely and I'm a 15 year old citizen of Kalama. Over the past 15 years, the aspects I and others have most treasured of my hometown where it's pure water and clean air. Now with the proposal of this methanol refinery both of these features are threatened. This methanol refinery would release one million tons of CO2 annually and 53 tons of toxic and hazardous pollutants annually dirtying the air so precious to me, my family, and future generations. Carbon dioxide has been proved on uncountable occasions to be harmful to our environments and last many years trapped in our atmosphere. Destroying something so valuable and necessary is immoral and is not worth it for the sake of the few jobs that could be better made elsewhere.

I refuse to allow my children to grow up in a world polluted by the uneducated and selfish decisions of Northwest Innovation Works.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

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Elona Stienke: (20:17) My name is Elona Stienke. I'm a retired RN from Clark County.

Audience: Microphone.

Elona Stienke: There is an attempt to give the illusion that this is a healthy, clean project. This is, in fact, a dirty project. It's dirty from its origin in the fracking fields leaking methane the length of the pipeline. The EPA has said that the gas industry leaks 1.4% of what it produces and that gas is 80 times more potent than CO2 as a greenhouse gas. According to federal statistics, gas pipeline incidents have destroyed property or injured or killed someone every other day for the last 20 years. Emitting more than a million tons of CO2 is more than 10 times the permitted level under the Washington Clean Air Rule. It will produce waste that includes nickel, copper, and zinc oxide. Into the air it will release carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, VOCs, and fine particulate matter. As much as 62 tons of PM 2.5 which causes heart disease, strokes, asthma and other respiratory diseases.

Many of the toxins in the refinery's emissions are at levels that exceed the applicable rate. Nickel would be 40 times the rate. These poisons would exacerbate and increase rates of asthma, chronic respiratory diseases, cardiovascular disease, and cancer. Cowlitz County already has a high rate of asthma. I have asthma and I can tell you that it can be a frightening disease and people do die from it. The death rate for chronic lower respiratory disease in this county is 54% higher than statewide. Because of the raise of unemployment and poverty are also higher here, Kalama is an easy mark for the promise of jobs. The Port should see clean and sustainable projects. Don't sacrifice Kalama. If China is desperate or more plastic, let them mine our oceans and our landfills.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Next.

Sally Keely: Sally Keely. Kalama, Washington. As a parent, mathematician, educator, and citizen of Kalama, I vehemently oppose the frack gas to methanol refinery and export terminal. The largest in the world, as large as all seven existing methanol refineries in the United States. This refinery would emit over a million tons of carbon dioxide a year. The total carbon emissions of roughly a quarter million cars. This would result in a one percent increase in greenhouse gas emissions in Washington State. That's the wrong direction. Our children need us to reduce our air pollution, reduce our greenhouse gases, reduce our fossil fuel use such as frack gas. The devastating risks of this massive refinery are not worth two jobs per acre. We can do much better choosing sustainable energies. I urge you to deny the air discharge permit to Northwest Innovation Works. Thanks.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

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Cathryn Chudy: My name is Cathryn Chudy. I live in Vancouver, Washington. I'm on the Board of The Oregon Conservancy Foundation and I work with suicidal children who don't trust adults to make decisions for their safety and well-being. Listening to those on stage tonight sadly leaves me agreeing with their distrust. These children are not choosing whether or not to eat peanut butter. They have to breathe the air in their community and have no way of protecting themselves from the hazard posed by a fossil fuel proposal that puts them at risk both in short and long term ways.

I am deeply concerned about the impacts to air quality that would be the result of building what would become one of the biggest air polluters in the state of Washington. That will pose a significant risk to the respiratory systems of citizens who should not be faced with long term health impacts just because a company backed by the Chinese government is pushing to exploit their community in order to make methanol for export to China for plastic production. By emitting over a million tons of carbon dioxide a year, this refinery does nothing to curb greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to catastrophic climate change. This project would use more natural gas than all industry in Washington combined. It will subsequently drive demand for massive new pipelines that will open the door wider to more and more fracked natural gas consumption and it's accidental releases of methane causing global warming.

A transition to actual clean energy alternatives will be delayed which means an ongoing and progressive compromise to air quality not just in Kalama but along the pipeline routes and throughout our region. The answer to the question of whether or not to issue the Draft Air Pollution permit is actually quite simple and contained in your own mission statement; to preserve and enhance air quality in southwest Washington. No matter how you dress it up or down with deceptive reassurances, this proposal does the opposite. It will inevitably degrade air quality in southwest Washington and Kalama in particular, contrary to your own mission statement.

The homepage of your website say, "We believe everyone plays a part in keeping our air healthy." Please do your part by denying this permit.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Next five people. Ray Connor. Michael Bridges. Linda Horst. Brian Magnusson. John Flinn. [inaudible 00:26:04]

Ray Connor: Ray Connor. Vice President of Local 26.

Paul Mairose: Speak really close to the mic.

Audience: Microphone.

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Ray Connor: 50 years ago when I was in third grade my father built a poly-ethylene unit. It made methanol and it took the [inaudible 00:26:25] out of it and made poly-ethylene dense. The plant's still there 50 years later. It's on the bank of the Mississippi. I even remember when my father was working there. Everybody felt like it was going to blow up. It was a disaster to have it there. It's been there 50 years. You want a pilot project, that's one.

I've reviewed the document and I feel like it should be okay.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Go ahead.

Michael Bridges: Good evening. My name is Mike Bridges and I'm a local resident and also the President of the Longview-Kelso Building and Construction Trades Council. I represent over 10 thousand skilled tradesmen and women in Southwest Washington. We partnered with Northwest Innovations over two years ago to build this state-of-the-art facility. During that time Northwest Innovations' team has demonstrated their commitment through their actions to meet or exceed every environmental and safety requirement that state and federal law prescribes for this project. We are confident that the Southwest Clean Air Agency will come to the same conclusion given in the final EIS and we are looking forward to this agencies approval and to get to work as soon as possible on this amazing, two-year construction project in our region that will create local work opportunities for our members currently working out of town or in another state all together.

This will also create hundreds of greatly needed new careers in the skilled trades through our respective trade apprenticeship programs for local residents in our community. Thank you for providing this forum tonight and the opportunity for the public to ask questions and have those questions answered.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

Linda Horst: My name, there? Okay.

Paul Mairose: Close. Very close.

Linda Horst: My name is Linda Horst. I live in Kelso. As an area resident for the past 22 years I strongly urge you to deny Northwest Innovations an Air Discharge permit for their proposed Kalama methanol refinery. Emitting over a million tons of greenhouse gases per year puts this refinery in the top five worst emitters in this Washington State. To make matters worse, this does not include discharges from additional needed power generation, transport and fugitive emissions from natural gas, and transport vessels to and from China which could easily double GHG totals to over two million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> from this project.

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Further compounding these alarming statistics is the cancer causing diesel pollution emitted from this refinery at five times greater than the Washington State guidelines for air toxics. The undeniable reality of global climate change is impacting us every day. We must take action to reverse this disastrous trajectory. Approval of this mega polluting refinery would be a fiasco. It is paramount that we limit and decrease the use of climate changing fossil fuels. In the words of Governor Insley, "We are the first generation to feel the impact of climate change and the last generation that can do something about it. Now is the time to act."

In closing, please remember that our future health and well-being are at risk. We are depending upon each of you to honor and enforce your agency's mission statement to "preserve and enhance air quality in southwest Washington."  
Thank you.

Uri Papish: Thank you. [30:05]

Paul Mairose I'm going to call up the next five real quick. Chris Turner. Adam Davis. Howard Shapiro. Cassandra Wilkenson. Paul Piper.

Brian Magnusson: Good evening. Sorry, my voice is bad. I'd like to make five points tonight.

Paul Mairose: Your name. Give us your name.

Brian Magnusson: I'm sorry. Brian Magnusson. Number one is that I believe all toxic and air pollutants listed were found to comply with the emissions standard.

Audience: Microphone.

Paul Mairose: You have to be closer. You have to be really close.

Brian Magnusson: Number two, a detailed analysis demonstrates that all emissions of toxic air pollutants from the plant itself would be sufficient to low human health and safety standards in accordance with Washington State law. Three, that the emission levels for all pollutants emitted by the plant are well within acceptable source impact guidelines. Four, there would be additional air emission impacts from construction and ship associates with the facility but these would also not result in significant adverse impacts. Five, this data will be reviewed by the Southwest Washington Clean Air Agency and used to determine whether the permit should be issued.

I have the utmost faith in the Southwest Washington Clean Air Agency to fully analyze the plant design and determine if the plant will meet or exceed state guidelines. Now I'd like to talk a little bit about what's at stake if this facility is not allowed to be built.

