

Dear editor,

I believe that Montanans deserve access to fair, reliable, and sustainable sources of power that protect the people and places we love.

I also believe that Montanans deserve to have a say in decisions that affect them and their communities.

For these reasons, I'm disappointed by NorthWestern Energy's aggressive efforts to advance construction of a methane power plant in Laurel.

The utility initially proposed this plant to Montana's Public Service Commission. When Montanans spoke up with questions and concerns – many of which were genuine questions – NorthWestern decided to withdraw their application and end the public's opportunity to learn more. They are now proceeding with construction, no matter what Montanans have to say about it.

I feel that NWE should have to listen and respond to the questions and concerns of community members. People in Laurel who would live near the plant have been asking many questions about the light from the plant, noise, potential air pollution, and more. But those questions have gone unanswered. Where is NorthWestern Energy in these conversations? What do they owe to the community that will play host to their project? In their minds, apparently nothing.

Please join me in taking action, and ask that NorthWestern Energy sit down and look us in the eye before they build this project: [https://northernplains.org/donate/#join\\_renew](https://northernplains.org/donate/#join_renew)

Thank you.