

# MSWMAC

## Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee

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October 12, 2007

The Honorable Larry Gossett, Chair  
King County Council  
Room 1200  
COURTHOUSE

RE: Solid Waste Management Planning

Dear Council Chair Gossett:

In July 2004, the King County Council adopted Ordinance 14971, which established the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee and charged it with developing recommendations for the solid waste transfer and waste export system. The ordinance responded to a council policy decision to export the county's solid waste to one or more landfills after the Cedar Hills regional landfill reaches capacity and closes.

The four milestone reports specified in Section 6 of the ordinance were submitted to the council and the Regional Policy Committee in its capacity as solid waste interlocal forum in 2005 and early 2006. These reports provided the basis for the *Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Export System Plan*, submitted in September 2006.

Other deliverables required by Ordinance 14971 have also been submitted to the council, including an independent review of the *Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Export System Plan* prepared by GBB. While the independent review provides some additional recommendations for the County to consider, it supports the recommendations in the *Transfer and Waste Export System Plan*.

In addition to the directives of Ordinance 14971, the council added a proviso to the 2007 Solid Waste Division budget that required the Division to retain a consultant to prepare a comparative evaluation of incineration technologies and waste export. The Division retained R.W. Beck to conduct the evaluation. After review and comment on the draft report by MSWMAC and SWAC, the final R.W. Beck report was submitted to the council on August 6, 2007.

MSWMAC is pleased to participate in fulfilling the directives of Ordinance 14971 and the 2007 budget proviso, and looks forward to collaborating with County staff in developing the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan update, a process which has already begun. Completion of the R. W. Beck report is an important step in that process.

The Honorable Larry Gossett

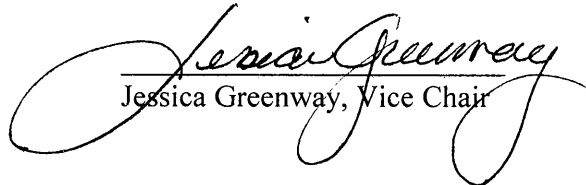
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We believe the R. W. Beck report provides the thorough, objective information needed to analyze waste export and incineration technologies at a programmatic level in the Plan update and its EIS.

Respectfully

  
Jean Garber, Chair

  
Jessica Greenway, Vice Chair

cc: King County Councilmembers  
Chair, Regional Policy Committee  
Chair, Growth Management & Natural Resources Committee  
King County Executive Ron Sims  
MSWMAC  
SWAC  
Kevin Kiernan, Director, Solid Waste Division  
Karen Goroski, Executive Director, Suburban Cities Association