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Every day each of us make decisions about risk. We take risk by driving in our car, flying in a plane, or simply taking part in a sporting activity. We choose to do these types of things in our life because it's a low risk and not doing them would be greatly affecting our quality of life. I'm here tonight to talk about the quality of life in Cowlitz County. I graduated from Kelso High School in 1974 with a class size of over 300 kids. I knew most of my classmates and they all had homes. I printed a story and made copies for it tonight on the back table. It was published in the Daily News on December 16, about Anthony Campbell.

There was 661 homeless school children in Kelso and Longview school districts alone. This number is staggering and twice as high as the Washington state average. This is caused by not having family wage jobs in the community. Thank you.

John Flynn: Is this the active mic?

Paul Mairose: Yep.

John Flynn: My name is John Flynn. I am a resident of Kalama, Washington. As a citizen of Kalama, Cowlitz County, the state of Washington, and the United States, I am entitled to the basic expectation of breathing clean air and drinking clean water. No one, particularly a limited liability company subsidized by the Chinese government, has the right to infringe upon that right. You, the Southwest Washington Clean Air Agency, are expected to protect and defend these basic rights. Northwest Innovation Works proposed methanol refinery would emit between 1.24 and 1.53 million metric tons of greenhouse gases annually depended upon which process is chosen.

In addition, there would be 53 tons of toxic and hazardous chemical air pollutants released along with 62 tons of fine particulate matter, annually. These emissions constitute the chemical cocktail for acid rain. The vapor cloud from the cooling towers of this proposed behemoth would reach between one half to three quarters of a mile high and one quarter to one half mile wide. These facts by themselves, let alone in combination are in clear violation of the Washington Clean Air Act that states, "The public policy to preserve, protect, and enhance the air quality for future and current generations. Air is an essential resource that must be protected from harmful levels of pollution."

The Washington Clean Air act goes on to stipulate that, "It is further the intent to protect the public welfare, to preserve visibility, to protect scenic, aesthetic values, and to prevent air pollution problems that interfere with the enjoyment of life, property, or national attractions."

It is incumbent upon you to adhere to and uphold state law as stated in the Washington Clean Air Act.

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Paul Mairose: Thank you. Chris.

Chris Turner: Hi. My name is Chris Turner and I live in Longview. Northwest Innovations. Okay. SWCAA should follow the current laws and regulations for establishing limits on GHG emissions. The ramifications are unknown at this point if NWIW or any other company is allowed to set their own limits on GHGs or any other pollutant. Also, allowing a company to set limits of GHGs, they prohibit proper action or preclude SWCAA from enforcing future reduction requirements of GHGs or future laws on other pollutants.

If NWIW wants to show their willingness to reduce GHGs and other pollutants, they would voluntarily install pollution controls throughout the proposed facility. SWCAA is using EPA estimates from 2011 for Kalama. In just five years or so, Kalama's industrial area businesses have expanded dramatically. The chemical plant has doubled their capacity, added a reactor in 2013. The green export facility has doubled their capacity. There is a new business park which is under construction which includes light industrial.

The whole document state they're talking about the ULE process. The CR process should be, the permit should only be issued for the ULE process because that's what you've done. As far as the ZLD, it has not been evaluated and if the ZLD process were to be added in the future, a new application including the entire facility should be submitted for an EIS evaluation as well as to the SWCAA.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. [37:26]

Adam Davis: My name is Adam Davis. I'm a local resident. I live in Castle Rock. I'm also a Local 26 pipe fitter. I've been working around these facilities and facilities like this one for the last ten years of my life. Just a little background, I had asthma when I was a kid and I haven't seen any adverse effects in my adult life working around this kind of stuff and in this industry. I think this is an excellent opportunity right here in our own backyard and I think it's something that we really need. It could help our community flourish. Yeah, just looking forward to the future opportunity of keeping us work at home. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Howard. Cassandra. Go ahead.

Howard Shapiro: My name is Howard Shapiro. I live in Portland, Oregon and on the way up here I was looking. I used to live in California near the refineries and on the way up here it looked familiar. A lot of steam and a lot of vapor and so on up in the air. Who knows what else. I'm thinking that no matter how clean this is, it may be the straw that broke the camel's back. You could only handle so much pollutants before things begin to happen. By the way of spills, my handy iPhone says over the last 30 years, there have been nine thousand significant pipeline related

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disasters in this country resulting in 548 deaths, 2,576,000 injuries, and 8.5 billion, that's with a B, dollars-worth of damage.

So, yeah, we had a young man talking about his dad creating methane but I'm sure he didn't have a pipeline of frack gas running into it. We also heard that, yeah, the facility will be earthquake, considered the possibility of an earthquake. Nobody mentioned the pipeline. Those pipelines rupture very easily with a little bit of a shake. Think about that, people.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Cassandra.

Audience: She's not here.

Paul Mairose: How about Paul Piper?

Paul Piper: My name is Paul Piper and I've lived in the Longview coastal area for 40 years. I've got seven children and three grandchildren. I'm a pipe fitter for the UA Local 26 and I approve this project.

Paul Mairose: Next five. Mike Carillo. Cameron Wilkenson. Chris Coachis. Tim Luco. Don Orange. B Orange.

Audience: D Orange.

Paul Mairose: Don Orange. Sorry. [inaudible 00:41:24]

Mike Carillo: My name is Mike Carillo. I'm an apprentice at Local 26 steam fitters.

Audience: Mic.

Paul Mairose: Be very close.

Mike Carillo: That better. I would have stayed home if I wanted to get bossed like that. I've been to two of these so far and I hear a lot of opposition. This community is desperate. The poverty level's ...

Audience: Speak into the microphone.

Mike Carillo: The poverty level is bad. You walk down the streets. I drive here every day. It's disgusting. There has to be something that brings commerce to this area. I hear a lot of statistics against it so they trust that, the Scientists. The people that approve this, their studies are going to be correct and precise as well so if the thing is going to be right, I would like it to be here in America where our people

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are going to make sure that it's done right. The people that build it are going to build it right. You guys are doing your thing. I want to keep it. I live in an area where we fish, hunt, hike, it's nice. It's beautiful. Don't want to see it all nasty but if people are going to be against this kind of stuff then we need to bring something to the table.

Audience: Yes.

Mike Carillo: I've never heard nothing except for negative about these projects. I haven't heard anything that's positive. I get that but I'm saying, if people are wanting to keep this green and everything, that's cool. Let's do it. We have people that are in charge of the scientific stuff that's going to make sure that it's right. You guys ain't going to pas stuff isn't going to be right but I'm saying, if we have opposition of these things, let's bring some kind of job, a real job, not just an idea but a company that's going to provide commerce for this area too. Thanks.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Chris or Tim. [44:00]

Cameron Wilkinson: Good evening. Thank you for your time. My name is Cameron Wilkinson. I've been a citizen of Cowlitz County for 33 years. First of all I want to say, I've reviewed the draft environmental impact study on this and I think we should move forward on it. I'm happy with it. I'm a assistant business manager of UA Local 26 of western Washington. I have roughly about 350 members in the Cowlitz County area and about 85% of them work away from home to the point where they have to live away from their home during the week to maintain employment to keep their family running and their household running. This is a beautiful area. This is an industrial area. This area was built on industry.

This is a new technology that's coming to our community and it's going to be built by skilled craftspeople and it's going to be a safe facility because it was built properly, it was built in the United States of America where we have the opportunities to do this, talk about it, everybody has their opinion, we have regulations and rules. I just want to end that with I approve of this project and look to see it moving forward. Thank you.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Chris, Tim.

Tim Luchau: My name is Tim Luchau and I'm a local here in Longview for 27 years. I'm an apprentice for Local 26.

Audience: Mic please.

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- Tim Luchau: I'm an apprentice for Local 26. I reviewed the proposed permit. I agree with it 100%. We need to bring some work back into this town and get it going as soon as possible. That's it.
- Paul Mairose: Thank you. Keep it close.
- Chris Kochis: Hi. Chris Kochis. Cowlitz County resident of almost 40 years, two kids of my own, and two step-kids, and I'm embarrassed that I have any red on today. I approve this project. The only thing that everybody in Red would approve of is if we put a Whole Foods on every corner.
- Don Orange: Not a problem. I've been called a lot worse. Good evening. My name is Don Orange. I'm a small business owner in Vancouver. I used to work up here in Cowlitz County and I'm fairly familiar with it. I understand you folks kicked over a coal terminal yesterday and congratulations on that. It occurs to me that you guys are discussing putting a plant in right across the river from a failed nuclear plant that went on for years and I think the folks that come from Portland are still paying for that plant. The citizens. If this thing here blows up in our face, I think you'll expect us citizens to clean it up. That seems to be how it usually goes. All business people recognize that it's critically important that we have jobs. It needs to be said that there's 100 thousand people working in the solar industry in this country which is twice as many as working in the coal mining industry. The oil industry is dying. We have a choice. Jobs are critically important and it's a part of who almost all of us are, all working people.
- People who come to my store to get their car serviced pay their bill with wages or social security which came from the work that they did before, not from investments, not from Chinese companies, not from nothing. This plant, it's designed to export raw material, very much like Weyerhaeuser exporting raw logs right out through here. If you want to look at why Cowlitz County's gutted, look at what your corporations have done. The pollution's still here. The timber is still going through Cowlitz County. The jobs are gone. If you want to build a plant in Kalama, let's have the jobs stay here. If they put an oil plant in Vancouver, it'll cost us more jobs than it creates. It's time to think about the people. Let's have jobs for people. Thank you.
- Paul Mairose: Thank you. Next five people. Cynthia Svensson. Charlotte Persons. Captain Kimberly Higgins. Edward DeGraaf. Ted Sprague. [49:32]
- Cynthia Svensson: Hello. My name is Cynthia Svensson. Thank you for listening to us all this evening. I'm a resident of Kalama and I have a Master of Science degree in Chemical Oceanography from the University of Washington.
- Audience: Can't hear you.

