

Hayden Richardson

From: Kirk Leonard <kandlleo@kalama.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 7, 2024 2:13 PM
To: Planning Department.UserGroup
Subject: NXT refinery

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kandlleo@kalama.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

January 7, 2024

Attention: Columbia County Commission

I am a resident of Washington State and have lived in Kalama since 2003. Google map distance from Port Westward is approximately 23.5 miles as the crow flies with northwest winds prevailing in the summer. We share the same air-shed and the Columbia River. All the citizens in the surrounding area have a vested interest in the need for clean air and water. The environment we live in is the responsibility for all to protect.

The History of NXT 2018

Proposal to build one of the world's largest non-conventional diesel refinery with the promise to avert long trains and only use marine shipping for it's feed stock such as soybean oil and clay.

1. The long train attempt was blocked in April 2022, LUBA (Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals) denied the 400 car rail yard.
2. In early 2023, the new application from NXT for the rail yard was withdrawn by public opposition and testimony.
3. NXT is now asking Columbia County once again to approve the 3 mile rail tracks. The Columbia County Public Hearing will again show the concern for displacing farming, the impact on local water resources, as well as the disruption to the community.

Nxt has submitted numerous different site plans and has gone back on the promise not to have rail through the site.

On November 8, 2023, Industrial Tech Acquisitions II, announced the termination of the planned merger with NXT, failing to get traction moving ahead with the financing needed. Renewable diesel is a commodity with a fluctuating market with no guarantees.

Here is the opportunity to see NXT for what it is, a waste of time and money on this questionable project.

Citizens in this community deserve better, please deny the NXT refinery the Rail yard Conditional Use Permit and Modification of Prior Approval.

Sincerely,

Linda Leonard
217 Pebble Lane
Kalama, Washington