



Support HB 4049

We strongly encourage you to support of HB 4049, regarding renewal energy certificates that impact the Covanta Marion Energy-from-Waste (EfW) facility located in Brooks, Oregon. We would like to inform you of other vital functions of the EfW facility.

Statewide, law enforcement and local government entities utilize the EfW facility for destruction of weapons, drugs, evidence no longer needed by the courts, and other document destruction needs. There are 122 law enforcement and government agencies throughout Oregon that rely on the EfW facility. Law enforcement personnel or evidence technicians escort, witness, and document this destruction following Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality requirements.

The Covanta facility charges law enforcement a significantly reduced rate for evidence destruction and there is no charge for prescription drug destruction. Without your support of HB 4049 these materials will be required to be shipped out of state. The closest known facility is in Utah. Future disposal will come at a considerably higher cost to the taxpayers in Oregon.

Covanta has developed the Prescription for Safety Program to provide safe disposal of medications collected as community-sponsored and law enforcement drug take-back programs. In addition, in 2019 the Drug Take Back bill (HB 3273) designated the Brooks EfW facility as a location for destruction of collected drugs.

Through the EfW facility, they provide safe, environmentally sound destruction that protects our water resources, create renewable energy, and reduces the risk of drugs reaching the hands of our youth.

We strongly urge your support of law enforcement and local government across the state by voting for HB 4049.

Oregon Association Chiefs of Police – Kevin Campbell
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association – Jason Myers
League of Oregon Cities – Scott Winkels
Association of Oregon Counties – Patrick Sieng