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Cynthia Svensson: I'm here to request that you deny the air discharge permit for the proposed methanol plant in Kalama. I'm particularly concerned about diesel particulate matter from ships and tugs. When I looked at the final environmental impact statement, I saw that information concerning tugs and ship had simply been lined out and was considered immaterial to the project because it was not part of the plan itself. That is how NWIW meets standards. The Columbia River is located between Kalama, Washington and Rainier, Oregon at the area in question and both these communities would suffer exposure to the increased DPM. Kalama is particularly at risk for this because of it's proximity to the freeway, heavy rail traffic, and ocean/river traffic. That has increased dramatically since 2011 when the EPA did a DPM estimate for the area.

I believe there should be actual pollution monitors in the core area of Kalama, not just estimates. Even the estimates are not encouraging. The EPA estimated the DPM in Kalama to be roughly 180 times the Washington acceptable source impact level. We should take the danger of additional DPM in this area very seriously as it has direct bearing on cancer and respiratory disease rates. If somebody is smoking a carton of cigarettes it is not going to help them to have another pack. We need to decrease air pollution, not allow it to increase. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Talk up here.

Charlotte Persons: I'm Charlotte Persons. Can you hear me?

Audience: Yep.

Charlotte Persons: Okay. I'm Charlotte Persons and I live at 2409 Boyd Street in Kelso. I'm in line of sight of this project and when I look out across my view, because I'm up on a hill, I get to see all of the smoke stacks that are already putting out vapor into the air. We are already a heavily polluted industrial area. In my 24 years here I have seen the pollution levels decrease slightly as plants closed and modernized and instantly the Southwest Washington Air Polluting Commission has said, "That means we can fill up with more industrial pollution."

We don't need that. We already have high asthma rates and any increase in pollution here is of detriment to our public health. Please deny this permit.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Speak [inaudible 00:52:51]

Kimberly Higgins: Kim Higgins. Longview resident. I urge you to deny Northwest Innovation Works air discharge permit for the proposed methanol refinery in Kalama, Washington. If we allow Northwest Innovation Works to pollute in our region levels of small particulate matter in the air near the refinery would be dangerously close to the maximum short term exposure levels recommended by the World Health

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Organization. Particulate matter causes stroke, asthma, cancer, and immune disorders. Permitting this project would be permitting the spread of these diseases in Kalama and lower Columbia. This project should not be allowed to pollute. It's not peanut butter, we don't have a choice of whether to breathe air or not. Further is off topic comments are being allowed, a bad day at the proposed Kalama methanol refinery, on a side subject to liquification during an earthquake would bring this region to its knees due to its proximity to Interstate 5, the route we and the goods we consume travel without alternate. We need to work together to find a good forward thinking project that will result in good long term jobs, not allow large corporations to divide us and use our region as a conduit. Please reject this permit. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

Ted Sprague: Thank you. Good evening. I'm Ted Sprague. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the air permit tonight. I just wanted to say that we appreciate the thoughtfulness and the work that's been done to this minor source air permit and we hope that it meets your approval. I will also add just because others have spoken about things besides this specific permit that we have worked with several companies, I think several of you would enjoy having in this community but they've looked at the permitting process and they've chosen to go to other states so keep that in mind too. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Okay, next five people on deck. Pat Freiburg. Jasmine Zimmer-Stucky. Ken Ferguson. Bob Carroll. Cecile Gernez. Edward.

Edward DeGraaf : Hi. My name is Edward DeGraaf. Like most people here I'm from out of town. I came here under my own power from Bellingham, Washington. I'm retired. I'm a down winder from Wenatchee. I grew up in Portland. I worked in Seattle and now I'm up in Bellingham, retired. I am an old chemical engineer. I spent most of my time doing all kinds of things. Part of it wastewater treatment so I'm a big fan of ZLD but in an earlier lifetime I designed methanol plants. In fact, one of the reasons I'm here is I think I may be the only person west of Houston and south of Canada that has any personal exposure and experience with methanol. I didn't know much about the design of this plant before I came here.

Let me first explain. There are policy issues here that I can't address. These are policy issues that you folks need to address. It's not in my area. I can comment on what I see of the design and I'm impressed. I didn't know much about this thing before I got here but looking at some of the drawings and such, this has got to be one of the cleanest methanol plants ever built, if it's built. We tried to make designs like this 25 years ago, tried to sell them, and the people were rather reluctant to do it and I moved on but it looks like it's been considered to be a successful idea. Nobody is going to spend a billion dollars on something that's not going to work, trust me. Anyway, it looks good to me and with zero

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liquid discharge, I think it would be a good neighbor. It's really a small plant compared to the emissions. Okay.

Paul Mairose: Are you done?

Edward DeGraaf : Yeah. Done.

Paul Mairose: Thanks.

Pat Freiburg: Good evening. My name is Pat Freiburg and I want you to know that I appreciate the opportunity to speak tonight. As I was writing my notes, there are many, many reasons to deny this project. I finally landed on four. Number one, Northwest Innovation Works project will cause a massive expulsion of CO2 into Kalama's airspace day after day, year after year. We have a biosphere that's already carrying over 400 parts per billion, a lethal dose for continued human existence. The planet is breaking down even as we sit here speaking tonight. It's almost unbelievable that we're discussing this proposal. Number two, the project subjects Kalama's residents to danger as the community rests within two miles of the facility.

I remind you of the Plymouth, Washington explosion on March 31, 2014. This was in Plymouth, Washington, 30 miles south of Pasco. Because operators improperly purged equipment a mixture of gas and air ignited, an explosion that ripped a hole in the tank and in a small pipe. Five workers were injured. LNG continued to leak from the pipe for 24 hours. People were evacuated within a two mile radius in all directions. River traffic was shut down on the Columbia River, Highway 14 was closed, and BNSF traffic was also stopped because a dangerous vapor cloud was floating above the area. If this vapor cloud, which could have ignited by a spark or a flame, if it had ignited it could have burned all the way back to the source.

Number three, this methane will come from fracked gas, a questionable process. A process that's known for polluting ground water and unprecedented earthquakes. Number five, I have to wonder, why is a Chinese company buying methane from North America, building a facility here to convert it to methanol, and then shipping the product to China? Methane is ubiquitous. I can only think that maybe this company is skirting environmental laws in China or we're selling our methane far too cheaply.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. You have to get really close.

Jasmine Zimmer-Stucky Thank you very much. My name is Jasmine Zimmer-Stucky. The Senior organizer with the Columbia River Keeper. I appreciate the opportunity to comment tonight. Southwest Clean Air Agency only reviewed a small portion of the proposed Kalama ethanol refinery impacts. Even with these blinders on,

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Northwest Innovation Works will be the number one source of air pollution in Kalama. If you take the blinders off you will see even ... it died (*microphone*). You will see even more air pollution and impacts. The impacts to air quality, public safety, and human health of fracking for 320 million cubic feet a day of methane gas cannot be ignored. The impact of methane leaks during the transportation of methane gas cannot be ignored. The impact of seizing private property to build a new pipeline to supply Northwest Innovation Works with its necessary methane gas feed stock cannot be ignored. The impact of building a new dock on the Columbia River and allowing more massive methane tankers in salmon habitat cannot be ignored. The impacts do not end when the methanol tankers sail east. The trail of air pollution will continue.

I know that Southwest Clean Air Authority knows that air pollution does not follow fence lines and borders. Please adjust your review criteria to match the reality and the science of air pollution. Thank you.

Paul Mairese: Thank you. Speak really close.

