

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Senator Takko Statement on Department of Ecology Release of Draft 2nd SEIS for the proposed Northwest Innovation Works Methanol Project in Kalama, Washington

I have dedicated my career to promoting jobs and economic development in a way that aligns with the values and aspirations of southwest Washington. I support economic development that respects workers and protects our air, land, and water which is why I've been a supporter of NW Innovation Works' proposed methanol facility at the Port of Kalama from the beginning.

When late last year the Ecology Department announced further delays in its environmental review, I challenged Governor Inslee and his administration to do better.¹ I am proud of the bipartisan efforts of lawmakers to hold the administration accountable to an independent analysis and completing its review at deliberate speed.²

With this report, the Department of Ecology has proven once again that the Kalama Methanol facility will result in a net global benefit by reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with producing the materials and products we all use every day. Beyond the global benefits, the department will ensure the impacts of the plant are thoroughly measured and effectively mitigated. That's a win for jobs and a win for our responsible role in combatting the climate crisis

In just the last three months we've seen Iran open the largest methanol manufacturing facility in the world,³ and we've seen China open the largest coal-to-methanol facility in the world.⁴ Russia is expanding their methanol production capacity, too.⁵ Because of the Ultra-Low Emission (ULE) technology used in Kalama and its mitigation work, methanol produced here will be cleaner than anywhere else on the planet.⁶

Surely, opponents of the project can't believe it's better for our environment or our workers to rely on China, Iran, and Russia to produce this important material. We can do better by producing it here at home where we have tough, accountable regulations that protect the environment and respect workers' rights and human rights. We simply aren't doing our part to raise the bar by driving this work offshore while consuming the products made with less controls and lower standards.

Now is the time to set aside our differences, support the rigorous review and establishment of tough standards that the Department of Ecology has just performed, and get to work building this project.

¹"Takko blasts Gov. Inslee, Ecology for decision delaying methanol project." https://tdn.com/news/local/takko-blasts-gov-inslee-ecology-for-decision-delaying-methanol-project/article_573e4e23-4c94-50fc-a8cd-b6b50d36f77d.html

² "More lawmakers join Takko's call for quicker, clearer methanol permitting." https://tdn.com/news/local/more-lawmakers-join-takkos-call-for-quicker-clearer-methanol-permitting/article_6cfd248f-6387-5f23-a77a-d59959094c2d.html

³"World's largest methanol plant opened in southern Iran." <https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2020/08/06/631224/Iran-petrochemicals-Kaveh-methanol-plant-opening>

⁴ "Johnson Matthey achieves successful commissioning of largest methanol plant in China." <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2020/06/23/2051941/0/en/Johnson-Matthey-achieves-successful-commissioning-of-largest-methanol-plant-in-China.html>

⁵ "Johnson Matthey awarded 3000 mtpd methanol technology contract for Russia Amur Oblast facility." <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2020/06/17/2049717/0/en/Johnson-Matthey-awarded-3000-mtpd-methanol-technology-contract-for-Russia-Amur-Oblast-facility.html>

⁶ "[Draft Kalama Manufacturing and Marine Export Facility Second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/2006011.html)." 3.4.4.2.2 sub 3. pp46-47. <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/2006011.html>

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