

PNWRE Reference Notice #: 23NOC1606

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To: Lauren Whybrew <lauren.whybrew@orca.org>

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I oppose the proposed Pacific Northwest Renewable Energy (PNWRE) wood-pellet-for-export production project.

The hazardous air pollution (HAPs) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that PNWRE estimates to be emitted from the manufacturing of wood pellets are dangerous enough. But they are severely underestimating the actual air pollutants compared to wood pellet plants of the same size and scale. Smokestack tests in similar facilities in the U.S. find the actual emissions will be over *40 tons of total HAPs per year*, including *20 tons of methanol*.

Methanol? Methanol spills and releases present inhalation risks in enclosed areas, explosion and fire risks, and potential toxicity to plants and animals near the release. If 1 gallon of methanol is spilled in the water, it will deplete the oxygen out of 198,000 gallons of water killing salmon and other sea life. For goodness sake, the residents of Hoquiam and surrounding areas do not want or deserve this dangerous chemical that is impossible to see when on fire (attention firefighters!).

This entire application is smokescreen for greenwashing. This facility is wrong for Hoquiam, wrong for Washington, and I urge you to DENY the PNWRE air permit.

Mark Keely

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