

MONTANA DESERVES BETTER THAN METHANE!

At Northern Plains, we are everyday Montanans who love where we live. We stand up, shoulder-to-shoulder, to protect this place we all call home.

We're working to create a clean, affordable, and just energy future for all Montanans. But NorthWestern Energy has hatched a scheme that yields big profits for executives while overcharging customers and polluting our communities. NorthWestern Energy is putting customers on the hook for hundreds of millions of dollars to build destructive methane plants in your backyard. It's a plan that favors corporate profits over the health and prosperity of hardworking Montanans.

Methane

Bad for our health

Bad for our communities

Methane is the main component of natural gas. Methane is especially dangerous to our health and the health of our communities because its polluting effects are more immediate than carbon dioxide.

According to health experts, air pollution from methane can lead to cancer, heart attacks, and respiratory diseases like asthma and more.

We believe that Montanans deserve better than power sources that jeopardize the health of our communities and our natural surroundings.



Methane pollution is up to **80 times** more potent a climate pollutant than carbon dioxide.

About NorthWestern Energy's Plan

In 2019, NorthWestern Energy released their 20 year Energy Plan for Montana. The plan outlined a proposal to build up to eight natural gas, or methane, generation facilities in Montana, arguing that it was the most affordable and reliable energy option. We later learned that the modeling used to make the 20 year plan was misleading and NorthWestern Energy set up the system to ensure the conclusion would be that methane gas was the most affordable option.

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The Laurel
generating plant is
1 of 8
methane plants
proposed for Montana
over the next 20 years.

NorthWestern Energy is attempting to build the first of these methane plants in Laurel, Montana. The proposed 175-megawatt methane gas plant would be located 300 feet from the Yellowstone River. This expensive and unnecessary plant will have potential health impacts, high noise levels, constant bright lights, be harmful to private property, and more. NorthWestern also proposes to build a pipeline under the Yellowstone River.



We all know that gas prices are spiking, and we've heard the news that our heating bills will be significantly higher in the winter as a result. So why does NorthWestern Energy want to build more gas plants in this volatile market rather than invest in wind, solar, and storage options? Because **NorthWestern Energy earns an 11% rate of return on any power generation facilities that they build and own.** In other words, they get to recover from their customers all the costs associated with building, operating, and maintaining these facilities, plus an 11% profit. This is a broken system where NorthWestern executives get to hoard unearned money from dirty fuels while customers overpay for outdated technology.



Take action now!

NorthWestern Energy is recklessly pushing forward a plan that creates financial risks for energy customers while jeopardizing the health and future for all Montanans. We deserve an affordable, reliable, and sustainable source of power that protects the people and places we love. The time to act is now!

Tell NorthWestern Energy to stop putting profits over people. Visit www.NorthernPlains.org/WeDeserveBetter to make your voice heard.