

## Carol McMahon

It is irresponsible to construct a mammoth methanol facility that will endanger our planet and destroy the ecology of southwest Washington and northern Oregon. I have uploaded a copy of the resolution passed by the Washington State Democratic Central Committee in 2017 opposing this facility. Much like the LNG facility in Tacoma, little consideration for the safety and well being of tribes and nearby population as well as the environment have been given. The resolution supports the state Party Environmental platform.

Key elements of the attached resolution call attention to our state's commitment to support the Paris Climate Accords, that this proposed facility would be the largest in the world drawing 5 million gallons of water daily from the Columbia and Kalama aquifers and produce more than all gas fired power plants in Washington combined.

Further, the resolution identifies the site as high risk of liquefaction, and tanker traffic is expected to harm endangered salmon and whales (a keystone species in our ecological system) through fish strikes - a common problem in sea traffic lanes.

Finally, the facility will not produce substantial benefit locally or nationally, with few permanent low-wage jobs. I encourage you to consider this resolution in your decision, and deny the construction of the Kalama Methanol Facility.

## Resolution In Opposition to the Kalama Methanol Facility

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3 **WHEREAS** a mammoth, foreign-owned methanol facility has been proposed for  
4 construction on the east bank of the Columbia River in Kalama, Washington;

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6 **WHEREAS** the Washington State Democratic Party Platform calls for “immediate  
7 aggressive action to minimize climate change, as global climate change is the foremost  
8 threat to survival of Earth as we know it,” and Governor Inslee has affirmed his  
9 commitment to supporting the Paris Climate Accords;

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11 **WHEREAS** the proposed Kalama Facility would be the largest methanol facility in the  
12 world, drawing 5,000,000 gallons of water daily from the Columbia and Kalama River  
13 aquifers and utilizing 320 million cubic feet of natural gas daily – more than all other  
14 gas-fired power plants in Washington combined;

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16 **WHEREAS** 72 million gallons of flammable methanol would be stored on local soil that  
17 has a moderate to high risk of liquefying in an earthquake;

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19 **WHEREAS** three to six tankers a month would be needed every month to haul  
20 methanol to China for use in manufacturing plastics there, an increase in ship traffic  
21 that would harm endangered salmon that are already stressed and produce ship strikes  
22 likely to kill or harm whales near the mouth of the Columbia;

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24 **WHEREAS** the facility would emit more than a million tons of climate pollution per  
25 year as part of the manufacturing process, and shipping its output to Asia would  
26 generate hundreds of thousands of tons of additional climate pollution per year, while  
27 the methane emitted by fracking and pipeline transport to supply the facility would  
28 make greenhouse gas emissions rise even further;

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30 **WHEREAS** at a time when we need to phase out reliance on fossil fuels and transition  
31 to clean energy, the project would encourage new gas drilling and fracking;

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33 **WHEREAS** the proposed facility would not replace any coal-based methanol in China;

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35 **WHEREAS** private property and historic cemetery land would be seized to make way  
36 for the three-mile long gas pipeline needed by the Kalama Facility; and

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38 **WHEREAS** the proposed facility would produce no substantial domestic benefit, either  
39 locally or nationally, with only a few permanent low-wage jobs not necessarily filled  
40 from local communities;

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42 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central  
43 Committee firmly oppose construction of the proposed Kalama Methanol Facility, and  
44 urge the Governor and the State of Washington to reject it forthwith.  
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46 Submitted by the Environment and Climate Caucus on 9/9/17.

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48 The Resolutions Committee recommended that the resolution be sent to the floor.

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50 The Washington State Democratic Central Committee passed the resolution.