Ken Ferguson: Hi. My name is Ken Ferguson. Portland, Oregon. Here to ask you to deny the air discharge permit if you want your agency's name to be anything but ironic. You don't, get dirty air agency, if you're going to allow discharge of toxics into the atmosphere. Cut through that. Deny the permit. This whole project lost me at fracked gas. That's another big thing. Eminent domain in the collateral pipeline citing this massive heat generation facility in Estuary and Kalama River which used to contain some of the best steelhead runs in the state. The National Academy of Sciences for the PRC, the investors here, exporting this stuff from British Columbia and Alberta to China to be manufactured into plastics, you trying to make a raft as big as Alaska in the Pacific Ocean? What's going on there? This is ridiculous. This is just backwards nonsense.

I don't know what you're trying to fool people or, obviously anybody with common sense would deny this permit. I want you to act primarily in terms of common sense, I want you to take the goal of your agency which is to preserve the air quality. You can't preserve the air quality by allowing emissions so we need to go way backwards. We need to start cutting down emissions not building facilities that have slightly less emissions than the dirtier alternatives. This is just common sense and these are dog and pony shows designed to draw the public into these debates that are meaningless and are pointless. It just takes people's time, takes people's energy, takes their money, and most of these people here are struggling to get by. They don't need to come here to these hearings and just be walked on and have their questions not answered and have people dance around and add an extra hour to give their talking points to the public. Like they said, let's really do what we're trying to do here which is protect the air shed. Protecting the air shed means not allowing emissions so again, please, do not allow, permit this air discharge permit.

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Paul Mairose: Thank you. You have to be really close.

Cecile Gernez: Hi. My name is Cecile Gernez. I live in Seattle. I'm an organizer with the Sierra Club. First, I want to address the jobs argument that's been made several times tonight. The Sierra Club is a proud member of the Blue Green Alliance and we do support union jobs and we would love to work with unions to determine what a just and equitable transition to the clean energy economy looks like. I've been working with a local group in Kalama for a while now and they have been working incredibly hard to try and stop this project. They've been working hard because their livelihoods, their health, and the livelihoods of their children really depend on it. They deserve to breathe the air in their town without having to worry about cancer, asthma, possible illnesses to their children due to particulate matter.

Adding this facility will bring air quality in Kalama close to where the WHO, the World Health Organization, suggests air quality limits so this will affect anyone going near the refinery as well. I've also been working with people in Seattle who oppose this project and that is because this project will justify adding new natural gas capacity in pipelines down our state. Natural gas pipelines are notorious for leaking methane. Not only is methane a very harmful greenhouse gas, it also has harmful health side effects. Natural gas is dirty by all means from extraction to transportation to usage. We are at a point right now that we need to stop using fossil fuels and not be investing in more fossil fuel infrastructure so I urge you to deny this permit. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Okay. Next five. Mike Reutter. Wayne Winther. Alice Shapiro. Susan Haywood. Susan Powell.

Bob Carroll: Good evening. My name is Bob Carroll. I'm a resident of Clark County. I'm a union electrician of Local 48. We cover five counties in southwest Washington. I want to thank you guys for being here and listening to our comments. I want to thank the whole audience out here for being here and making your point heard. I think that's a good thing. That's democracy. I agree with this project because I believe that it's going to be built safely. I believe that it's going to be built cleanly. It's going to be a clean project for what it is. It's going to produce a product with a lot less emissions than what it's doing right now.

When I see these jobs, I see families. Not just the person that's working there but I see the children out there that are going to be coming up into apprenticeships. I see the children that are going to be going to school because their families are making some money. I see the children that aren't going to be living in camps outside because their families are making family wage jobs. I believe, I would like to see cleaner products. I would like to see all kinds of alternative energies which we work on right now. If we could do solar and wind that would negate having this project, that would be good but we're talking

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energy. We're not talking about a product that's going to be produced here. If you don't want this plant made, quit using the products. Quit buying from China. Don't use the products. The point is these products are going to be used. These products have demand so let's build it clean. Let's build it efficiently and let's build it with American people with American jobs and American families making some money. Thank you.

Mike Reuter:

Hello, my name is Mike Reuter from Kalama, Washington. This plant has four levels of limited liability. How sure is Northwest Innovation's new process if there's so much protection? Especially since this ULE process has never been tried in America much less anywhere else in the world at this scale. How much are these Panamax ships going to be insured for in case of a possible leak or explosion that could occur on the way to the ocean? One gallon of methanol can take the oxygen out of 198 thousand gallons of water so you can imagine what a ship full of methanol could do.

Why are you able to build it here even though the same type of facility was stopped in Tacoma? Des Moines, Washington and Normandy Park, Washington both oppose this refinery. How come PGE was so concerned with the plant's emissions in Port Westward that they denied it? This supposedly great investment. I keep on hearing jobs, jobs, jobs but if you go to anywhere here in Longview, Kelso, or Vancouver there's plenty of jobs around. There's just not enough qualified people to work them besides the 120 to 190 jobs for the amount of problems that this can cause. These people are not against jobs or business, they're just more picky about the kind of businesses they could have here. No matter what goes here it will produce work.

China has more gas reserves than America. It just doesn't want to put the infrastructure to get it. It also wants to cut down on greenhouse gas. What better way of doing it than put the burden somewhere else. Thank you.

Paul Mairose:

Thank you.

Susan Haywood:

Hi. My name is Susan Haywood. I'm from Portland, Oregon. The reason we're here is for everybody in the United States, everybody in the world. We're here for you, the people in the back of the room. We're in a hurry, now, to save the Earth that we live on because we've been lied to by fossil fuel companies since the 1970s while they've been making their own escape plans. No more lies and I wanted to answer the question that one person asked that was not answered which is this company is a joint partnership with Chinese Academic Sciences and BP, remember the Gulf oil spill. Right now we're in a hurry because the Greenland ice shield is melting, an Alaskan village has already been engulfed by the sea, and we have a lot of problems that we have to solve and we have to solve them as quickly as possible.

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I also want to mention that I live near the explosion on 23rd Avenue in Portland and the corner exploded from a relatively small construction project. It affected their neighbors by totally leveling a building there and then those people were trying to raise funding to replace their kitchen equipment because it would not be covered by the insurance that was being offered to them. Another place where this is happened where a gas line was suspected of blowing up a half city block is Bozeman, Montana and they're still under litigation for, I think, it's more than one decade. What happens is a big company comes in, they've got deep pockets, and they ruin things for smaller people.

I was a Health teacher and we've talked about asthma and airborne particulates. We already have an epidemic of asthma right now and those airborne particulates also cause heart disease and many people's demise so if you say not many people die of asthma, they die of things that are related to that disease. Thank you.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Alice Shapiro : Hello. My name is Alice Shapiro and I'm from Portland, Oregon. I'm not going to repeat the scientific and health issues that were mentioned. I concur with the idea that really we are beyond fossil fuels. We need to get beyond fossil fuels. We don't want to use the Columbia River gorge as a fossil fuel funnel. That being said, I totally empathize with the people who are looking for jobs. I was a community college teacher. This county is not the only county. I taught in Lane County, Oregon. I had homeless students. I taught Health and Health Professions. I taught Biology. I understand about the disease process. I also understand about training students and training students for viable jobs. Jobs that are sustainable for health and for the community.

I find it somewhat ironic, a couple of things. One is, peanuts are optional, breathing is not. Another, I find the name Northwest Innovations somewhat ironic. What we need are true innovations. What we need are training programs to subsidize young people, community college students and train them for sustainable jobs. What I see, I want to visualize a future when the Clean Air Agency is not only reactive but proactive and says, "Hey, we're going to interview companies. If you can build solar panels," which by the way they are doing in China now because their people are dropping, do we want to wait until our people drop like they are in China? Thousands of people a week and then say, "Oh my gosh. We better build solar panels but, oh no, China is doing it better. Let's import those."

No. We need to be proactive. We need to be truly innovative here in the northwest. Thank you. By the way I'm thinking of my grandchildren as well.

Paul Mairose: Keep it close. [inaudible 01:14:44]

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Wayne Winther: Wayne Winther from Kalama. In reading the environmental impact statement, I see the ULE plan that they want to use as compared to the CR alternative, they claim would be 31% cleaner but actually that's not true. They didn't add in the purchased electricity that is required for those two plants and when you add that in together it's really a 20% difference not 31%. This has been said before, it'll be the first plant of its size to use this technology in the world. Sounds experimental to me and I don't think that's a good idea. As part of justifying the plant, direct emissions of greenhouse gases would be, they claim 31%, it's really 20% lower than the ULE alternative, with the ULE alternative as opposed to the CR alternative.

