

Linda Murphy

"Ban scrubbers in Puget Sound"

There is a huge loophole that allows cruise ships to burn one of the dirtiest fossil fuels on earth - heavy fuel oil - by 'scrubbing' the exhaust and discharging the toxin-laden wastewater directly into the ocean. This is pollution that must be stopped. That is why I support amendment #2 to ban scrubbers.

This amendment presents an opportunity for the cruise sector to show that they are committed to changing their past behavior, and polluting ways by agreeing to end the dumping of all scrubber wastes in Puget Sound. Please approve amendment #2 and ban scrubbers.

Marine ecosystem must have a healthy home to survive. The COVID-19 pandemic has been an ongoing tragedy on a global scale, but the resulting cessation of cruise vessel traffic in Puget Sound has been a welcome reprieve from the water pollution these ships create. That is why scrubber dumping cannot return to the Sound, and why I support amendment #2.

Because of the climate crisis, it is imperative that the detrimental health and environmental hazards caused by cruise ships which use scrubbers to get away with burning ultra-dirty fuel and dumping toxic and carcinogenic substances into this sensitive marine ecosystem has to stop.