

Mike Reuter

I am speaking here as an individual and not as the Mayor of Kalama.

The elected officials so welcomed this refinery because most of them get their information from the local newspaper and do not have the time to get all the facts.

The sales pitch that NWIW to the leadership and the citizens was awe-inspiring. It would fix all of their concerns and problems that Cowlitz County had. Thousands of jobs, millions in the tax coffers, job training, heck- it even would be great for the environment. They were fed the propaganda sent out by the newspaper. If it was good, it was front-page news; it was buried later in the story if it was bad. If it was awful, the information wasn't even printed.

The following news stories were never printed in the local paper. Most of these articles and events were only brought to the surface by investigations by people and organizations who care for the environment and their friends' and neighbors' health and well-being.

Not one word was mentioned about BP, the co-partner with CAS that were the original backers of NW Innovation Works, and how they pulled out years ago. This should have been an eye-opening event, but not a blurb. After BP's pullout, another investor of NWIW was The Noble Group. The Noble Group Ltd was embroiled in an accounting fraud controversy scheme and was delisted from the Singapore Stock Exchange, nothing in the news to these warning signs.

The locals were never informed why NWIW pulled out of Tacoma and how the same concerns that stopped that project should have stopped this one. There wasn't any news of how NWIW dropped out of their lease at Port Westward and now on the waiting list for another property and will occupy a site only if the zoning changes to allow heavy industry from farming.

Why did so much of the Cowlitz County Cares Act fund money go to Pan Pacific Energy, the parent company of NWIW? Why did it need hundreds of thousands of dollars to survive? Are they really backed by the Chinese government and a large investment group?

So many people that were surprised when I informed them about the \$2 billion Department of Energy loan that NW Innovation Works is applying for and for the taxpayers are the ones who would underwrite the entire project. They never heard anything about it, and when they did, they asked why?

Then it was the \$143 million in local and state tax breaks that they fought for in Olympia. Nothing about how the higher taxes and jobs promised will only be realized if they build a second phase.

I never heard anything about the people at NWIW? Did they ever build or worked at a methanol refinery, and what was their experience?

Why are there so many current and former elected officials working for them even though they have never made dollar one? There needs to be a story on the amount of money being spent on pushing this project.

Then there is the methanol for fuel debate; the story was just brushed aside after the spokesman for NWIW stated to the reporter that it was just "confusion" on its use, even though the company had a PowerPoint presentation in 2018 shown to Satori Partners Inc., a U.S.-based investment group, discussing using methanol as a fuel for industries and transportation and Wu Lebin, chairman of CASH, the main backer of the Kalama project, has said that the fuel will be burned as feedstock for fuel and industries.

And in the article:

Controversial Kalama Methanol Plant May Be Misleading Public, Regulators

By Molly Solomon (OPB)

Vancouver, Wash. April 19, 2019 9:30 p.m.

NW Innovation Works also sponsored a two-day workshop at Stanford University in 2017 on methanol production titled "Opportunities and Challenges for Methanol as a Global Liquid Energy Carrier." Conference reading materials fail even to mention using methanol to create olefins or plastics, again downplaying a point that is a central talking point when the company talks about its plans for the Kalama facility.

Below is a list of names and the companies at the "informational workshop" sponsored by NWIW. Notice how many energy carriers and gas companies are listed.

The Department of Ecology needs to call these people or write and ask them if they were informed that the conference was just for information or was it for investments in methanol production as fuel, as the workshop title so clearly stated.

Last Name First Name Company

Alvarado Marc I H S
Alvarez Jacob Stanford University
Ashok Venkatesan Consul General of India, San Francisco
Ayoub Paul Shell
Baroni Claudia Stanford University
Bartholomeusz Brian Stanford University
Beck Arik Stanford University
Berggren Mark Methanol Market Services (MMSA)
Blumreiter Julie ClearFlame Engines
Bracy Dennis Clean Energy Forum
Bromberg Leslie MIT
Bush Vann Gas Technology
Cameron Doug US-China Green Fund
Cameron Chris Stanford University
Caputo Kent NW Innovations
Cargnello Matteo Stanford University
Chang Dennis Stanford University
Cohn Dan MIT
Dankner Gil Dor Chemicals
Dankworth David Exxon Mobil

Dar Dorit Dor Group
Dolan Gregory Methanol Institute
Donohue Mark Stanford University
Duan River Chinese Academy of Sciences Holdings
Edwards Chris Stanford University
Friedmann Julio LLNL
Fyffe John Stanford University
Godley Murray NW Innovations
Goeppert Alain USC
Goodman Emmett Stanford University
Hu Zhongbo University of Chinese Academy of Sciences
Ishiyama Eilchi MOL
Jackson Michael Fuel Freedom Foundation/ MDJ Research
Janda Amber Stanford University
Jin Xianyang Geely
Johnson Bernard ClearFlame Engines, Inc
Jojarth Christine Stanford University
Kevin Ramnarine Fmr. Energy Minister, Trinidad and Tobago
Knapp Kurtis Fornaxtek
Korin Anne IAGS
Lamoureaux James IGP Methanol
Leland Amelia Stanford University
Li Peng Stone Peak Partners
Lian Ming CECC
Lyubovsky Max Department of Energy
Majumdar Arun Stanford University
McMullan Jason Exxon Mobil
Mengesha Firehiwot DOE
Miller Brent 7 Energy
Mitchell Reginald Stanford University
Nitopi Stephanie Stanford University
Obrecht Nicolas Total
Olive Nathaniel Stanford University
Otterman Geoff Independent
Parsan Neil World Bank
Ravikumar Arvind Stanford University
Ritts Brad Stanford University
Roda-Stuart Daniel Stanford University
Rogers David Stanford University
Rongere Francois PG&E
Rudd Kevin Asia Society
Rudd Nicholas Glenelg Advisory Services Limited
Sappin Edward NW Innovations
Shih Choon Fong University of Chinese Academy of Sciences; Chinese Academy of Sciences Holdings
Simbeck Dale SFA Pacific
Spormann Alfred Stanford University
Stauff Daniel 7 Energy

Stauff Tim 7 Energy
Stokes Harry Project Gaia
Stollenwerk Stephan Innogy SE
Sun Yuhan Shanghai Advanced Research Institute, CAS
Sun Philip CASIM
Verser Dan Fornaxtek
Wang Hai Stanford University
Wang Jingfan Stanford University
Wang Michael Argonne National Laboratory
Wang Yong Pacific Northwest National Laboratory/Washington State University
Wentz Karly Stone Peak Partners
Wittrig Steve Kinetic Energy
Wong Hsien Xiong NW Innovations
Wu Lebin Chinese Academy of Sciences Holdings
Wu Liheng Stanford University
Wuebben Paul Carbon Recycling International
Xiao Xin Institute of Process Engineering, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Yang An-Chih Stanford University
Zhang Mike CECC & NWIW
Zhang Simon CECC
Zhang Tao Chinese Academy of Sciences
Zhang Xiaofeng US-China Green Energy Council
Zheng Xiaolin Stanford University
Zhou Annie US-China Green Fund
Zoback Mark Stanford University

If it weren't for the environmental groups like the River Keepers, we would have welcomed them in and only learned many years later that we were entirely in the dark.

I will repeat this because it is crucial in this study. How can every environmental group be so wrong when it comes to this refinery? Is the methanol's sales pitch that convincing?