This greenhouse gas reduction exceeds the 11% goal recommended in Ecology guidance for mitigating project related greenhouse gas emissions but actually they're not talking about true mitigation because, mitigate it means making something better and what they're talking about doing is taking a vacant lot and building a plant that's going to emit one and a quarter million tons of greenhouse gases every year so that's not mitigating, that's damaging. We need to, I'm running out of time but just need to emphasize the greenhouse gas emissions on this. It's just horrendous. We need to just say no to it. Draw the line in the sand and say no, no more. We don't have a chance to fix it after it's all gone. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. [inaudible 01:17:04]

Susan Powell: Thank you for the opportunity to be here. My name is Susan Powell and I'm from Kalama, Washington. My family owns the Kalama quarry, a rock pit that provides many jobs in the local area. Kalama quarry is the only rock pit in this area. The closest is Cold Creek, Amboy, and East Vancouver. I got involved in this issue due to the fact that Williams pipeline wants eminent domain to put a 24 inch pipe through our rock pit. Eminent domain will set precedence for all property owners. If you own land, this should concern you and it makes me wonder, when Jack Eby posed the question to Northwest Innovations that they wouldn't answer, they must rent.

I have stayed involved due to the fact that the more I know about Northwest Innovation Works, the more it scares me to have them as a neighbor. I do not wish to live by the world's largest methanol plant. The fact that the building plans have already been changed to not discharge water into the Columbia River makes me wonder what other environmental issues this plant will bring. Kalama's methanol plant, when built, will be the largest source of air pollution in Kalama. The carbon dioxide emitted will be over a million tons. That is equivalent to about 227 thousand cars.

Northwest Innovation Works proposed to emit 53 tons of toxic and hazardous pollutants into the air annually. By comparison, Kalama Emerald Chemical

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released six tons of toxic and hazardous pollution in 2015 according to the EPA. The difference, excuse me, the difference is over 47 tons. Kalama Chemical produces chemicals for industries all over the world. Northwest Innovation Works will be producing methanol for China and China only. I would like to quote V. Godley, "Northwest Innovation Works acknowledges that this is," excuse me, sorry. V. Godley says, "Northwest Innovation Works acknowledges that its methanol," oh God, "acknowledges that its methanol manufacturing will have some environmental impacts."

Please do not jeopardize the air that I breathe, fresh air, to make methanol for China. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Okay. Next five people. Doris Disbrow. Dave Hopkins. Dr. Theodore Tsongas. Frank Konecsny. Kelly O'Hanley. Address the hearings officer and keep it very close.

Doris Disbrow: Thank you for this opportunity. I live in Longview. My name is Doris Disbrow. The air quality index was developed by EPA and other federal departments as an indicator for monitoring the potential of adverse health conditions. Thanks to efforts like these over many years our air quality has been improving. Now our county is classified as good which is the highest ranking. We must continue to be good. My husband, a non-smoker, died of lung disease of undetermined cause. His last years were miserable. The age adjusted chronic lower respiratory disease rate for this county is 65.5 per hundred thousand compared to the state rate of 49.6. this shows us there's a lot of room for improvement. The AQI includes the measurement of some elements to be released by this plant. The emissions of these compounds in addition to others from this plant will only decrease the quality of air we breathe.

As a retired public health professional, I just want to make a response to one earlier one. The permitting process is in place to protect the population. I'm glad we have it. Thank you please deny this permit.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Address the hearings officer and keep it close.

Theodore Tsongas: Okay. Good evening. I'm Dr. Theodore Tsongas. I'm an environmental health scientist and an epidemiologist and a member of Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility. I'm here today because of my concern that the basis for the proposed permit underestimates the risks of community and worker exposures to multiple cancer causing agents. Up to 53 tons of toxic and hazardous air pollutants and 62 tons of fine particulate matter could be released into the air every year by this proposed methanol terminal. In the technical background document for the draft permit, limits of estimated emissions of toxic air pollutants are given for each process and these are totaled for all processes. Lists of estimated emissions. The toxins include benzene, formaldehyde,

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acetaldehyde, nickel,, ammonia, poly-nuclear air matter, hydrocarbons, and diesel particulate matter. Several of these are known carcinogens.

Individually the estimated amounts released of each toxin might comply with standards but there is no consideration of the cumulative effects of exposure to several cancer causing agents at once. There is no analysis of the increased exposures to these carcinogens when they are absorbed onto fine particulate matter and transported through the lungs to the blood and brain. What is the cumulative effect to a number of carcinogens combined? One can assume the risks of cancers are increased. Exposure to even very small amounts of these toxins can increase the risk of cancers in the community as well as among workers exposed at the sight and at neighboring work sights.

Stating that the levels of exposure are below a certain standard is not the same as saying the risk of cancer is not increased. As the air pollution authority in this part of Washington, your job is to preserve and enhance air quality in southwest Washington, not permit it to be degraded. You have the opportunity to prevent many early and preventable deaths of people in this community. Please deny the air discharge permit for this facility because it will endanger the health and well-being of this community. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

Frank Konecsny: Good evening. My name is Frank Konecsny and I'm for this plant. I think we should build a plant that's made the best and run the best. Our environment here is good. Our water is clean. Our atmosphere is good around here compared to a lot of other states. Everybody uses methanol. I look around this room, everybody has synthetic jackets. They love those things. I see you drive cars here. You're going to go to a home with a natural gas line to your house and I don't see anybody shutting that off or walking home so let's keep the conversation real. We're all users of this stuff and we should use it responsibly. It's not going away and until you get rid of it then you have a right to say something but it's kind of hard to talk about smoking when you got a cigarette hanging from your mouth. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you. Address the hearings officer.

Dave Hopkins: My name is Dave Hopkins. I'm from Woodland. Dave Hopkins from Woodland. Northwest Steelhead. I am here to urge you to rethink your approach to this very large and very damaging proposal. I am very concerned that Southwest Washington Clean Air Agency is understating the impacts of the proposal. The refinery and power plant would be significant source of conventional and toxic pollution in southwest Washington. They would pollute the air shed with 68 tons of small articulate matter every year into Cowlitz County's air, 53 tons of toxic and hazardous air pollutants every year, and yet the application likely

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understates the impacts. For instance, recent information from the power plant in Oregon shows much, much higher levels of volatile organic compounds than Northwest Innovation Works.

The problem is the numbers from Oregon come from a combined cycle gas turbine that has actually operated its real life data, Northwest Innovation Works claims that its power generation will produce pollution including volatile organic compounds at a much lower rate than other gas fired plants like the one in Oregon. If Northwest Innovation Works power plants emitted volatile organic compounds at the same rate as the newly built gas fired plant in Oregon the emissions would be 53.8 tons of VOCs from its 125 megawatt of power generation activities not 18 as Northwest Innovation Works claims. Please deny this permit. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

Audience: Do you think we could have quiet in this room? [inaudible 01:28:03]

Paul Mairose: Please hold your side conversations or go out in the lobby. Next group of five. Diana Gordon. Anita Thomas. Theodore Thomas. Kristin Edmark. Gloria Sanders.

Kelly O'Hanley: Good evening. My name is Dr. Kelly O'Hanley. I'm a physician and I also hold a degree in public health. I worked over 40 years for mothers and babies throughout the world and I've also helped teach the next generation of doctors at Harvard and Stanford Universities. I found a disturbing lack of ethical standards in the environmental impact statement. Washington State has formally adopted greenhouse gas emission reduction goals yet the EIS concludes that building the project would not necessarily increase overall state emissions because other sources of emissions may be reduced over time. I couldn't believe I read that. Really? Hope others will deal with the problems that this project would create and if they don't, oh well. We're better than this.

Paul Mairose: Address the hearing official and keep the mic really close.

Kristin Edmark: Kristin Edmark. Battle Ground, Washington. Southwest Clean Air Agency is limiting their evaluation of the air quality only to the plant and a few compounds and the related standards that they have. I feel that this is very wrong. It's wrong to judge the proposed plan, to pass it according to these standards, it uses the ULE unless you also include the air pollution that would be generated from the extra electricity pulled from the grid. It's also wrong to judge the plant passing without taking into account the pollution from the pipelines, from the tankers, from the increased energy and the fracking of the gasoline, the natural gas. Please do not pass this.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

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Paul Mairose Address the hearings officer and keep the mic really close.

Diana Gordon: Hi. My name is Diana Gordon and I'm from Washougal, Washington. I have many, many concerns about building a truly huge methanol plant in our area and one of them stems from its location, right next to a major interstate highway, I-5. If there is any kind of mishap involving this huge proposed facility I-5 would certainly be affected. It would not even take an explosion. The plant will have a cooling tower which produces emissions ...

Audience: We can't hear you.

