

# Letters to the Editor

Inslee and Department of Ecology must deny greenwashed report!

The department of ecology will soon start a 30 day period in which they can deny the last permit needed to build the world's largest fracked gas to methanol refinery! A greenwashed report from the refinery backers have made this project look environmentally friendly in the media. Help shift the narrative by writing a letter to the editor!

Letters to the editor (LTEs) are important for three reasons. First, if a media outlet receives a lot of LTEs about a specific topic, they are more likely to cover that topic. This makes our rallies, and other media events more successful. Second, they are the most read part of the newspaper, aside from the obituaries. Third, public officials check letters to the editor to see where their constituents are at on certain issues. This informs them of what stances they should take.

## Quick tips:

1. **Keep it short and simple.** Write a letter that is 150 words or less.
2. **Make it personal.** Why do *you* care?
3. **End with a call to action:** We need the Department of Ecology to deny the Shorelines permit for the Kalama Methanol Refinery- that's the last permit they need.

## Talking points: stick to 1-2 of these per letter [Link to factsheets](#)

- The Kalama methanol refinery would quickly become one of Washington's largest greenhouse gas polluters. Much of the pollution will come in the form of methane, a greenhouse gas pollutant that will be 86 times more powerful than carbon dioxide over the next 20 years.
- The Kalama methanol refinery would endanger chinook salmon, which our orcas rely on for food. Our orca are already struggling to survive!
- The Kalama methanol refinery would require huge fracked gas pipeline expansions across the state of Washington, opening the floodgates for more fossil fuel use, when we need to be keeping fossil fuels in the ground!
- The environmental review for the project is deliberately misleading. Cooked up by the project proponent, the environmental impact statement uses outdated information and baseless assumptions to try to hide the impacts of the world's largest fracked gas-to-methanol refinery.
- The refinery would use more fracked gas than all other industries in Washington – combined. The resulting greenhouse gas pollution will undermine Washington's climate goals.
- The methanol refinery developer is a subsidiary of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Unbelievably, they are seeking roughly \$2 billion in loan guarantees from U.S. taxpayers for their highly polluting fracked gas-to-methanol refinery.
- We have a choice: fracked gas or clean technology. The EIS says that Northwest Innovation Works' (NWIW) Kalama refinery would operate for 40 years. That means four decades of fracking, fossil fuel consumption, and tremendous quantities of climate-changing pollution.
- NWIW's plan to combat climate change is: extract and export more fossil fuel. Washington's people and leaders know better. The company continues to rely on its discredited, unsupported, and unenforceable theory that methanol from Kalama will "displace" methanol made from coal in China.
- The EIS grossly underestimates the project's methane pollution. Multiple studies show that fracking releases a much higher proportion of climate-wrecking methane gas into our atmosphere than the EIS acknowledges.

## Sample letter:

Start with something personal- how does this project affect you? Why do you care?

Fill in with 1-2 of the talking points above.

End with a call to action:

That's why I'm calling on the Department of Ecology to stop this dirty and dangerous project.

OR

Washingtonians are counting on the Department of Ecology to reject the company's false claims and protect our shorelines and our climate from the massive fracked gas project in Kalama.

OR

Governor Inslee is right to oppose the Kalama methanol refinery, a climate-wrecking proposal. Now we need the Department of Ecology to reject the project.

## How to Submit:

You can submit the same letter to multiple newspapers. Include your contact information: full name, address, phone number, and email address. They will only print your name.

### Pierce county/ I-5 Corridor:

- Tacoma News Tribune: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/submit-letter/>
- Tacoma Weekly: <https://tacomaweekly.com/contact/>
- Olympian: <http://www.theolympian.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/submit-letter/>
- Centralia Chronicle: [https://www.chronline.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter/](https://www.chronline.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/)

### SW Washington:

- Columbian: <http://www.columbian.com/lettertotheeditor/>
- Daily News: [https://tdn.com/forms/contact/letter\\_to\\_the\\_editor/](https://tdn.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/)
- Reflector: [https://www.thereflector.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter\\_editor/](https://www.thereflector.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/)
- Camas/Washougal Post Record: <https://www.camaspostrecord.com/letter-to-the-editor/>
- White-salmon Enterprise: [https://www.whitesalmonenterprise.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter\\_editor/](https://www.whitesalmonenterprise.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/)

### King County:

- Seattle Times: [letters@seattletimes.com](mailto:letters@seattletimes.com)
- Bellevue Reporter: <http://www.bellevuereporter.com/submit-letter/>
- Redmond Reporter: <http://www.redmond-reporter.com/submit-letter/>
- Kent Reporter: <http://www.kentreporter.com/submit-letter/>
- Tukwila reporter: <http://www.tukwilareporter.com/submit-letter/>

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