

Mandy Lill

My name is Mandy Lill. I am a proud resident of Kalama who lives a mile away from the proposed site, and I support the NWIW Methanol facility 100%. Here are some of the many reasons I support this project:

- **Jobs.** The construction of the facility will provide 1,000 jobs to local workers. While these jobs may be temporary, they will bring a much needed boost to the area and give these construction workers a couple years' worth of work. When the plant opens up, it will provide 200 permanent family wage jobs. I hear people argue that these jobs will not be given to locals and I would like to know where they are getting that information from? I think it is an insult to our community that the nay-sayers think we don't have anyone qualified. The jobs provided will not just be engineering or operator positions (of which there are a multitude of people in our county that can fill that need). What about the administrative positions they will need to fill? Accountants, administrative assistants, marketing, IT, human resources, office managers. Then there are the indirect jobs this will create. Will someone get to fulfill their dream of starting a deli to help feed these workers on their lunch breaks? How about your neighbor who just graduated with a business degree and wants to start her own coffee shop in close proximity to the plant so the workers have easy access to a cup-of-joe. Maybe a new employee of the plant, who was previously unemployed, will now need childcare. This is just a tiny sample of the jobs that will help give strength to our wonderful community.
- **Zero liquid discharge in our river.** NWIW has committed to eliminating all water discharge into the Columbia River.
- **Local partnerships.** NWIW and Lower Columbia College have partnered together to create a program that will train 40 local people to work at the methanol facility. 20 of those people will be local high school graduates. The other 20 people will be people with disabilities, veterans, people who are unemployed, and others who are facing some sort of barriers in the work force.
- **It provides something we need.** Methanol is in so many things we all use every day. It was used to make your carpet, siding, flooring, furniture, pet products, flat irons, the containers your makeup comes in, your computers & cell phones, kayaks, windshield wiper fluid, reusable water bottles, clothing, those paddles at the hospital that may save your life someday. If I listed everything, my letter would be endless.
- **Taxes.** This plant will bring a HUGE tax boost to our area. If it was already built, our new schools would be paid for and not with a new tax on the residents. It will also provide much needed funding to our fire department.

People continue to ask why we can't do some other kind of project that is "green" for the environment. One example widely used is wind energy. Wind energy is great idea and we should continue to embrace it. I'm not sure that people realize it takes methanol to create those wind blades. Also wind blades do not last forever, they have a life span of 20 years but many are removed after just 10 so they can be replaced with larger and stronger designs. When it comes time to replace them the old blades are not recyclable, therefore they are filling up landfills at an unprecedented rate. There is a landfill in Casper Wyoming that is home to 870 old blades. 8,000 blades will be removed in each of the next 4 years in the United States. According to NPR, over 720,000 tons of blade material will be disposed of over the next 20 years in the U.S. Do you want these buried in your backyard?

Methanol is simply supply and demand. Consumers demand products that are made with methanol. As long as we continue to use these products, we will need methanol. Let's build this plant in the most environmentally rigorous area of the U.S. where we know it will be built properly, will be the most efficient, and where our community will enjoy the financial benefits.

Thank you, Mandy Lill