

What's the Benefit for Mason County?

ENERGY?

Q. ADAGE says they will generate enough energy to power 40,000 homes. Will the power be used in Mason County?

A. Probably not. No Washington State utility or business has plans to buy power from ADAGE. The reason is simple -- ADAGE power will cost significantly more than power generated from existing local sources such as hydroelectric power.

Washington State already exports energy to other states. We don't need and won't use energy from ADAGE.



TAX REVENUE?

Q. How much new tax revenue will ADAGE generate?

A. Potential tax revenue has been severely limited by special exemptions granted by the State to biomass energy plants.

- Sale and use of hog fuel or forest-derived biomass for production of power, steam, heat or biofuel is *exempt from retail sales and use taxes* through June 30, 2013. (RCW 82.08.956, 82.08.957, 82.12.956, 82.12.957) **This means NO new sales tax revenue on biomass sales.**
- Sale and use taxes for equipment, labor and services for power production is 75% to 100% exempt through July 31, 2013. (RCW 82.08.02567, 82.12.02567) **This will greatly reduce or even eliminate sales tax revenue due on equipment, labor and services for plant construction.**
- **B&O taxes are also limited by special legislation.** The State is giving a credit for each green ton of forest-derived biomass *sold or used* for production of power. The credit is valued up to \$5/ton through June 30, 2015. (See RCW 82.04.4494) Since the credit is available to both biomass sellers and users, won't it have a double whammy on tax revenue? **If so, not only will there be little or no new B&O tax revenue from ADAGE, but this credit may actually reduce B&O tax revenues from current levels by creating new tax credits for biomass sales that did not get special breaks in the past.** (Good for sellers. Bad for taxpayers. There is no free lunch.)

JOBS?

ADAGE's only long-term commitment is to hire 24 permanent employees in the Plant. All the other jobs alluded to are unclear or already part of our economy (little or no net gain in Mason County). Local loggers are working today to dispose of Mason County logging residue, and they'll keep doing that whether or not ADAGE is built. Forest jobs outside Mason County will go to workers there.

There is no guarantee that "new jobs" will not be more than offset by "old jobs" lost at local businesses that trade in brush, mushrooms, shellfish, tourism and other industries adversely impacted by unintended consequences of building the incinerator.



ADAGE will adversely impact property values in Mason County and require costly upgrades to water, sewer and roads, but offers few if any tangible benefits to the residents of Mason County.

www.incineratorfreemasoncounty.org

Keeping Our Communities Safe and Liveable.