

Prevent the Release of Methane Gas

WHEREAS methane along with carbon dioxide and water vapor are the three major greenhouse gases;

WHEREAS methane gas is produced when carbonaceous materials are digested by bacteria, called anaerobic bacteria, in the absence of oxygen;

WHEREAS methane is produced in piles of household garbage, in feedlots and in the guts of animals and humans;

WHEREAS methane from prehistoric ages, called methane hydrate, has been trapped in permafrost in the tundra and under the oceans; and

WHEREAS methane is up to twenty five times more disruptive as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide: methane will remain in the atmosphere for twelve to fifteen years and when methane naturally breaks down it produces carbon dioxide which remains as a greenhouse gas for up to one hundred years;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we call on Congress and governmental agencies to identify and adopt the policies that will discourage fracking for natural gas in the US and other countries and prevent methane gas from otherwise entering the atmosphere.

Submitted by the Skagit County Convention.

The Platform Committee recommended that this resolution be passed at their June 17, 2016 meeting.

The 2016 Washington State Democratic Convention passed this resolution on June 18, 2016.