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**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 9:39 AM

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**Subject:** Citizen Comment re: Port Westward and NEXT

To: Leaders in Columbia County

I strongly oppose NEXT's proposed project at Port Westward -- for two main reasons: **preservation** and **prevention**.

The first priority should be local landowners, who want to **preserve their farmlands** and the water they depend upon. As proposed, NEXT would impact more than 130 acres of wetlands, with questionable mitigation (as noted by the local drainage district). This project would also impact a larger area of the Columbia River estuary, which is critical salmon habitat.

Also, please act to **prevent dangerous fossil fuel expansion**. This project would use large amounts of fracked gas, resulting in pollution and degraded air quality. This project would emit greenhouse gasses into the environment -- dangerous to residents, habitat, and the climate.

Please deny this project.

Jean M. Avery  
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