

((2016)) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan – ((updated December 6, 2022)) Adopted TBD Attachment A to Ordinance ((18427, as amended by Ordinances 18623, 18810, 19034, 19146, and 19555)) TBD

2331 financial support for increased local emergency planning and response to oil
2332 spills, fires, and explosions.
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2334 **((8.)) Fossil Fuels and Fossil Fuel Facilities**

2335 Fossil fuels are petroleum and petroleum products, coal, and natural gas, such as methane, propane and butane,
2336 derived from prehistoric organic matter and used to generate energy. Fossil fuels do not include non-fuel
2337 petrochemicals, fuel additives, or renewable fuels. Fossil fuel facilities are commercial facilities used primarily to
2338 receive, store, refine, process, transfer, wholesale trade, or transport fossil fuels. They do not include individual
2339 storage facilities for the purposes of retail or direct to consumer sales, facilities or activities for local
2340 consumption, non-commercial facilities, and uses preempted by federal or state rule or law.

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2342 New or expanded fossil fuel facilities may create significant public health risks, including air pollution causing
2343 impaired respiratory functions from fine particulates, noise pollution affecting hearing loss and psychological
2344 health, exposure to heavy metals, and contamination of drinking water sources. These risks may result in
2345 cancer, premature death, and lung and heart diseases. Fossil fuel facilities also pose a threat to King County's
2346 ecology through extensive land disturbing activities that cause adverse impacts to natural ecosystems,
2347 contamination of surface water and groundwater, risks from impacts in areas with seismic and geological
2348 instability, and destruction of critical habitat for wildlife. New and expanded fossil fuel facilities may create
2349 congestion at vehicle/train crossings, increase noise levels through additional vehicle trips, and generate dust,
2350 debris, and odor. Additionally, there have been multiple incidents across the United States and Canada in which
2351 spills of crude oil from train derailments and tanker ships and natural gas pipeline explosions have caused
2352 numerous fatalities and illnesses, substantial loss of property, and significant environmental damage.(([†]))
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2354 Fossil fuel extraction, processing, infrastructure, transport, and end use as a fuel contribute significantly to
2355 climate change and environmental pollution. According to the International Panel on Climate Change, the
2356 combustion of fossil fuels is the largest human source of global greenhouse gas emissions.² Washington state
2357 and King County are also threatened by impacts resulting from climate change, including warming temperatures,
2358 sea level rise on coastal communities, diminishing snowpack and water availability, ocean acidification, and
2359 forest decline.³
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(([†]Ordinance 18866))

² (IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, R.K. Pachauri and L.A. Meyer (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland.) IPCC, 2022: Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [P.R. Shukla, J. Skea, R. Slade, A. Al Khourdajie, R. van Diemen, D. McCollum, M. Pathak, S. Some, P. Vyas, R. Fradera, M. Belkacemi, A. Hasija, G. Lisboa, S. Luz, J. Malley, (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA. doi: 10.1017/9781009157926.004

³ Ordinance 18866

