

NEXT Renewable Fuels

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Sun 1/23/2022 11:43 AM

To: Jacyn Normine <Jacyn.Normine@columbiacountyor.gov>



Dear Columbia County Commissioners,

My name is Amie Kopecky and I am a Clatskanie resident. My husband Milan and I oppose NEXT Renewable Fuels.

1. Automation. Our county and specifically north county is truly in desperate need of jobs. Automation and AI is marvelously efficient! Automation is expected to overtake these positions over the next decade. Many of these jobs will be lost to a robotic arm. Will there be a specific tax agreement on these robotic arms due to lost wages circulating the county?

2. Traffic. Highway 30 suffers congestion. It once took me 3 minutes to take a left onto Highway 30! Will NEXT be partially responsible for the expansion of present infrastructure? Much will be needed for Highway 30 so residents can safely enter and exit the highway.

3. Market. CO2 extracted fuels are beginning to dominate the market. So much so that they're going start producing rocket fuel! We even have a CO2 plant right here in the state of Oregon. Markets in much larger areas like Europe, the Middle East and Asia are interested in electric vehicles and CO2 fuel. Why should we fall behind them and invest in something that will have no market value in 15 years?

4. Seismic activity. At the beginning of the pandemic people around the world were looking for something to make them smile. We were all in lockdown together and collectively reduced our seismic activity. Suddenly the world was able to smile because wildlife that had never been seen in urban areas were running around free. It brought global delight and began the conversation of our activity and how it affects the behavior of those around us. I have been a volunteer with the North Coast Wildlife Rehabilitation Center and the Audubon Society since moving to Columbia County 9 years ago. We have cherished wildlife in the immediate and surrounding areas that will be affected by their seismic activity alone. This effect will inevitably bring animals into people's backyards, our calls for rescue will go up. A reminder that 90% of the wildlife that we rescue have to be euthanized due to injury or poisoning.

5. Never forget never forgive. BP is responsible for the worst industrial disaster in US history. The response from their CEO at that time was that they were terribly sorry that they had affected the small people. He literally said small people! We are small people in their view, he told us that. Why invite such disgrace to the dinner table?

6. A strong economic future in Columbia County. Chris told the audience in last Wednesday's meeting that the community has been unable to produce ideas for a successful economic future. We the residents argue this. Oregon got its economic footprint on the map with the flax industry in the 1800's. Flax produces linen and linen will be in high demand with the green future. Oregon to this day still grows the world's finest flax and I believe would provide a wonderful economic future for Columbia County if it would introduce the country's only flax processing plant. Columbia County does not have curbside glass recycling. Glass recycles down to sand, in a flooding world sand has a very high value. Columbia County could invite the states first glass to sand recycling plant. Hemp is already proven itself to be a remarkable product and job producer. Now more than ever investment needs to be put into hemp growth within the county.

7. An odd age. We live in odd times. One part that makes it odd is that we have to ask the young versus the old what does the future look like. The young have been reaching out to you and have not been heard, the consequences could be detrimental to our future.

Please say no to NEXT

Very truly yours,
Amie & Milan Kopecky

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