

Royal Refuse Service, CORP
Scott Bales
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May 21, 2025

Dear Legislative Committee Members,

I find it very concerning that Lane County is still pursuing the construction of the proposed IMERF. I have owned a private waste hauling company servicing Eugene and surrounding county areas for 47 years. I also owned and operated McKenzie Recycling for 18 years. McKenzie Recycling was a DEQ licensed material recovery facility.

Everything the new IMERF is going to recycle is duplicating services that Rexius, Lane Forest, St. Vincent De Paul, EPUD (which already captures methane from Short Mountain Landfill), and International Paper offer currently. The biggest concern is the "IMERF" project was going to be funded by all garbage haulers in Lane County through tipping fees paid at Short Mountain Landfill. Unfortunately the garbage haulers servicing Cottage Grove, Cresswell, Springfield, Veneta, and Coburg have stopped using Short Mountain Landfill and are hauling their garbage out of the county to other landfills because of recent increases at Short Mountain Landfill to fund "Clean Lane". Lane County is planning on 5 more increases annually totaling another 60% to fund the project. Please consider the cost passed on to our customers plus the increased Green House gases generated by the garbage companies traveling to the next county to avoid unnecessary increasing dump fees. Lane County currently has the highest recycling recovery rate in the state and 70 plus years of land fill space. This \$170,000,000 project contains many flaws and is being pushed by only a couple Lane County employees and Bulk Handling Systems who will build and operate the facility for 20 years after construction.

I urge you to consider the detrimental effect that this will have on Lane County businesses and residents that will experience increases in disposal costs.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Scott Bales, CEO