

# ORIGINAL

## RESOLUTION NO. 179

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, OPPOSING THE CONTINUED INVESTIGATION OF POINT WELLS BY KING COUNTY AS A CANDIDATE SITE FOR A WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT.**

WHEREAS, the King County Executive is scheduled to make a recommendation to the King County Council regarding the identification of two to five "Final Candidate" sites for the County's Brightwater wastewater treatment plant in early September 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Point Wells property on the northwest corner of Shoreline is a "Candidate" under consideration for identification as a "Final Candidate" site; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline recognizes the inherent difficulty in identifying an acceptable location for a major wastewater treatment facility and that King County has developed an open and collaborative siting process; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline has participated in King County's siting process and reviewed information and analysis made available by County staff; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline has considered the Siting Criteria adopted by the King County Council (Attachment A) and finds that the selection of the Point Wells site would be inconsistent with many of the policies embodied therein; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline supports the selection of a site for the Brightwater wastewater treatment plant that is in the best interests of the greater King County region served by the King County Wastewater Treatment Division; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline does not believe that construction of a wastewater treatment plant on the Point Wells property would be in the best interests of the region for the following reasons:

- The earthquake risk to a plant at this site from landslides and liquifiable soils would be high
- Doing so would make two of the County's three major treatment facilities vulnerable to damage from a single tsunami event in Puget Sound
- The site's only roadway access is via a non-arterial residential street that has been subject to closure due to landslide or adverse weather
- The County has placed a high value on increasing the opportunity for water reuse through effective placement and design of the Brightwater treatment facility. Constructing this facility at the Point Wells location would not provide the treated effluent conveyance pipeline necessary to create the backbone of an inexpensive reusable water conveyance system. Wastewater revenues can not legally support the engineering solution proposed by County staff of installing an effluent conveyance system to pump treated water back inland from Point Wells to potential customers. The expense of installing and operating such a conveyance system, or other alternatives such as pilot treatment facilities, could increase the

cost of reuse water past the point of marketability. In summary, constructing the Brightwater plant at Point Wells would not create any reuse opportunity that does not already exist, while inland sites under consideration would increase opportunities for reuse consistent with the County's stated objective.

- The usable area of this site makes it less flexible, more expensive to construct, and reduces the potential for future expansion to deal with regulatory change or increased regional needs
- Doing so would displace an important regional resource - asphalt - with no alternative siting available with the potential to increase the cost of road construction and maintenance activities throughout King and Snohomish counties
- Doing so would fully occupy a distinctive site without taking advantage of any of its uniquely valuable characteristics such as:
  - The presence of a deep water port,
  - Significant shoreline area, and/or
  - Availability of rail connectivity
- Doing so would require the acquisition of a large high value property with only a small percentage of that property available for the intended use; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline believes that a treatment plant at Point Wells would present a uniquely high risk of impact on the adjacent community and that there are other sites under consideration that would better serve the interests of the region and have fewer impacts on the adjacent community due to the fact that:

- Point Wells is the only site accessible only via a single non-arterial residential street
- Point Wells is the farthest from a state highway
- The neighborhoods to the south - Richmond Beach, Innis Arden, Highlands - can't be buffered from potential plant impacts
- All the impacts of a plant located at Point Wells would fall on Shoreline; a community that already hosts several significant regional facilities including:
  - King County Solid Waste Transfer Station
  - King County Metro Transit North Base
  - King County Roads Maintenance Yard (Brugger's Bog)
  - WSDOT Maintenance Yard
  - WSDOT Administrative Building
  - State Fircrest Property (NERF, Center for Disease Control, Others)

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** The Council finds that Point Wells is not the best potential location identified for King County's proposed Brightwater facility.

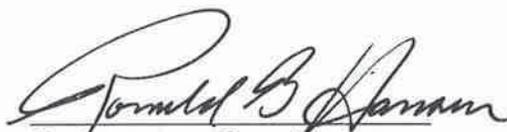
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**Section 2.** The Council finds that the continued investigation of Point Wells as a potential location for a regional wastewater treatment facility would be a waste of public resources and lead to unnecessary public and intergovernmental discord.

**Section 3.** The Council finds that the identification of Point Wells as a "Final Candidate" site for the King County Brightwater wastewater treatment plant is not in the best interest of the region or the City of Shoreline and that it shall be the City's policy to oppose such identification.

**Section 4.** The Council directs City staff to convey this resolution to all appropriate entities and take action consistent with the policy established hereby.

**ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON AUGUST 20, 2001.**

  
Deputy Mayor Ronald B. Hansen

ATTEST:



Sharon Mattioli  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Ian Sievers  
City Attorney

**FINAL CANDIDATE SELECTION CRITERIA  
King County Brightwater Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Adopted by  
The King County Council  
Via Ordinance 14107, May 15, 2001

**Community policy site selection criteria.**

A. Community impacts

1. King County shall seek NTF sites that can be appropriately developed and mitigated to be compatible with surrounding land and marine uses.
2. King County shall seek NTF sites that can be appropriately and effectively mitigated for potential impacts to the community such as noise, visual, odor and traffic effects.
3. King County shall seek NTF sites in a manner consistent with the Growth Management Act.

B. Cultural resources. King County shall seek NTF sites that minimize impacts to known significant cultural resources.

C. Community amenity

1. King County shall seek NTF sites where it is possible to enhance and provide benefit to the community, through appropriate and effective mitigation.
2. King County shall seek opportunities to enhance and provide benefit to the environment, such as habitat, wetlands, surface waters, groundwater, or cultural resources through appropriate mitigation of project impacts.

**Technical policy site selection criteria.**

A. Size, shape and topography.

1. King County shall select NTF sites that provide sufficient area to accommodate the proposed facilities, an appropriate buffer, and at the treatment plant, room for reclamation of all wastewater flows, energy self-generation and future treatment process upgrades.
2. King County shall seek NTF sites that do not require extensive alteration due to either steep slopes or hazard mitigation, or both.
3. King County shall seek a north treatment plant site that is located at an elevation that allows efficient use of energy for conveyance of sewage to the plant and conveyance of treated effluent to Puget Sound.
4. King County shall seek NTF sites including sites for pump stations, demonstration water reuse projects and storage facilities that provide an opportunity for water reclamation and reuse.

B. Geology, soils and groundwater.

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1. King County shall seek NTF sites that minimize exposure to geologic hazards, poor soil conditions and unsuitable subsurface geology.
  2. King County shall seek NTF sites that minimize the need for dewatering during facilities construction or operation.
- C. Site access and utilities.
1. King County shall seek NTF sites with adequate vehicle access to and from major roadways or sites where adequate access can be developed.
  2. King County shall seek NTF sites with adequate, reliable and cost-competitive power supply or for which the county can obtain adequate supply and that provide an opportunity for energy self-generation.
  3. King County shall seek NTF sites with adequate, emergency response services, such as fire and medical, or for which the county can develop or obtain adequate services.
- D. Conveyance routes. King County shall seek conveyance routes that minimize the complexity of conveying flows to and from the north treatment plant site.
- E. System reliability. King County shall seek NTF sites that can be redeveloped and mitigated with effective flow management during emergencies.
- F. Sustainability. King County shall seek NTF sites that support opportunities for reuse of treatment process by-products including biosolids, methane gas and reclaimed water.
- G. Land acquisitions, easement, right-of-way.
1. King County shall seek NTF sites that minimize acquisition complexity in order to avoid or minimize risk of project delay and cost overruns.
  2. King County shall select north treatment plant sites that do not displace existing facilities that are used for law enforcement and public safety training and, as a practical matter, are difficult to site elsewhere.

## **Environmental policy site selection criteria.**

- A. Biological resource protection.
1. King County shall seek NTF sites that can be develop and mitigated to minimize adverse effects to biological resources including: threatened, endangered and candidate species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act; endangered, threatened, sensitive and candidate species listed under the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Priority habitats and Species, and Species of Concern; and any officially designated local natural resources.
  2. King County shall seek marine outfall locations that can be developed and mitigated to minimize effects on sensitive near-shore and offshore marine resources.
- B. Water resources protection.
1. King County shall select NTF sites where it is feasible to construct and operate facilities in a manner that protects municipal drinking water wells and potable groundwater resources.

2. King County shall seek NTF sites that can be developed and mitigated to minimize adverse effects to local surface waters.
  3. King County shall seek NTF sites where it is feasible to construct and operate facilities that will not be at risk during a flood event.
- C. Human health. King County shall select NTF marine outfall locations that can be developed and mitigated in a manner that will meet state and federal laws that protect public health related to recreation, fishing, shellfish, harvesting, seafood consumption, tribal usage or other human use activities.
- D. Contamination. King County shall seek NTF sites that can be developed and mitigated in a manner that minimizes disruptions or mobilization of hazardous materials into the environment.

**Financial policy site selection criteria - overall system cost.**

- A. Lifetime costs. King County shall seek NTF sites that will result in reasonable lifetime costs for the plant, conveyance activities and marine outfall, through consideration of acquisition costs, capital costs, operations, maintenance and mitigation.
- B. Financial security and bonding. King County shall select NTF sites that can be developed and mitigated within the financial security and bonding capacity for the wastewater system consistent with the county's legal and contractual commitments regarding the use of sewer revenues to pay for sewer expenses.