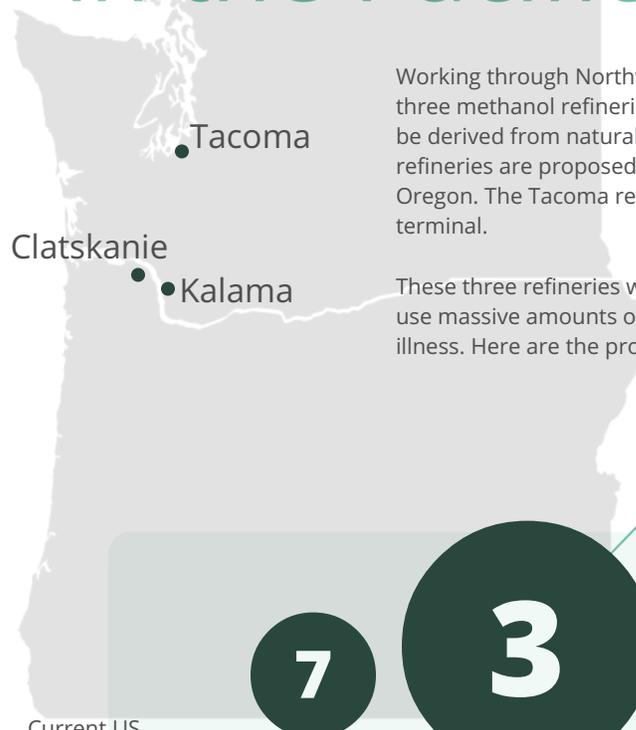


METHANOL

in the Pacific Northwest



Working through Northwest Innovation Works, the Chinese Academy of Sciences has proposed three methanol refineries in Oregon and Washington. Why the Northwest? Because methanol can be derived from natural gas, which is roughly four times cheaper in the US than in China. The refineries are proposed for ports in Kalama and Tacoma, Washington, and Clatskanie, Oregon. The Tacoma refinery would be very close to an existing oil refinery and a proposed LNG terminal.

These three refineries would produce 14.4 million tons of methanol a year. Methanol plants use massive amounts of water and produce air pollutants linked to respiratory and cardiac illness. Here are the proposals by the numbers:



The 3 proposed refineries would produce **14.4 million tons** of methanol a year, **3x** more than is produced by all seven methanol refineries currently operating in the United States.

12,200 gallons

The Tacoma refinery would withdraw 7,200 gallons of water per minute. The Kalama and Clatskanie refineries would each withdraw 2,500 gallons of water per minute from the Columbia River.



of the water would be consumed by the refining process.



The Columbia River refineries will produce roughly **200 gallons** of wastewater per minute; the Tacoma refinery would produce more.

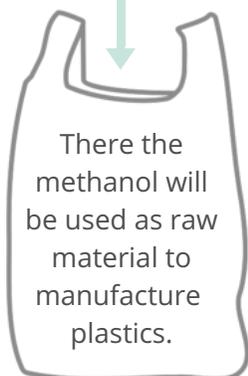


Each proposed refinery would ship its product to Dalian, China.



Warning: Toxic

Methanol is also known as wood alcohol. It is flammable and highly toxic to humans and animals.



Waste

Nickel

Zinc Oxide

Copper

Pollution

Air pollution from methanol plants includes carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds, and fine particulate matter.

Fact sheet produced by Sightline Institute. Learn more at sightline.org/methanol.