

Respectfully submitted by Mayor Jeff Bufton, City of Arlington (PO Box 68, Arlington, OR 97812), on March 4, 2019.

My name is Jeff Bufton. I am the mayor of the City of Arlington. I am also a chemist and the technical manager at a Waste Management facility west of Arlington, in Gilliam County.

I'd like to begin my testimony with a question:

What would happen if someone walked in and said, "INTEL just laid off their employees in Washington County."

I'm sure this news would get your attention.

Just last year, ECO-Northwest studied the impact that Waste Management has on the economy of Gilliam County. Gilliam County is the third smallest county in the state, with a population of less than 2,000 people.

Just as INTEL is the largest employer in Washington County, Waste Management is the largest employer in Gilliam County. In fact, Waste Management's employment impact in Gilliam County is THREE TIMES GREATER than Intel's employment impact in Washington County.

And the jobs at Waste Management are family-wage jobs. The average wage at Columbia Ridge is \$41,700/year plus generous benefits.

I'm here today because I believe THESE JOBS and the ECONOMIC STABILITY of my community are at risk – due to your approach to "Cap and Trade."

The fact is -- landfills provide a very important public safety and public health service. Modern landfills allow for the safe and environmentally sound disposal of waste.

At the Waste Management landfill at Arlington, we invested years ago in a system to capture landfill gas and use it to generate clean and green RENEWABLE energy. It's part of our commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

- We upgraded the energy plant in 2015 to capture even more landfill gas and generate even more renewable energy.
- Today, gas collected from the landfill fuels 12 engines to produce 12.8 MW of electricity. That's enough to power 12,500 homes and reduce emissions by offsetting 41,406 MT of CO₂e emissions/year.

Again, it's all part of our commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

MY POINT IS THIS: As you contemplate ways to reduce emissions, state-of-the-art landfills like the one in my community are PART OF THE SOLUTION.

That's my I am asking you to consider a CRITICAL PUBLIC SERVICE PATH for municipal solid waste landfills as you move forward with this legislation.

Thank you for your care with this important issue. You hold the economic stability of my community in your hands.

Mayor Jeff Bufton
City of Arlington
PO Box 68
Arlington, OR 97812