



# King County Council Motion – Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs)

Proposed Motion 2023-0264 concerning CECs in  
wastewater effluent

MWPAAC General Meeting  
September 27, 2023

Erika Kinno  
Policy & Research Unit Supervisor  
Resource Recovery



**King County**

Department of Natural Resources and Parks  
**Wastewater Treatment Division**

# PROPOSED MOTION 2023-0264

Whereas clauses include:

- Background on wastewater treatment and CECs
- Specific callout of PFAS as a CEC of concern
- Identifies source control as most cost-effective control method
- Acknowledgement of Orca proviso report earlier this year
- King County commitment to protecting health of residents and Puget Sound

# PROPOSED MOTION 2023-0264: ACTION ITEMS

1. Seek operational, capital, or programmatic changes that may address PFAS, in the context of competing priorities, and assessing opportunities for collaborative actions that support our community and external partners
2. Determine the most significant PFAS sources, pathways and exposures in King County, including undertaking voluntary sampling
3. Support source control measures as the most effective and equitable solution, including implementation of the Safer Products for Washington program
4. Inform and support state and federal PFAS chemical action plans

# PROPOSED MOTION 2023-0264: ACTION ITEMS (CONT'D)

5. Comment and engage in the development of regulations and legislation related to PFAS and contaminants of emerging concern
6. Seek funding for projects and research to mitigate PFAS and contaminants of emerging concern in the region, and whenever possible seek producer responsibility for cleanup rather than burdening ratepayers and the public with treatment and cleanup costs
7. Coordinate and share information and strategy with other jurisdictions in Washington, particularly King County's local sewer agency partners served by the regional wastewater system
8. Research wastewater treatment technologies to address and reduce PFAS and contaminants of concern in effluent and biosolids for consideration and implementation, with special consideration for how technologies address the final fate and destruction of those chemicals
9. Support actions to educate residents and businesses about how they can reduce the use of PFAS and contaminants of concern in homes and businesses, reducing exposure to those chemicals

## PROPOSED MOTION 2023-0264: ACTION ITEMS (CONT'D)

Department of Natural Resources and Parks to brief County Council's Transportation, Environment and Economy Committee and Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) in 2024 on efforts to reduce and control PFAS and CECs

WTD to include a section on costs of activities undertaken and plans to address CECs, including PFAS, in technical memo submitted with the annual sewer rate ordinance in 2025

# LEGISLATIVE PATH

- Proposed Motion passed out of RWQC on September 6
- Passed out of Committee of the Whole on September 20
- Tentatively scheduled for discussion and final action by Council in October



# Questions?

Erika Kinno  
Policy & Research Unit Supervisor  
Resource Recovery



**King County**

Department of Natural Resources and Parks  
**Wastewater Treatment Division**

