

John Flynn

In April of 2019 Oregon Public Broadcasting released an article that revealed that Northwest Innovation Works had been misleading the public and state regulators for years regarding the planned use of the methanol that they hoped to produce at their proposed fracked gas to methanol refinery. In documents obtained by OPB, titled NWIW Gas to Methanol Investment Overview, dated March, 2018, NWIW used a PowerPoint presentation to potential investors that specifically detailed the intent to burn their methanol for fuel. More than a dozen pages of the presentation discuss using methanol as "clean fuels for industries and transportation." NWIW referred to their product as "liquid sunshine", "clean crude" and "convenient LNG". Of the 26 page presentation only one was devoted to methanol for olefins.

Further clouding this discrepancy is the fact that Wu Lebin, the Chairman of the Chinese Academy of Sciences Holdings Company (CASH) has publicly stated on several occasions that the methanol produced at the Kalama refinery would be used as fuel for both marine and ground transportation as well as power generation and industrial boilers.

In addition to these glaring discrepancies NWIW sponsored a two day workshop in 2017 at Stanford University where there was no mention whatsoever about using the methanol for creating olefins for the plastics industry.

This false narrative has been used by NWIW for years to mislead the public and state regulators regarding the true intentions for the end use of their methanol.

The question remains; who are we to believe, the Chairman of the Academy of Sciences Holdings (CASH) or a paid spokesperson of the wholly owned subsidiary.

I encourage the Department of Ecology to see through this obfuscation and categorically deny any and all permits for this polluting proposal.

Thank you.