

Marilyn Cornwell

Dear WA Department of Ecology,

As a person of faith, I believe we are called to care for both the well-being of communities and the environment.

The environmental devastation caused by the fracked gas refined into methanol begins right when it is fracked from the ground. Leaks during fracking, transportation, refining it into methanol, and then shipping the methanol overseas, are links in a chain of pollution around the neck of the people and creatures of this land that will directly contribute to greenhouse gas pollution. The cry that we cannot breathe becomes ever greater if that chain tightens.

It is our moral and spiritual obligation to confront the misinformation, speculation, and omissions about the environmental effects of methanol production by NW Innovations Works in the environmental impact statement. The environmental costs to the many far outweigh any profit that will be made by a few.

Building the world's largest fracked gas-to-methanol plant in Washington does not align with my personal values of stewardship and justice, nor does it support our state's commitment to reducing climate pollution. Please reject Northwest Innovation Work's proposed methanol refinery in Kalama and deny its Shorelines Permit.

The second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Kalama methanol refinery clearly shows that this project is dirty, dangerous, and unwise. If built, our state will be locked into decades of additional climate pollution, even though we know it is past time to pursue a truly low-carbon future. Speculating that this project may displace other fossil fuels is not adequate justification for the known pollution that will harm our communities and climate.

Northwest Innovation Works has demonstrated that they are deceptive and will seek profit over people's wellbeing. They cannot be trusted to mitigate the impacts of this fracked gas refinery. The fact that the project has needed three reviews, with outspoken community opposition during each, shows that there is something wrong with it at its core. As Governor Inslee stated, we cannot support such fracked gas projects in good conscience.

You have a moral responsibility to protect public health and reduce our region's climate pollution. Please do what is right and deny this project. Thank you.

Sincerely,
The Rev. Marilyn Cornwell
9010 SE 47th St Mercer Island, WA 98040-4410
mmcornwell@live.com