Diana Gordon: Which produces emissions at the rate of 260,400 gallons per minute among them, water vapor. The bloom of water vapor can be as high as ten thousand feet and under certain atmospheric conditions that water vapor can form ice and fog at ground level creating hazardous road conditions. It is not hard to imagine freezing fog and slick, icy roads on a day like today. I believe I-5 is within a quarter mile of this huge bloom. I-5 is the busiest road in our state. About 240 thousand people use it every day. They don't all go past Kalama but thousands do. We go up to Olympia at least once a month and we go to Mount St Helen's, the Dark Divide, Mount Rainier, Olympic Peninsula pretty often too. Water vapor is not a dangerous emission in most cases and there is no rule to regulate it here. However, this is a critical location. The added danger of accidents and chain reaction events involving huge trucks and interstate travel, including tourism is yet another reason to deny the air permit for this refinery. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

Theodore Thomas: Good evening. My name is Theodore Thomas and I come from Astoria, Oregon. I'm a boiler maker. I build plants like this. It's what I do for a living. Currently I'm out of work because the majority of capital is being tied up in illegal wars overseas instead of being used to build infrastructure like this. I want to talk about jobs. A lot of you guys for it have come up to the stand and talked about jobs. Well, my two little nephews got a game called Portal, and in it there's a psychopathic computer that you're playing against. It keeps telling you about cake. Everybody who's played that game knows the cake is a lie. You see the signs back there, a thousand jobs. Nice round number. A thousand jobs. Those jobs are a lie. We export natural gas to China in the form of methanol, that's going to raise the price of gas here, we're going to shut down industrial capacity. It's going to cost far more jobs here, your fellow workers, your brother workers are going to lose work because of this plant. That's the truth.

This isn't in your jurisdiction? The up streamed cost of fracked gas. Where have we heard that before? It's not my problem. I'm just following orders. Sure, it's not in your jurisdiction. I'm just a good German. I had it drummed into my thick skull in Economics that any country that exports raw materials like raw logs and

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energy products, and that's what this is for, it's for energy. It's going to be put into Chinese gas tanks and not into plastics, and even if it is put into plastics, what? It's going to be shipped over there just to shipped back over here as plastic crap that subsidized and undermines our industry again costing us more work.

Any country that exports raw materials and imports finished goods, there's a name for that country, it's called a colony. You think that that's good for us? Go to the Congo and ask them how their role as a colony under the Belgians did good things for them. Go to Honduras and see how growing bananas for the United States is good for them but don't do it here. Deny this.

Audience: God bless America.

Anita Thomas: Where's the mic?

Paul Mairose: Hold it close.

Anita Thomas: Please tell me when I have 30 seconds left since I can't see.

Paul Mairose: Okay.

Anita Thomas: Thank you. My name is Anita J Thomas. I'm a resident of Vancouver, Washington. My father was a pipeline welder. I'll get to that on a moment. I really get it on the jobs but first off, I'm afraid that there really is not sufficient evidence that this would be a safe plant. That all the due diligence has been done with the numbers so far, to take one little example, the energy input was supposed to be split 50/50 between this proposed plant and Cowlitz and somehow instead of 100/100 it's 121 with the plant and if their numbers were not immediately forthcoming and turn out to be inaccurate that calls their credibility into question and those of you who believe that the regulation is being done well and all the number are right, it shows a really surprising trust in government and in corporations to provide accurate information to the government when the government doesn't have the money to do independent studies to check them. That's number one.

Number two. This is not green. It is not a bridge fuel to green. It has been determined after a little bit more investigation that gas is only supposedly cleaner if you don't count all that fracked, leaking methanol in the pipelines. It is at least as bad as coal and perhaps worse. My father was a pipeline welder, a member of Local 798, Pipe liners Local 798 out of Tulsa, Oklahoma and he, at least, knew he was insurance poor because he had all sorts of accident policies but one thing he did not figure was that the work he did could cause the death of his young wife, my mother, when she was 32. Now that was the Oakridge plant. Also, the Titanic was supposed to be state-of-the-art, it wasn't.

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Paul Mairose: Next five. Jack Eby. Lori Durheim. Gregory Monahan. Jane Nikolai. Deborah Romerein. Is Gloria here? Okay, go ahead. [1:37:58]

Lori Durheim: Hi. I'm Lori Durheim from Astoria, Oregon. It took us 12 years but we defeated Oregon LNG and we can do that here with the methanol. Now to my written. NWIW said they want to know of errors the public finds in their draft air discharge permit. They said that tonight. Well, there are many including emitting around a million tons annually of carbon dioxide. In air emissions up to 53 tons a year of toxic and hazardous pollution, and approximately 62 tons of very fine dust and soot particles. These are reasons enough to say no to Northwest Innovations, a subsidiary of the Chinese Project Academy of Sciences so just say no and if it takes 12 years here we can do it. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

Jack Eby: My name is Jack Eby from Kalama and I agree with everybody's argument against this plant and I appreciate what the labor unions and workers are talking about, temporary jobs, but I'm not going to talk about that. I'm going to talk on another subject that hasn't been brought up and that is this plant, well, first of all, Kalama's what I would consider a little bedroom community. Real quaint. Real nice. Small. We've already got several chemical plants on Kalama and now they're proposing to build another one. What is Kalama and the people who live there going to be looking at now?

We've already got several chemical plants. We're going to have this monstrosity parked there. What is Kalama going to be known for? It's kind of known for antique shops. Now, if this monstrosity gets parked in our front yard, people will say, "Oh, where's Kalama at?" "Oh, that's on Chemical Row where you see all these stacks and emissions coming up."

I don't want it there. I don't want to drive by it all the time. I don't want the emissions. This plant, even though, and that's another thing, Northwest Innovation should be the poster child for smoke and mirrors. I want to keep the community nice. The people should be heard. Now, a lot of these people spoke against it but the majority of them, don't live there. They won't be looking out their front windows or driving by it every day. The local people should be heard and considered. Any Board member that has any power okaying permits should listen to the people. I don't care if Northwest Innovation has all their T's crossed and their I's dotted. The people do not want this plant there. I don't want it there. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

Gregory Monahan: Hi. My name is Gregory Monahan. I'm a resident of Portland, Oregon. I believe that the project described in the EIS is not the project for which a SWCAA permit

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is being sought. On that basis I ask that this permit be denied so that there will be opportunity for public comment on an accurate description of the proposed project. Thank you very kindly.

Deborah Romerein: Deborah Romerein. Most of the methanol refineries in the US are concentrated around the Gulf Coast of Louisiana and Texas. Let's look at some of those communities today. An 85 mile stretch along the Mississippi from Baton Rouge to New Orleans where most of the big polluting industries are located in Louisiana, they've earned the nickname "Cancer Alley." Here cancer claims victims at an alarming rate. One resident told Bill Moyers, he said, "Right now I have a father-in-law who's dying of pancreatic cancer. I lost my mother at 57 to cancer. My neighbor died of cancer. The next door neighbor to us. My aunt behind us, all died of cancer."

Louisiana, in fact, has the second highest death rate from cancer in the entire US. Let's go down to Texas. Down to the Gulf Coast region of Port Arthur and Beaumont, known as the armpit of Texas, where big fossil fuel industry is concentrated, folks suffer from extremely high rates of disease and death. Four times the rest of Texas. They call this part of the country, "Cancer Belt." It's no accident the populations in these areas are primarily low income and desperate. Residents were promised great things by industry but one man who lives in Port Arthur, he summed up life there like this. He says, "Port Arthur is no place to raise a family. It's dirty. It stinks. It's a big oil environment and none of the money stays in the local economy."

Tacoma is still struggling today to clean up contamination from a legacy of heavy industry. It's no wonder they sent this project packing. I want all the people who work in the trades to have good family wages. We all want that. You guys deserve them but this is a bad trade. This project sacrifices you and your families just like the families in Cancer Alley and Cancer Belt and Big Industry doesn't care if one day Kalama is dubbed "Cancer Corner." After all, it's just business and Kalama like any other is just an expendable town.

People, there are more jobs in renewables than in oil, gas, or coal combined. Let's get busy and demand that some of these clean, green jobs get located here. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Next five people. Gary Wallace. Laura Bauer. Arthur Hansen. Marrene Jenkins. Steve Goldstein. Is Jane Nikolai here? No. [1:44:40]

Arthur Hansen: Hi there. My name is Arthur Hansen. I live in Kelso. I own riverfront property in Kalama. I'm a self-employed electronics technician. I've also worked in the chemical industry and I am for this project pretty much without reservation. This whole area is dying. A few antique shops and a few little knicky-knacks and thrift stores and whatnot won't make an economy. You have to have people

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that actually have real jobs and green energy, renewables, is a scam. It's a total scheme. None of it could even be viable without government subsidies. Check it out. Don't take my word for it. Having these jobs, having a thousand guys building this thing, it's not going to build itself, somebody's going to build it and 200 guys running it. It's not going to run itself, somebody's going to run it. These people, this plant would have to buy supplies from the local supply houses to keep itself running. Motion Industries, Applied Industries, various fab shops to build little things for it. Plus the restaurants, the car dealerships, everything else that depend on a major employer or several of them to be in the area.

