



Equinor must stop the export of toxic wastewater

Dear Anders Opedal, CEO of Equinor,

As you might have noticed, at this moment we are moored to Bothnia, one of the tankers transporting your toxic wastewater to Agersø sound in Denmark. As you might also be aware, Agersø sound is just outside of an area considered a marine protected area under Natura 2000. Locals at Agersø have reported severely negative changes in the marine ecosystems due to toxic waste being dumped there, even mentioning a mass death in fish populations.

Samples in the area where the water is discharged have shown high concentrations of PFOS, PAHs, heavy metals and barium. PFOS are described as “forever chemicals” because they don’t break down in nature, and PAHs can cause cancer.

We are here because you’re cynically and illegally exporting your toxic wastewater elsewhere. Many of us grew up along the coast and the sea, and its creatures are dear to us. We know how vulnerable these marine ecosystems are, and how devastating it would be to lose them.

The Basel Convention regulates how hazardous waste should be handled, and you are willingly breaking it with the export of your toxic wastewater. The export of this toxic wastewater does not erase the problem, it’s only passing it forward. RGS Nordic, the company handling your waste, has told the national broadcaster in Norway that the dumping of wastewater violates environmental regulations, and negatively affects the ecosystem. Still, you continue the export.

We demand that you take responsibility for your actions and your own waste, in a non-harmful way, here at home in Norway. If you can’t do that in a safe way, complying with environmental regulations in Norway, you must stop the oil production.

Greetings from four activists in the sailboat blocking the export of your waste.
Cinta Hondsmærk, Amanda Louise Helle, Hanna Boman, Hanna Jauhiainen