

# Cast Your Vote, Washington!

## Why vote NO on I-2066



### Short version

Initiative 2066 removes effective guardrails to lower methane (aka “natural” gas) use, associated with lung and cardiovascular health problems and climate risks. I-2066 specifically protects methane gas among energy sources and fuel types, repealing 2024 laws to assist the state’s largest utility Puget Sound Energy with planning to meet statewide goals to reduce harmful indoor air pollution and statewide heat risks.

### More Details: ([bit.ly/CastYourVoteWA](https://bit.ly/CastYourVoteWA))

Initiative 2066 gives preferential treatment to the methane gas industry (pipelines, utilities), contradicting Washington state’s bold steps to reduce harmful pollution. Methane is notorious for leakage from extraction to pipelines to household use, and methane gas fireplaces and generators have cropped up as demand for heating, cooking, and household energy uses have ebbed in recent years, in large part due to lowering demand for methane gas.

#### **Initiative 2066 is hazardous to our health and goes against faith-rooted and conscience-led priorities to protect the vulnerable because:**

- Indoor air quality risks and associated health problems,
- Carbon lock-in from policies, which favor high-emitting methane-based energy, and
- In a time of drought, wildfires, and excessive heat, we can’t afford to continually invest in increasingly risky and wasteful fuels.

#### **If Initiative 2066 is DEFEATED, we would celebrate that voters can:**

- Prevent efforts to dismantle legal protections for our health against excessive, preventable pollution,
- Protect our most vulnerable community members from health and climate risks associated with methane, and
- Continue to advocate for just transitions away from fossil fuels and provide necessary funding needed in order to make these transitions.

Alternatives to gas are cheaper in the long run, as the costs of building electrification, cleaner energy sources, and smart utility and building standards, when implemented, drive costs down. Our communities deserve policies that support our health and wellbeing now and into the future.

**Earth Ministry/WA IPL is proud to be part of a growing coalition across WA to oppose 2066.**