Ever since I finished high school I've seen Reynolds shut down. I've saw the cable plant shut down. I saw the plant where I worked shut down. JM Hubert was on Industrial across from Applied Minerals. All these places have shut down and nothing has replaced them, nothing whatsoever. No clean, green bologna. No unicorns that poop Skittles. Nothing. A corporate rater came in and gutted the old Reynolds plant and then sold it to Millennium but they're trying to shut that down because God forbid anybody have a job but all these people, they cry about particulates and all this stuff. They drove here. They probably stirred up more damn dust with their cars than this plant is going to emit. Let's ban cattle while we're at it because they emit methane. Any who, thank you.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Maureen Jenkins: Is it on?

Paul Mairose: Yes. Address the hearings officer.

Marrene Jenkins: Marrene Jenkins. Kalama, Washington and I'm surprised that the back room did not want to stay and get more educated like I got more educated by more of these people starting ten months ago when I heard about this project. I'm here to urge you to deny this permit. At a minimum, Southwest Clean Air Agency should broaden its consideration to include obvious connected parts of this methanol refinery. According to the draft permit, the methanol refinery and its power supply units would be a significant source of criteria pollutants, greenhouse gas pollution, and toxic pollution in southwest Washington but the proposed permit information does not include a meaningful look at the air pollution that will arise from many connected parts of the project such as the vessels in the Columbia River, pipelines to feed the methanol terminal. I say pipelines because Northwest Innovation Works will need additional pipeline capacity in our county to feed the Kalama lateral. Northwest Innovation Works is hiding the ball by not assessing the volatile organic compounds, particulate matter, diesel emissions, and methane releases from the attached infrastructure and shipping at this proposed refinery.

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Southwest Clean Air Agency has the authority to assess these connected aspects of the refinery. You have the authority. Northwest Innovation Works cannot be legally permitted if Washington agency chose to make a more realistic look at the impacts of the refinery as well as the impacts of the obvious connected development like pipelines and methanol tankers. In summary, Northwest Innovation Works proposed project does not meet the requirements of both local and federal air pollution rules and the permit must be denied. Thank you. Marrene Jenkins.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Address the hearings officer and keep it uncomfortably close.

Laura Bauer: Hi. Thank you for the opportunity to address the permitting process tonight. My name is Laura Bauer. I live in Kalama, Washington. I have a Masters degree in Nursing and I've spent about, almost 40 years taking care of the health of people so that is my overriding concern with placing this plant in our community. I believe, like in many of the medical decisions that we make on behalf of our patients, we try to minimize the risk to them in every step we take and I think in the air permitting process of this rather than minimizing our risk to the public, we're allowing lose to the maximum and saying that's okay.

Many, many years ago when I first started taking care of babies, resuscitating them at birth if needed, we would give them 100% oxygen because oxygen is good. Just give them 100%. Get them going. Well, we found out that we were doing a very bad thing. That high percentages of oxygen actually poison their bodies and their immune systems maybe never recovered from that so we had to stop doing that. In my research on air emissions particularly particulate matter that is the direction of all the research, is that those particulate matters that we are breathing into our bodies everyday cumulatively over our lifetime have a negative effect on our lives, starting from our birth until our deaths. It is my belief that you should deny this permit because the particulate matter will be the highest emission out of all those cascade of them besides the CO2 and I believe that we should not be exposed to that. Going from six tons to 60 tons makes no sense. I believe that we just should not have this permit.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Gary Wallace: Hello. My name is Gary Wallace. I'm from Kalama. I want to specifically address, oh, I got to speak to him? I want to specifically address the public out here that has mentioned that jobs in Kalama et cetera and we're losing jobs. Well, I've been in Kalama over 40 years. I'm a native of Kelso before that so I'm a native of Cowlitz County from the word get go. We've always been a backwater. I know we're heavy industrialized. I'm an ex-logger.

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Sorry about that.

I'm an ex-logger so we had to change our ways when we discovered by Science that we were destroying water. We weren't allowing the water to remain cool to maintain our fish and our recreational abilities so we had to adjust. It's called based on Science, we made an improvement, everybody's better for it.

I know that logging is a nasty little job in a lot of people's world but everybody uses toilet paper so the fact of the matter is Kalama's always been a quiet little burg. It never had any major industry other than the chemical factory and maybe the lumber mill out front, a little bit of export going on, and now Steel Scape but the jobs are all very minimal. They are not petroleum based. We are not that kind of community. We believe that our quality of life, the property value that we have, and our health are emanate above all others. The fact of the matter is the kind of jobs that are asked for here are export jobs. They aren't going to be developing energy for us. It's, like somebody said previously, it's defined as a colony. I believe the United States should have more power, more self-sufficiency, and a greater vision to go beyond what we are now and doing transition bologna and based on a thousand jobs that are itinerate construction jobs for the NWIW website at the same time they aren't going to be a thousand jobs permanently here.

Out of 190, they develop an apprentice program for 40 so where are the other 150 coming from, this permanent job, they're not going to be here. Based on that I hope you take quality of life and air pollution as a no.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Okay, next five people. Carrie Parks. Alan Smith. Mark Keely. Zachary Prim. Therese Livella. Is Steve Goldstein here? [1:53:55]

Audience: He left.

Paul Mairose: He left?

Audience: Carrie Parks had to leave also.

Paul Mairose: Come on up. Address the hearing officer.

Mark Keely: Hello. My name is Mark Keely. I am a resident of Kalama, Washington. Why should China-backed Northwest Innovation Works, a limited liability company build a methanol refinery in Kalama, Washington? NWIW keeps telling us it's a great idea. Maybe Kalama would then have some bragging rights. Let's look at some of them. The largest methanol refinery in the world. It will emit over a million tons of carbon dioxide a year. Also increase greenhouse gas emissions in

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Washington State by one percent. NWIW will be giving away 53 tons of toxic and hazardous pollutants into the air annually plus for an added bonus, 62 tons of fine particulate matter. The EPA describes particulate matter as a particle pollution.

Wow. This means everyone has a good chance of breathing it all in. It'll be everywhere and enough for everyone because there's tons of it to share. This is not a direction we should be heading in. Fossil fuels needs to fade out and keep in the ground. Do not let Northwest Innovation Work, a limited liability company, to further pollute our air and our children's health. Deny the permit.

Paul Mairose: Thank you.

Zachary Prim: Hello again. My name is Zachary Prim. I'm a resident of Kalama, Washington and I guess I'd just like to add my voice to the growing chorus of individuals against this proposed refinery. I don't have much to add that prior speakers haven't already mentioned. I do have suspicions about this proposed project. I know that NWIW has been telling this as a cutting edge technology. Well, by their own admission similar technology was used back in the 80s. Now, this could just be a symptom of my millennial mindset but I don't really think anything coming out of the era of bell bottom jeans as cutting edge. To the best of my knowledge, this technology has only ever been done at a pilot plant in Australia just on a small scale. It's never been done on an industrial scale. I don't want to be the guinea pig. I don't want my town to be the guinea pig for an untested and a largely unproven technology in terms of refining methanol. I don't want my town, I don't want to see a repeat of the '96 pipeline disaster up in Kalama. I don't want my town and I don't want my future to go up in flames. Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Alan Smith or Therese Livella?

Therese Livella: Thank you. Hi. My name is Therese Livella. I live in La Center, Washington. Earlier I asked a question about air quality and the particulate matter and I was rather disappointed with the elusive answer to my question. As we've learned from this amazing group of physicians and public health educators, there are serious health issues with the more than 100 tons of toxic pollution and fine particulate matter that will come from this plant. I intentionally move to Le Center when I moved here two years ago or three years ago from Kansas City. I took a look at what was happening in Clark County and I literally went and I took a map and I mapped out where are the railroads? Where are the major public utilities? Where are all of these things and I picked a spot as far away from those things as I could get. Now, what concerns me, is that this plant is going to put all this crap up into the air and for 226 days a year, low lying clouds are likely to trap that toxic goo and the winds are likely to bring it over my farm. That really concerns me.

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I pay a pretty hefty property tax in Clark County which is probably going to go up because we're going to lose a casino and all of that other political stuff. I would really encourage you to deny this permit. It doesn't make sense. This isn't a bridge fuel. This just prolongs the inevitable. We need to make a transition to clean energy and we need to do it now.

Paul Mairose: Okay. Next five people. Greg [inaudible 01:59:44]. Megan Vichley. Daniel Serres. Bob Gregory. Kim Metzger.

Uri Papish: Okay, so we're at the two-hour mark. We were originally going to have a two hour hearing. We are going to extend the hearing for up to another hour because we want to try and get through all this testimony. We're just going to take a quick five minute break and then continue with the testimony. Thank you.

Uri Papish: Okay, we are reconvening.

