



**From:** Nancy Hiser <nancyhiser@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 9:44 AM  
**To:** Casey Garrett <Casey.Garrett@columbiacountyor.gov>; Margaret Magruder <Margaret.Magruder@columbiacountyor.gov>; Henry Heimuller <Henry.Heimuller@columbiacountyor.gov>  
**Subject:** Port Westward

Dear Columbia County Commissioners,

We are aware that NEXT Renewable Fuels wants to turn hundreds of acres of high value farmland into an industrial renewable diesel plant that will pollute the air and Columbia River. The world's largest refinery at 50,000 barrels a day on the banks of a critical bend in the Columbia River, neighboring salmon sanctuaries and critical wild spaces, is unacceptable for these reasons:

- This is a complex industrial site with fuels sitting on soils prone to liquefaction in an earthquake making it a high risk of major river pollution.
- Significant air pollution is produced in this process especially VOCs. DEQ proposed permits are not available yet for public comment.
- It would permanently fill 118 acres of wetlands and temporarily fill 32 acres to construct the three plants for pre-treatment, hydrogen facility and refining, roads, a natural gas pipeline, 4 product pipelines to a wharf, 10 large product and feedstock tanks up to 225,000 barrels each and 11 smaller tanks.
- Increased train traffic will be significant.
- Loss of farmland for wetland mitigation is irretrievable.
- Serious impact to salmon habitat on the Columbia River.
- Oregon DEQ received a "revised application" which because of the significant changes considered as a new certification request. Review questions were not replied to in a timely manner and the water quality certification was denied without prejudice.

Just look at the huge threat the CEI Hub in Multnomah County is presenting. Please act responsibly in the interest of human health, wildlife, and the environment.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hiser  
Portland (Linnton)