

## Lauren Whybrew

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**From:** Pam Ives <pampire13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 9:20 AM  
**To:** Lauren Whybrew  
**Subject:** Comment on Notice #23NOC1606

Please deny approval to the proposed "biomass" plant planned for Hoquiam.

Plants of this type have been proven to produce unacceptable levels of air pollution, far in excess of their claims. The plant would be located close to schools, exposing our children to toxins that cause life altering health issues, including, but not limited to lung damage and cancers. Personally, my family moved to Grays Harbor because I could no longer breathe properly in Seattle. After a day of house hunting on the Harbor I didn't need to use my inhaler even once.

Moving materials to and from the proposed plant will put scores of heavy trucks on our roads, adding additional greenhouse gasses, noise pollution and traffic. Storing the finished pellets comes with hazards as well. Piles of pellets generate enough heat internally to cause them to spontaneously combust. Case in point, in 2017 a storage facility in Port Arthur, TX had a spontaneous fire that burned for 102 days. The fine dust from the pellets is highly flammable and potentially explosive.

Additionally, production of these pellets would lead to further clear cutting of our forests with all its undesirable impacts.

The southern US has already felt the harmful results of plants like the one proposed for Hoquiam. Please review the reports and studies they provide <https://www.southernenvironment.org/topic/biomass-energy-threatens-southern-forests-and-communities/>

There are better energy industries that our area could benefit from with far fewer undesirable outcomes.

The people of Grays Harbor want clean air and clear waterways, a pellet plant is a long term threat to both.

Sincerely,

Pamela Ives, Aberdeen

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