



King County

Shannon Braddock

King County Executive

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www.kingcounty.gov

November 5, 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 would, if enacted, authorize the County to sell environmental attributes related to the biomethane that originates at the Cedar Hills regional landfill to Karbone, Inc.

Approval of this proposed legislation would authorize the execution of an Environmental Attribute Purchase and Sale Agreement (contract) between Karbone and the Solid Waste Division (SWD) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP). The contract allows SWD to sell a portion of the environmental attributes associated with the biomethane gas produced from the Cedar Hills biogas processing facility. Approving 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.

Operating the landfill gas processing plant has significant environmental benefits. The Cedar Hills Regional Landfill (CHRLF) generates an average of more than 5,000 standard cubic feet per minute of landfill gas. At the processing plant, 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 renewable natural gas is composed of two commodities that have financial value: the gas molecules and the environmental attributes associated with those molecules that reflect the environmental benefit when transacted into different markets.

The landfill gas processing plant has financial benefits for SWD and the ratepayers of King County. Selling environmental attributes associated with biomethane produced by the landfill

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gas processing plant is anticipated to be revenue positive beginning in the 2026-2027 biennium and will continue to generate revenue for the County into the future.

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Braddock".

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