



King County

Shannon Braddock
King County Executive

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www.kingcounty.gov

July 31, 2025

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Zahilay:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that, if enacted, would provide King County the authority to sell biomethane and environmental attributes originating from the Cedar Hills landfill gas processing plant to Puget Sound Energy (PSE).

Approval of this proposed legislation would authorize the Executive to execute a Contract for the Sale of Biomethane and Environmental Attributes from the Cedar Hills Biogas Processing Facility (purchase and sale agreement) between the Solid Waste Division (SWD) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) and PSE. The purchase and sale agreement with PSE is to sell product gas and specified volumes of the environmental attributes associated with product gas originating from the Cedar Hills biogas processing facility with the environmental attributes increasing in volume over the first four years of the agreement. This proposed ordinance supports the monetization of biomethane to be produced at the renewable natural gas processing plant located at Cedar Hills Regional Landfill, recently adopted by the King County Council to be acquired by the County. Enacting this proposed Ordinance will create a public benefit by supporting the beneficial use of biofuels, reducing the amount of landfill gas that is flared into the atmosphere, and bringing revenue to the County.

The ordinance also includes a Transfer Line Interconnection and Transportation Agreement. The Transfer Line Interconnection and Transportation Agreement provides access to PSE's natural gas pipeline between the processing facility and the regional natural gas pipeline operated by the Williams Companies.

Operating the landfill gas processing plant has significant environmental benefits. In 2021, Cedar Hills Regional Landfill (CHRLF) generated an average of about 6,500 standard cubic

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feet per minute of landfill gas. When processed at the Cedar Hills biogas processing facility, landfill gas is purified into pipeline-quality biomethane, also known as renewable natural gas. Converting landfill gas into renewable energy means that an equal amount of non-renewable natural gas energy does not need to be consumed. This reduces greenhouse gas emissions by tens of thousands of metric tons per year.

The landfill gas processing plant also has financial benefits for SWD and the ratepayers of King County. Selling biomethane and the related environmental attributes produced by the landfill gas processing plant will generate ongoing revenue for the County into the future. Two of the documents attached to the proposed ordinance contain redactions which may be discussed in executive session.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation. Approval of this proposed Ordinance would allow SWD to sell and monetize renewable natural gas and environmental attributes originating from CHRLF, thereby supporting the local clean energy economy.

If your staff have questions, please contact Rebecca Singer, Division Director of the Solid Waste Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-263-2244.

Sincerely,



for

Shannon Braddock
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Stephanie Pure, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
John Taylor, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Rebecca Singer, Director, Solid Waste Division, DNRP