

## **Organics Proposal for Increasing Purchasing of Recycled Organics Summary**

This action will increase the markets for recovered organic wastes throughout the State and increase the variety and volumes available of composted organic materials to Department of Transportation, as well as influence local and county purchasing specifications.

### **Highlights**

Emphasize, update and increase the procurement goals for recycled content materials by all state and local agencies as provided in the 1991 law RCW 43.19A to specifically allow for the purchase of the following organic waste materials that are recycled and/or composted; yard debris, land clearing debris, food waste residuals, anaerobic digester solids, manures, biosolids, paper mill sludge and wood processing by-products.

Modify the established specification requirements by WSDOT for purchasing of composted materials so that they are not limited to a certain percentage of composted plant materials. This will allow a wider variety of composted products to be sourced locally to development projects, such as manures in Eastern Washington. The current language used in WSDOT specifications for erosion control and roadside planting was intended to meet the 1991 goals as codified under RCW 43.19A, of increasing the use of composted yard debris. The markets for composted yard debris is well established in regions that produce these products, however areas outside of these production centers show little use of composted organic wastes due to transportation costs.

Provide for a change in all recycled product procurement lists and sources to be inclusive of the other recycled organic waste feedstocks that are being extracted from the waste stream.

### **Implementation Dates**

Legislation is required to pass in the 2009 session with a targeted date for compliance/implementation by 2010

### **Mechanism**

Amendment to RCW 43.19A. Adjustment of administrative rules for WSDOT, GA, Ports, Colleges and all other departments that have land development projects.

### **Synergy with Other Proposals**

This action could be combined with updating of overall procurement guidelines of recycled products for state and local agencies, as well as improve the information data base of available recycled products.

### **What Needs To Be Done**

Draft legislative language to amend RCW 43.19A

Vet with stakeholders how to maximize procurement of recycled organic wastes and allow for performance goals of the end users of these products.