

Organics Management Guide Submission

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Select the Primary Entity Type Please identify the category that best represents your project: Owner of Infrastructure** (composting, anaerobic digestion, depackaging, etc.)

Questions:

- 1. Background: Provide context for the program, project, or policy — why it was developed, when it began, and the problem or opportunity it addresses.**

I led this project development and deployment by partnering with Zero Waste Vashon in 2014 and founding ForTheGood PBC to help achieve common goals and standing-up Chomp Energy. What began as a pro bono consulting engagement while in graduate school (MBA in Sustainable Business & Sustainable Energy Solutions Certificate, Presidio Graduate School/University of Redlands), led to a contracted feasibility study with King County Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks Solid Waste Division, Recycling & Environmental Services to address the opportunity of modular and distributed anaerobic digestion of organics. Then, after founding ForTheGood PBC and joining Chomp as their Community Engagement Officer, Operations & Partnerships in 2016, we secured grant contracts from the Washington State Dept. of Commerce Clean Energy Fund RD&D program and a low-interest loan from the Washington State Housing Finance Commission Sustainable Energy Trust to achieve common objectives related to organics diversion, clean fuels production, energy and food sovereignty, and resource circularity.

- 2. Summary: Briefly describe the initiative, including its goals, location, and primary outcomes.**

Zero Hunger, Zero Waste & Zero Emissions initiatives converged at the right place, at the right time in King County, WA (specifically Vashon-Maury Island). Primary outcomes

included significantly reduced ton-mileage for waste generators such as Island Spring Organics, technology demonstration for Chomp Energy, WA State goal attainment with respect to Dept. of Commerce Clean Energy RD&D, Dept. of Ecology Organics Management Law and King County Recycling & Environmental Services and Circular Economy development.

3. Percent of Overall Diverted Material: If available, include data or estimates on the portion of the community or organization's total diverted material no longer associated with the waste stream that this program or policy addresses.

8,000 lbs. per day is approximately 80% of the tofu factory's waste stream and 50% of island's organic waste stream.

4. Key Program Elements or Policy Provisions: Describe the structure and main components of your program or policy. Explain the investments origins (who, how much). Please include as many of the following elements as applicable: What types of materials are being managed? (e.g., surplus recoverable foods, food scraps, wasted food. How are these materials managed? Who is responsible for managing them? (Organizations, agencies, businesses, or other entities) What products are generated, and how are they utilized or managed? (e.g., compost, animal feed, energy products) Who funds the management of these materials? (Funding sources, grants, partnerships) Who generates these materials? (Identify the origin: households, institutions, businesses, etc.)

Pre-consumer and post-consumer source separated organics

5. Regulatory Impact: Describe how laws, policies, regulations, and/or code have affected your program or project. This may include positive, negative, or neutral impacts. Consider noting which regulations apply, how they influenced implementation or operations, any challenges or barriers encountered, and how compliance requirements shaped program decisions.

<https://ecology.wa.gov/waste-toxics/reducing-recycling-waste/organics-and-food-waste/2022-organics-management-law>

- 6. Measurable Increase in Supply: Include data or qualitative outcomes showing growth in collection, diversion, or reuse volumes if available.**

N/A

- 7. Behavior Change: Describe whether the initiative resulted in measurable behavior change and explain how you determined this. If behavior change occurred, outline the strategies that proved most effective. Please include any available data or evidence that supports your findings.**

N/A

- 8. Benefits and Impacts (Economic, Environmental, and Social): Describe the economic, environmental, and social sustainability impacts of the program, policy, or initiative. This may include both positive and negative outcomes. You may address impacts such as costs or savings, job creation, waste reduction, emissions, resource conservation, community engagement, equity, or public health. Please include data or qualitative observations where available and note any trade-offs or challenges.**

- VBF ferments (anaerobically digests onsite) 8,000 pounds of organic matter per day
- Generates 950 gallons of organic probiotic plant food per day
- Cogenerates 90 to 125 gallons equivalent gasoline per day to fuel RNG vehicles
- Delivers a greenhouse gas carbon dioxide equivalent drawdown of 25,000 MTCO₂ per year through avoided methane, diesel trucking and nitrous oxide emissions.

- 9. How Stakeholder Buy-In Was Achieved: Explain how the program gained support from key stakeholders (e.g., government agencies, businesses, residents, nonprofits).**

As always, the project moved at the speed of trust.

- 10. Stakeholders' Perspectives and Dynamics at Play: Highlight collaboration dynamics, challenges, or differing stakeholder interests and how they were addressed.**

N/A

11. Lessons Learned: Share what worked well, what didn't, and recommendations for others seeking to replicate your approach.

Since it was a first of a kind system, buy-in was achieved in ~3 years from 2014 to 2017, by building all around win-win-win relationships on the ground via our Community Supported Biocycling® P3 model.

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Additional Documentation