Bob Gregory: Good evening, thank you for holding this hearing on this very important project in Cowlitz County. My name is Bob Gregory. I live in the city of Longview. My point would be that there are standards by which Southwest Clean Air and the state of Washington regulate these. My review of the EIS and also the staff, the SWCAA staff reviews, and the draft permit show that there is compliance with the permit. Therefore, I would suggest that we do need to approve this permit.

I worked for the local government for 35 years. There's a lot of times when I have a company that comes and wants to voluntarily have lower standards than what is required by state law is very rare. I commend Northwest Innovation for wanting to and taking this approach. They've used all the best available technologies. In some cases, they're exceeding best available technologies and again I commend them for employing those. New industries with significant tax base, on par with current job employers as an industry like this, that will emit 10 percent of what is emitted by current industries in this county I think is to be commended. It's far less than the current industries we have.

Another point I would make is there's no new project for an economic development that's going to come in anywhere that's not going to have impacts. So if we think we're going to have, bring in industry, whether it's solar industry or the microchip industry that we're just kidding ourselves. There are impact with all these projects. If we're going to sustain our communities and bring new industry, we need to understand that there's going to be impacts. Having a company that will come into this community and agree to voluntary, take a permit standard that are below the state-required standards, I think should be commended. I would really recommend that Southwest Clean Air approve this permit. If we can't approve a permits for this project then I'd just like to ask all

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the people in this room to, the last on to leave Cowlitz County, please turn off the lights.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Dan Serres: My name's Dan Serres. I'm the Conservation Director for Columbia Riverkeeper. First of all, I just want to say for, we've gotten word from members who've had difficulty submitting comments via email. I would encourage Southwest Clean Air to see to re-notice this in a way that people realize that their comments may have not been accepted properly and to do that as aggressively as possible. People may think they have commented to you and their comments may not have gone through. That sort of failure in the process can really undermine people's faith and SWCAA's ultimate decision which we hope is a denial project.

This would be 320 million cubic foot per day of natural gas consumer. That's more than all the homes in Washington state. Yet Northwest Innovation Works is applying as a minor polluter. That's absurd kind of on the face of it. This would be a third of all the natural gas used in the state. One of the issues that the gentlemen from the Steelheaders brought up earlier is the volatile organic compounds. That's a key concern with this type of major natural gas consumer. Combusting down that natural gas, if it's not done properly, it can have much higher emissions. That plant in Oregon, to my understanding, isn't entirely sure why they're coming up with such high numbers per VOCs. This facility, what we know is, if it comes in high you're going to be only sampling it every five years for VOCs. Capturing these problems will be not something that's going to be accomplished through the application as it's written.

The application severely understates the impacts in other ways. We know that this will significantly add both conventional and toxic pollution to Washington, but in other important ways the project as a whole really sidesteps critical review by key state agencies. I just want to leave everyone here with the knowledge that that 320 million cubic feet of gas a day has to come from somewhere. It doesn't just show up to climb a lateral. It comes from a new pipeline that must be built. Right now Northwest Innovation Works is working with Northwest Natural Gas to try to cut a deal until that new pipeline comes on line. It's something that Southwest Clean Air should be aware of, that there are pertinent facilities that will feed this project that you should be reviewing. Thank you.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Regna Merritt: Hi my name is Regna Merritt. I'm with Oregon's Physicians for Social Responsibility. Earlier in the question-and-answer session, I asked you if you knew which categories of Cowlitz County residents were at risk from increase in emissions associated with this project and now I can tell you who they are.

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There are over 1700 pediatric asthmatics in Cowlitz County. There are over 7500 adult asthmatics in Cowlitz County. Our population over 65 is over 6400 in size. Those with diabetes number over 7700. Those who have heart conditions, our heart patients, number over 7600. Those who live in poverty number over 9600. These are the groups and the people. They're individuals. They're not just categories. They go to the emergency room with their parents. Their parents lose work time. They lose productivity. They lose sleep. Every one of these people and these families can be impacted by negative air quality. That includes the workers, who will be most impacted, and their families. Cowlitz County falls in the lowest categories, rankings, within all counties in Washington State. We must do better. We must prevent these conditions from getting worse. Thank you very much.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Kim Metzger: My name is Kim Metzger and I live in Kalama, Washington and I'm against the methanol project. I know that signatures standing for the project were gathered under false information on Wednesday, September 21st at Walmart in Woodland, Washington. The person gathering the signatures was speaking of the virtues of the project, saying that it would use corn as the fuel, provide a thousand jobs in the community, with 200 permanent jobs, and bring in \$35 to \$40 million in taxes to the county, but backed away from his statement when pressed. When the lateral gas line was brought up, including imminent domain issue, he didn't know anything about gas being used as a fuel or private property intrusion. He was also being paid \$2 per signature for his time as stated by a store manager. I understand other locations were also used in the same way.

It seems that vested companies and individuals will use any means available to pursue this project just as a project in Tacoma, Washington, which was finally denied. As a small community, we feel that our rights have been swept under the rug for those who have the ability to finance this project, which will destroy the habitats for numerous mammals, flora, and fauna and cause problems for the fisheries as well as the fishing that brings in the revenue to the state annually. Please consider this information as you make decisions for the people of Kalama and all the citizens of Cowlitz County and surrounding areas that will be affected by it and reject it. You also have an attachment with the draft EIS information referencing financials as well as jobs. Thank you.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Last group of people. Russ Thompson, Zeb Fox, Lisa Waldvogel, Cindy Bernsen, Arthur Hansen, Cory Balkan.

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Lisa Waldvogel: Hi, my name is Lisa Waldvogel. I'm a resident of Longview, Washington. I've heard some very concerning things regarding the proposed methanol refinery in Kalama. Until my concerns are satisfied, I remain opposed.

If built, the Kalama Methanol Refinery would be the largest methanol refinery in the world. The Kalama Methanol Refinery is slated to become the largest source of air pollution in Kalama. The Kalama Methanol Refinery would dump up to 53 tons of toxic and hazardous pollutants into the air annually. The Kalama Methanol Refinery would emit over a million tons of carbon dioxide a year, which is the equivalent of about 227 thousand cars. The Kalama Methanol Refinery's air pollution risk is massive. They propose to emit up to 53 tons of toxic and hazardous pollutants into the air annually. By comparison, Emerald Kalama Chemical released 6 tons of toxic and hazardous pollution in 2015 according to the EPA. The plant also could emit up to 62 tons of very fine particulate matter, dust and soot particles, annually. Fine particulate matter can enter into the respiratory system and cause long-term health impacts. These matters are of grave concern. Let's slow it down and ensure these needs are addressed.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Corey Balkan: Thank you. My name's Corey Balkan, a lifelong resident of Longview, Washington and chair of Cowlitz EDC. I just got here so I haven't been able to hear all the testimony today and so I'll keep this short and sweet. We have a set of standards and regulations in place here for our projects to adhere to. This project's meeting those standards and those regulations and voluntarily exceeding those standards and regulations. I support the issuance of the air permit and I support the project moving forward in Kalama. Thank you.

Uri Papish: Thank you.

Paul Mairose: Arthur Hansen, Cindy Bernsen, Zeb Fox, Russ Thompson, Megan Richie. Anybody left? Is there anybody that did not fill out a sheet that wishes to speak?

Linda Leonard: Well, I did, but you haven't called my name so ...

Paul Mairose: Come on up.

Linda Leonard: You bet I will. Am I the last?

Paul Mairose: Yup.

Linda Leonard: Okay, here it goes.

Uri Papish: Last, but not least.

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January 4, 2017 7:00 PM

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- Linda Leonard: Pardon?
- Uri Papish: Last, but not least.
- Linda Leonard: I know. I hate to be the last and the first. Okay. I'm a resident of Kalama. First of all, my name is Linda Leonard. I'm a resident of Kalama. I oppose the methanol refinery being proposed at the port of Kalama. The amount of toxic and hazardous pollutants being admitted in the air from this refinery will be staggering. 53 tons of pollutants with the addition of carbon dioxide yearly will make the air in this area a health hazard to us. This refinery is being touted as the largest methanol refinery in the world and is located within one mile of some Kalama residents' homes. The toxins released will pollute the air we breathe, damaging our health. Are we willing to sacrifice our long-term welfare for the short-term economic interests that proponents of this refinery are proposing? We can be the agents of change by not making Kalama the guinea pig for methanol refining. Northwest, NWIW, a new company backed by the Chinese government, has never built or run a methanol refinery. The proposed technology has never been used to make methanol commercially. Please do not permit Northwest Innovation Works to pollute the air in Kalama. Thank you and goodnight.
- Uri Papish: Thank you.
- Paul Mairose: Okay, is there anybody else? Okay. Thank you.
- Uri Papish: I truly appreciate all of you coming out and providing your comments and also sticking around for longer than the scheduled period of time.
- Audience: Thank you.
- Uri Papish: Presiding officer, the time is now 9:17 and the hearing is adjourned.