

RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS FACILITY PROJECT

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, **PRINT** YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (PRINT)

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)

Email (Optional)

NAME (PRINT)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)	Email (Optional)
✓ Lightning Super-Watchdog		
✓ Nancy Newell		
✓ Matthew Denton		
✓ Jana Gastellum		
✓ Star Stavros.		



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Agency Headquarters

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Portland, OR 97232

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April 17, 2017

Re: Agenda Items 370 - 372

Portland City Council
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 130
Portland, OR 97204

Submitted via email to:

Council Clerk, Karla Moore-Love karla.moore-love@portlandoregon.gov

Assistant Council Clerk, Susan Parsons susan.parsons@portlandoregon.gov

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding the City of Portland's proposed investment in producing renewable natural gas at the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant.

I represent the Oregon Clean Fuels Program (CFP), a program that was established by the Oregon Legislature in 2009 and is being implemented by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. The CFP is charged with reducing the average carbon intensity of Oregon's transportation fuels by 10 percent by 2025. The CFP was launched in 2016 and has seen several early successes such as cleaner ethanol and biodiesel being blended into the state's gasoline and diesel, and the increased use of electricity, natural gas, renewable natural gas, and propane as transportation fuels.

The City of Portland is participating in the CFP as a generator of credits from electricity used by the City's electric vehicle fleet. These credits can be sold in the clean fuels market and reinvested into future City projects. DEQ is also working with the City to include the electricity used by Streetcar and the Aerial Tram into the CFP.

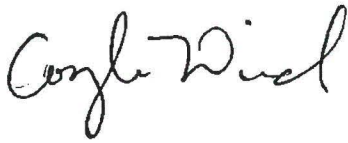
As DEQ looks to the future of transportation fuels, one of the most exciting areas of innovation is the production of renewable natural gas from wastewater treatment plants, landfills and commercial digesters. As a replacement of fossil natural gas, renewable natural gas has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions by over 50 percent; as a replacement of petroleum diesel, it has the potential to reduce GHG emissions by over 70 percent.

Preliminary estimates show that the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant Renewable Natural Gas project has the potential to reduce approximately 20,000 metric tons of GHGs annually. Renewable natural gas used as a transportation fuel qualifies for credits under

the federal Renewable Fuel Standard program and the Oregon Clean Fuels Program, both of which can be monetized and increase the city's return on its investment. In addition, the agreements with Northwest Natural Gas and Clean Energy Renewables will ensure that the fuel will be delivered efficiently to the fleets that can use them.

For all of these reasons, DEQ is a strong supporter of this project. This is a huge step towards being able to locally and sustainably produce a clean, low-carbon transportation fuel and DEQ appreciates the continued leadership shown by the City of Portland. We look forward to continuing to work with the City to transform the state's transportation fuels market.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cory-Ann Wind". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Cory-Ann Wind
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Oregon Clean Fuels Program Manager