

MOTION NO. 1539

1
2 A MOTION declaring King County Council policy
3 on the five decision questions appearing in
4 the "Solid Waste Management Study Decision
5 Document" by RIBCO regarding future solid
6 waste management, resource recovery, system
7 competition and selection of the operational
8 system.

9 WHEREAS, the King County Council recognizes the following
10 findings:

11 1. Continuing technological changes in methods of manu-
12 facturing, packaging and marketing of consumer products, together
13 with the economic and population growth of this county, the
14 rising affluence of its citizens, and its expanding industrial
15 activity altogether have created new and increasing problems
16 involving disposal of garbage, refuse, and other solid waste
17 materials resulting from domestic, agricultural and industrial
18 activities; and

19 2. There is a growing general public awareness of the
20 finiteness of our planet's natural resources, especially those
21 fuels currently used for energy generation, such as petroleum
22 compounds, coal, natural gas and wood; and

23 3. There are environment costs and other economic factors,
24 as well as time, which must be adequately considered in develop-
25 ing new energy generation sources, such as from atoms (fission
26 and fusion) the sun, wind, tides, oceans (currents and temperature
27 variations) and geothermal sources (dry steam and hot brine); and

28 4. The energy demands of the Northwest have been growing
29 at about 7% per year (4% nationally and 6% worldwide); and

30 5. Traditional methods of disposing of solid wastes in the
31 county are becoming less adequate to meet the ever increasing
32 problem; and
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1 6. Improper methods of handling and disposing of solid
2 wastes pollute our land, air and water resources, blight our
3 countryside, adversely affect land values and damage the overall
4 quality of our environment; and

5 WHEREAS, studies undertaken to date indicate that the
6 preservation and enhancement of environmental and human values
7 require desirability and implementation of integrated development
8 and management of a regional solid waste collection and disposal
9 system and facilities in a context of present and alternate
10 future regional land use goals and air quality standards; and

11 WHEREAS, total solid waste management planning requires the
12 coordinated effort of agencies with functional responsibilities
13 within the region for solid waste collection and disposal; and

14 WHEREAS, by RCW 70.95.080, each county in the state, in
15 cooperation with the various cities located within such county,
16 is required to coordinate, prepare and adopt a coordinated,
17 comprehensive solid waste management plan; and

18 WHEREAS, on May 3, 1973, King County joined with the cities
19 therein to coordinate and prepare a countywide comprehensive solid
20 waste management plan through the River Basin Coordinating
21 Committee (RIBCO) as established by Resolution 1660 of the
22 Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle (METRO) Council; and

23 WHEREAS, on April 1, 1974, the firm of Cornell, Howland,
24 Hayes and Merryfield (CH₂M Hill) consulting engineers, presented
25 to RIBCO the "Cycle 3 Presentation Decision Document--Solid
26 Waste Management Study" presenting five major decisions which
27 the decisionmakers of King County and the municipalities therein
28 must make to successfully complete the implementation of the plan
29 for King County; and

1 WHEREAS, these decisions are needed by RIBCO by April 30,
2 1974, to provide direction for first draft plans to be available
3 by June and the final plan to be available by July, 1974.

4 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

5 The Council hereby sets forth the policy direction in which
6 the Council and the Executive are to pursue in regard to future
7 solid waste management:

8 1. Scope of Management System. A regional solid waste
9 management agency with control of solid waste operations including
10 the transfer station to ultimate disposal and resource recovery
11 shall be implemented for King County. Collection of wastes will
12 remain a local function subject to local preferences for types
13 and levels of services. A "region" for this purpose is an area
14 in which problems are amenable to a common solution. King County
15 is a logical region for this purpose.

16 2. Selection of a Managing Authority. The regional solid
17 waste system should be managed by either King County or METRO.
18 The selection should be made by the METRO Council. "Management"
19 for this purpose means policy setting, planning and administration
20 of the whole system. Flexibility for operation of facilities by
21 other than the managing authority shall be designed into the
22 system.

23 3. Degree of Resource Recovery. Resource recovery should
24 be formally supported by:

25 a. Encouragement of newspaper recycling through the
26 collection service; and

27 b. Demonstration of:

28 (1) Separate collection of segregated wastes; and

29 (2) An incentive program for private industry to operate
30 convenience centers at regional shopping centers in the county.

