

King County

Administrative Policies and Procedures

Executive Orders,
Policies & Procedures

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Title	Document Code No.
Executive Order on Renewable Energy and Related Economic Development	Put 7-6 (AED)
Department/Issuing Agency	Effective Date.
	4-1-06
Approved 3-22-06	

This Order requires that at least 50% of King County's total non-transit energy use come from renewable energy sources by the year 2012, that at least 35% of transit energy use come from efficiencies and renewable energy sources by the year 2015, and that at least 50% of transit energy use come from efficiencies and renewable energy sources by the year 2020.

WHEREAS, this Order sets a renewable energy standard that will put King County at the forefront of renewable energy use and will be a market catalyst to help move the region and the nation towards a clean energy economy;

WHEREAS, supply of traditional fossil fuels is rapidly diminishing and continued dependence on traditional fossil fuels will be economically devastating and is a threat to our national security;

WHEREAS, use of traditional fossil fuels results in air pollution and is a primary cause of global warming and climate change;

WHEREAS, global warming will have significant adverse impacts on our environment, health and economy;

WHEREAS, use of clean, renewable energy reduces the level of fossil fuel emissions that are a main cause of global warming;

WHEREAS, use of clean, renewable energy provides a primary resource for self-sustaining counties;

WHEREAS, improved transit technology and best practices by Metro Transit Operators and Vehicle Maintenance Section employees contribute to efficiencies that reduce non-renewable energy consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, use of clean, renewable energy reduces our dependence on sources of foreign oil – strengthening our economy and promoting national security;

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WHEREAS, use of clean, renewable energy promotes new and environmentally-friendly economic development;

WHEREAS, use of renewable energy can be made in a cost-effective manner;

WHEREAS, King County has set a goal to use biodiesel across 20% of its buses and vehicles, making it the largest single user of biodiesel in Washington State and significantly helping to stimulate the region's biodiesel market;

WHEREAS, King County has demonstrated a first-of-its-kind stationary application of hydrogen fuel cell technology run on methane gas from its South Treatment Plant;

WHEREAS, King County has demonstrated the significant potential for waste-to-energy conversion at its Cedar Hills landfill;

WHEREAS, King County has joined with education, energy and business groups such as Friends of the Hidden River, the Northwest Energy Technology Collaborative, Snohomish County Public Utility District and Snohomish County Economic Development Council in designing an energy technology education center at its Brightwater Treatment Plant that aims to educate the public on innovative energy technologies that can be applied in wastewater treatment;

WHEREAS, King County is entrusted with protecting its citizens, the environment and economy and will be a leader in the use of renewable energy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron Sims, King County Executive do hereby order and direct:

- (1) This Order requires that at least 50% of King County's total non-transit energy use come from renewable energy sources by the year 2012, that at least 35% of transit energy use come from efficiencies and renewable energy sources by the year 2015, and that at least 50% of transit energy use come from efficiencies and renewable energy sources by the year 2020.
- (2) To achieve compliance with this Order, the following Actions, among others that will be developed over time, will be taken:
 - a) The county will seek to maximize the conversion and use of waste for energy. The Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) will seek to convert and use all reasonably usable waste at wastewater treatment facilities and the Cedar Hills Landfill to energy. DNRP will also analyze other opportunities to use county or third party wastes to generate energy.
 - b) The county will transition to purchasing electricity produced from renewable sources either from the local utilities serving county facilities or other providers. County departments responsible for electricity purchasing are directed to make this transition

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as such resources become available and on a schedule that takes into consideration the cost, available funding and public benefit associated with such purchases.

- c) The county will continue the use of biodiesel in county buses and other county vehicles and will seek to increase the amount of biodiesel used. In addition, the county will seek to use other alternative fuels and hybrid vehicles as technology and funding allows.
- d) The county will implement a program to minimize existing energy use through increased efficiency, optimized operation and maintenance, and conservation efforts.
- (3) A detailed approach to carrying out these Actions and achieving compliance with this Order will be include in a King County Energy Plan, which is to be completed by the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) by January 1, 2007. The Energy Plan will also include other energy objectives and the necessary actions for achieving those objectives.
- (4) The Energy Plan is to be consistent with the county's global warming policy and is to be completed in coordination with the Executive, the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Facility Management Division of the Department of Executive Services (FMD). The Energy Plan will be updated at least every five years to ensure that the county is taking appropriate steps to achieve compliance with this Order and meet the other objectives of the Energy Plan.
- (5) DOT will be responsible for developing the portion of the Energy Plan relating to county vehicle and bus fuel use. In addition, DOT will continuously analyze new fuel and technology developments in order to prepare for the eventual transition to a fleet of county vehicles and buses powered solely by renewable energy sources.
- (6) DNRP is directed to monitor the county's overall compliance with this Order. DNRP will issue an annual Renewable Energy Use Report to the Executive detailing total county energy usage measured in British Thermal Units (BTUs) and the total percentage of such energy that is from renewable energy sources. The Report will also advise the Executive of the planning and measures being undertaken to increase the county's use of renewable energy. DOT will provide the portion of this annual report that addresses trends and developments in renewable energy sources and the potential use of such sources to power county buses and vehicles.
- (7) For purposes of this Order, "energy" includes electricity, vehicle fuel, oil, natural gas, steam and other fuel purchased for the function of heating, cooling, lighting, and mechanical motion. "Renewable energy sources" includes solar, wind, water, geothermal, refuse-derived fuels, and other sources that can be replenished naturally or biologically. "Renewable energy" means energy derived from renewable energy sources.

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Dated this Buday of Mullh, 2006.

Ron Sims King County Executive Attest:

Manager Records, Elections, and Licensing

Interim Director
Records, Elections and Licensing Services Division