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King County Executive
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October 6, 2022

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

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that, if enacted, would authorize me to enter into a new short-term agreement in substantially the same form as the current agreement approved under Ordinance 17022 with Puget Sound Energy for the sale of environmental attributes related to the beneficial use of landfill gas originating from the Cedar Hills Landfill. The current contract between King County and Puget Sound Energy (PSE) terminates on December 31, 2022.

The proposed Ordinance would allow, but not require, King County to enter into this short-term contract with PSE. We are currently negotiating the terms of a longer-term environmental attribute contract associated with the beneficial use of the Cedar Hills Landfill gas. This agreement essentially serves as a short-term extension of the existing terms and will allow the County maximum flexibility in its contract negotiations. Enclosed with this letter is the original contract with new language shown in tracked changes for reference.

The proposed legislation furthers the healthy environment goal of the King County Strategic Plan to reduce countywide greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2030, as well as the efficient, accountable regional and local government goal. The proposed legislation also furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan building and facility energy strategy of supporting the increased production of renewable natural gas and other carbon-free or reduced carbon energy sources.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This important legislation would provide a benefit to the public by providing for continued revenue and support for beneficial use of the landfill gas, until a longer-term environmental attribute contract has been negotiated.

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If your staff have any questions, please contact Pat McLaughlin, Division Director of the Solid Waste Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4501.

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff
Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council
Shannon Braddock, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Karan Gill, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Mina Hashemi, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Pat McLaughlin, Division Director, Solid Waste Division, DNRP