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1 Energy recovery shall be one long-term recovery process for
2 the primary solid waste stream.

3 4. Competition for Waste Disposal. Insofar as possible,
4 competition for solid waste disposal (transfer, transport, and
5 disposal) should be controlled to avoid unnecessary and uneconom-
6 ical duplication of facilities and unused capacities in the
7 regional system. The impending closure of the Tulalip disposal
8 site on the Snohomish River floodplain by the end of 1974 dictates
9 that the regional system prepare immediately to handle the waste
10 load presently disposal at the Tulalip facility.

11 5. Selection of Operational System. The component
12 elements of the operational system which should be selected for
13 implementation of the regional system are as follows:

14 a. Collection.

15 (1) Maintain local control of collection in incorporated
16 areas, relying primarily on private enterprise.

17 (2) Establish local control of collection in unincorporated
18 area by either strengthening and modifying the Washington
19 Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) or by working to
20 change existing state legislation to allow more flexibility for
21 local control through the regional managing authority.

22 (3) Encourage the opportunity for any homeowner in the
23 urban* portion of the county to reduce his or her collection charge
24 by electing to have collection service on the basis of two cans
25 of waste per week at the curbside. The option of specific
26 minimum service levels should be decided on a community-by-
27 community basis due to local aesthetic preferences. The
28 managing authority should be viewed as a coordinator of service
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1 levels and should encourage practices which further the concepts
2 that distribute costs in proportion to benefits recieved, and
3 that encourage individual recycling efforts. *(The United States
4 Bureau of the Census definition of "urbanized areas" - in
5 incorporated areas it is concentrations of more than 100 dwelling
6 units; in unincorporated areas it is population densities in
7 excess of 1,000 persons per square mile.)

8 (4) Solicit separate bids for collection of residential
9 and commercial/industrial wastes in contract areas to facilitate
10 bid evaluation.

11 (5) Apply utility taxes and franchise fees directly to the
12 betterment of solid waste programs.

13 (6) Establish programs to demonstrate and develop new
14 improved collection systems or techniques that have potential
15 application in King County.

16 b. Transfer/Transport.

17 (1) Institute a definitive means of record keeping at all
18 urban transfer stations through the use of permanent scales.

19 (2) Consolidate transfer station locations in the Bellevue
20 area (existing Houghton and Factoria stations) to provide better
21 service and more room for future expansion.

22 (3) Relocate the Algona transfer station to allow for
23 future expansion and place it in a better position for serving
24 the future growth in the Kent-Auburn Valley.

25 (4) Add a series of mini-transfer stations to replace
26 rural landfills in outlying areas, but continue to operate a
27 rural landfill on Vashon Island and arrange the most practical
28 and economical program for Skykomish.

1 (5) Move to a single regional transport trailer design for
2 the hauling of wastes from transfer stations to disposal
3 facilities.

4 (6) Upgrade transfer and transport systems to conform to
5 Minimum Functional Standards.

6 c. Disposal.

7 (1) Move toward a long-term system of energy/resource
8 recovery through incineration at a central regional facility.
9 Shredding at the urban transfer stations is recommended as an
10 immediate first step toward this long-term system.

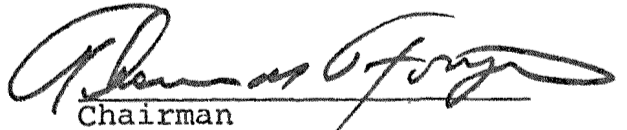
11 (2) Continue landfill as the primary method of disposal in
12 the short term at the existing Cedar Hills site.

13 (3) Special wastes including demolition materials should
14 be handled at sites separate from normal residential and
15 commercial/industrial wastes unless they can be accommodated
16 in the disposal process more economically than through separate
17 facilities.


18 d. Enforcement. Enforcement of the Minimum Functional
19 Standards should be through the Seattle-King County Department
20 of Public Health with general funding from waste generation on a
21 weight basis. This will allow costs to be borne by system users
22 in proportion to their benefits from the system. State monies
23 should be pursued if they are made available.

24 PASSED this 22nd day of April, 1974.

25
26 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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28 
Chairman

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30 ATTEST:

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32 Clerk of the Council