



**TO:** T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
**FROM:** Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services  
Richard Price, Sr. Real Estate Officer, Public Works, Real Property Services  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution – Granting a non-exclusive easement to Puget Sound Energy, Inc. –  
December 16, 2014  
**DATE:** December 1, 2014

*M3SC*

**SUMMARY:**

A resolution granting the execution of a non-exclusive easement to Puget Sound Energy, Inc. to construct a natural gas pipeline and connection to provide compressed natural gas to the fueling station located at the Solid Waste Transfer Station.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

- Strengthen and maintain a strong fiscal management position.

This easement will provide the fueling infrastructure necessary to enable Solid Waste Management’s (SWM’s) truck fleet to operate more efficiently by using compressed natural gas fuel and will reduce environmental impacts by decreasing greenhouse gas and particulate emissions.

**BACKGROUND:**

On June 24, 2014, Resolution No. 38934 authorized the construction contract with TruStar Energy LLC, for the construction and maintenance of the fueling station at the Transfer Station for an initial term of two years.

Puget Sound Energy has made a request to the City for a permanent easement on City property to provide natural gas service to the fueling station, and has agreed to be subject to the terms and conditions of Section 4(b) of the “Restrictive Covenant” entered into between the City of Tacoma, the United States for the Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Washington for the Department of Ecology; executed in November of 2001, and recorded with the Pierce County Auditor under No. 200111160567.

**ISSUE:**

The fuel station will provide capability to fuel SWM’s truck fleet with compressed natural gas at the Recovery and Transfer Station site. Using compressed natural gas fuel will enable SWM to cut fuel costs by approximately 20 to 30 percent compared to B20 biodiesel fuel. Compressed natural gas fuel will also reduce particulate truck emissions by 70 percent and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 16 percent compared to B20 biodiesel fuel.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Alternatives to granting the non-exclusive easement include not using compressed natural gas fuel or fueling trucks at an off-site natural gas fuel station. The economic and environmental advantages of compressed natural gas fuel make the option of continuing to use diesel fuel exclusively undesirable. The nearest public compressed natural gas fuel station is located at the Pierce Transit Facility in Lakewood. Staff time and additional fuel burnt by trucks driving to fuel their vehicles to the off-site location would offset the potential economic and environmental benefits of using compressed natural gas fuel.



**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends granting the execution of a non-exclusive easement to Puget Sound Energy, Inc. to construct a natural gas pipeline and connection to provide compressed natural gas to the fueling station located at the Solid Waste Transfer Station.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact.