October 27, 2015

Dr. Jackie Smith, Editor

Journal of World-Systems Research

Department of Sociology, University of Pittsburgh

2400 Posvar Hall

230 S. Bouquet Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Dear Dr. Smith:  
  
Please find enclosed a manuscript entitled: “Hollow Ecology: Ecological Modernization Theory and the Death of Nature” which I am submitting for exclusive consideration of publication as an article in the Journal of World-Systems Research.

This paper theoretically synthesizes a number of insights from world-systems theory, political economy, and environmental sociology to demonstrate that ‘ecological modernization theory’ is fatally flawed due to its presumption of the central features of the capitalist world-system (including growth and profit as economic priorities). This presumption is shown to undermine the rest of ecological modernization’s prescriptions (including suggestions like changing consumption patterns or adopting green technology).

As such, this paper should be of interest to a broad readership. In addition to addressing topics which are central to the growing public discussions over environmental policy, it also contributes to central debates in environmental sociology, and continues the engagement of world-systems theory with environmental issues. In this regard, this manuscript reflects the theoretical concerns of world-systems scholars such as Tom Burns, Alf Hornborg, and J. Timmons Roberts.The world count at 11411 exceeds the JWSR range, and while every section is intended to contribute to the overall project, the author is willing to strongly consider any editorial concerns or suggestions regarding length.  
  
Thank you for your consideration of my work! Please address all correspondence concerning this manuscript to me at the University of Oregon, and feel free to correspond with me by email at jewing2@uoregon.edu.

Sincerely,  
  
Jeffrey Ewing

Doctoral Candidate

Attachment: Manuscript.