



# LANE COUNTY

## INTEGRATED MATERIAL AND ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY (IMERF)

### OVERVIEW

Lane County is seeking project funding to construct a state-of-the-art **Integrated Material and Energy Recovery Facility (IMERF)** in Lane County, Oregon. The IMERF would be the most technologically advanced waste processing facility in the country and would utilize technology and equipment built in the USA. The integrated facility would process municipal solid waste (MSW), single stream recycling, and organic waste to produce marketable recycling commodities and biogas for transportation. The facility would divert over 110,000 tons of material from the County's landfill for processing and would serve as a regional recycling hub for southwest Oregon.

### PRINCIPAL GOALS OF PROJECT:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the County landfill
- Increase the diversion of marketable materials from the landfill
- Create local jobs and sustainable economic development
- Use proven processing systems
- Construct and operate at an affordable cost to the rate payer
- Achieve the above in a Public Private Partnership format



**Lane County** is a leader in recycling in Oregon - currently holding the highest county recycling rate (53.8%) in the State of Oregon. The County is striving to reach a **63% county wide recovery rate by 2025** to meet its target Materials Recovery Goal that is outlined in Oregon Revised Statutes (459A.010).

**Bulk Handling Systems (BHS)** is headquartered and has its main manufacturing facility in Eugene, Oregon. BHS is a worldwide leader in the innovative design, engineering, manufacturing and installation of sorting systems and components for the solid waste, recycling, waste-to-energy, and construction and demolition industries. BHS has built some of the largest and most durable Material Recovery Facilities in the world – and they are achieving the highest throughput, recovery, and purity rates in the industry. Bulk Handling Systems (Eugene, Oregon) was selected through a competitive Request for Proposal process to design, build and operate the IMERF.



*What's next.*

The **Public Private Partnership (PPP)** between BHS and Lane County envisions a new state-of-the art facility for processing and recovery of commodities for sale and reuse, and energy recovered from biogas produced by organic waste to be used as a Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) in transportation fleets. The estimated \$100 million project will be built at or near the Short Mountain Landfill under a long-term PPP agreement.

### PROJECT FEATURES

- State-of-the-art materials processing facility to recover commodities from solid waste headed to the landfill
- Processing of single stream recyclables from local collection programs to provide local capacity and reduce long haul shipments for processing
- Recovery and conversion of organic waste into Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) through anaerobic digestion
- Bio-drying of the organic residual for reuse as soil amendments, slope stabilization and daily cover at the landfill
- A Visitor and Educational Center for schools, community groups and other interested residents and businesses

## LOCAL JOBS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

The economic revenue from plant operations would be more than \$30 million annually.

- Jobs estimated during design, fabrication, and construction of the IMERF is more than 90 high-paying manufacturing and construction jobs.
- Facility employment for the next 25 years estimated at more than 50 at the facility, paying prevailing wages and benefits.
- Showcase waste recovery facility would draw visitors from around the world and encourage more high-quality manufacturing jobs in Lane County.



## PROJECT STATUS

Lane County and BHS are currently working together on a 30% design for the facility to finalize the site location and refine cost estimates.

## NEXT STEPS

- State and federal outreach for support and resources to mitigate cost impacts.
- Community outreach to educate ratepayers and stakeholders on the potential changes and benefits from the IMERF.
- Financing of the \$70 million equipment portion by BHS through commercial sources. Lane County pursuing grants and sources for the \$30 million site development and building construction.

## FEDERAL AND STATE SUPPORT

One of Lane County's primary goals for this project is for it to be as cost effective as possible on the rate payer. Additional funding is needed to offset the \$100m estimated capital cost for the project. Securing grants or other sources of funding is a key goal for Lane County and will benefit the local community by reducing the increase to fees needed to fund the project. BHS is moving forward with the financing of the \$70 million worth of equipment. Lane County is seeking federal and state funding to pay for the construction of the facility that will house the equipment.

## BENEFITS FOR LANE COUNTY AND OREGON

The IMERF represents a fundamental transformation for Lane County's handling of municipal solid waste. Processing of waste to extract recyclables and energy is a major, comprehensive step forward. It serve as a model for other counties in Oregon and across the country.

- Achieve a **materials recovery rate over 70%**.
- Mitigate methane from the Short Mountain Landfill - the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions from County operations - reducing over 100,000 tons of CO2 equivalent emissions.
- Production of negative Carbon Intensity RNG fuel under Oregon's Clean Fuels Program for use in local transportation fleets. The facility will produce 1,300,000 diesel gallon equivalent (DGE) per year of renewable natural gas (RNG).
- Two-year construction project that utilizes local companies to execute; creating substantial economic benefits.
- Extend the remaining life of the County's municipal solid waste landfill by approximately 25 years.
- A world-class facility, executed and operated by a team of local professionals – engineers, welders/fabricators, equipment operators and maintenance technicians.

