#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24, 2025



The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a coalition of over twenty-five leading environmental groups who lobby in Olympia on a regular basis and organize around a set of priority bills each legislative session. We established four to be our highest priorities for the 2025 Legislative Session, as listed <u>here</u>. As in the past, we will be sending you this weekly "Hot List" to assist you in your efforts to promote this common agenda.

Please feel free to contact Clifford Traisman (Washington Conservation Action, previously known as Washington Environmental Council & Washington Conservation Voters) at <u>clifford@ctassociates.org</u> if you have any questions regarding our positions on any bills affecting the environment, not just those found on the Hot List each week. The Hot List can also be found <u>here</u>.

# **Senate Committee Action**



Senate Committee on Ways & Means: Public Hearing, Monday, 2/24. Executive Session Thursday, 2/27

#### SB 5033: Concerning biosolids.

- Establishes a monitoring program for PFAS (i.e., the forever chemicals) in biosolids from wastewater treatment facilities.
- Biosolids are spread in forests and on farms and this bill helps understand the potential concentrations of these bioaccumulating toxic chemicals.



Senate Committee on

Ways & Means: Public

Hearing, Monday, 2/24.

**Executive Session** 

Thursday, 2/27

# SB 5284: The Recycling Reform Act: Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes

- One of the 2025 top 4 environmental priorities.
- Modernizes Washington's recycling system, making recycling accessible for all.
- Reduces excess packaging (including plastic), increases recycling, refill and reuse, creates a uniform recycling list, and reduces costs for local governments and residents across the state.



Senate Committee on Ways & Means: Public Hearing, Monday, 2/24 SB 5359: Accelerating the development of clean energy and transmission.

- Requires the Department of Commerce to support project siting, planning, and local government coordination
- Provides technical assistance for integrating clean energy into local land-use planning, ensuring a faster, more efficient transition to renewable energy

#### SSB 5450: Increasing transparency regarding sewage-containing spills



Senate Committee on Ways & Means: Public Hearing, Wednesday, 2/26

- <u>One of the 4 environmental priorities for 2025.</u>
- Dozens of sewage spills occur every year and few are widely reported to the general public.
- It's time that Washington joins South Carolina and Massachusetts and ensures that the public has access to timely information on sewage spills across the state



SB 5466: Improving reliability and capacity of the electric transmission system in Washington state.

- Senate Committee on Ways & Means: Public Hearing, Monday, 2/24
- Improves Washington's electric grid by establishing the Washington Electric Transmission Office and adopting various policy improvements that coordinate upgrades, expand capacity, and support clean energy integration.



Senate Committee on

Ways & Means: Public

Hearing, Tuesday, 2/25. Executive Session Thursday, 2/27

## SB 5491: Establishing a prescribed fire claims fund pilot program.

- Encourages more prescribed fire by certified burn managers and cultural fire practitioners, which can improve forest health and protect communities from catastrophic wildfires.
- Part of the environmental community's Partnership Agenda for 2025.



#### SB 5703: Concerning fair treatment of municipal solid waste systems.

- This bill would exempt Spokane's Waste to Energy Facility from the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Cap and Invest program.
- The Spokane incinerator is the last incinerator on the west coast and exempting it under any state laws will only serve to extend its life and expose the public to more dangerous pollution.

Senate Committee on Ways & Means: Public Hearing, Wednesday,

2/26

### about the coalition

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a network of over twenty-five leading environmental groups in Washington state that influence policy at the state level. For over a decade, the Coalition has selected joint priority issues to work on during legislative session to help focus environmental community resources and best achieve our shared goals.

