

**Enrolled**  
**Senate Bill 334**

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CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to renewable natural gas; and prescribing an effective date.

Whereas renewable natural gas is a processed gas derived from biogas that is generated from organic waste or other organic materials; and

Whereas renewable natural gas is generated from sources throughout the State of Oregon, including dairies, wastewater treatment plants and landfills; and

Whereas use of renewable natural gas benefits air quality by resulting in reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas renewable natural gas has a low carbon intensity as compared to petroleum-based fuels; and

Whereas the development of renewable natural gas has been supported by the federal government and the State of Oregon for use in the transportation sector as a means to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels; and

Whereas development of renewable natural gas provides benefits to producers, including municipalities, agriculture and commercial entities; and

Whereas renewable natural gas can be used in vehicles; and

Whereas increasing this state's air quality will result in public health benefits; and

Whereas the Legislative Assembly will provide leadership and guidance for business, industry and local governments by facilitating the development and conveyance of renewable natural gas in Oregon; now, therefore,

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

(a) **"Biogas" means gas that is generated from organic waste or other organic materials through anaerobic digestion, gasification, pyrolysis or other technology that converts organic waste to gas.**

(b) **"Renewable natural gas" is biogas that has been processed to be interchangeable with conventional natural gas for the purpose of meeting pipeline quality standards or transportation fuel grade requirements.**

(2) **The State Department of Energy shall develop, maintain and periodically update an inventory of biogas and renewable natural gas resources available to this state. The inventory must include, but need not be limited to:**

(a) **A list of the potential biogas and renewable natural gas sources in this state and the estimated potential production quantities available at each source;**

(b) An estimate of the energy content of listed potential biogas and renewable natural gas sources;

(c) An estimate of the range of technologies available to this state for renewable natural gas production by conversion technologies such as anaerobic digestion and thermal gasification; and

(d) A list of the existing biogas production sites in this state that includes:

(A) The location of each site; and

(B) An assessment of the supply-chain infrastructure associated with the site.

(3) The department shall utilize the inventory required by this section, and any other relevant information as considered necessary by the department, to develop and periodically revise an estimate of:

(a) The potential quantity of renewable natural gas that could be produced in this state and delivered for use:

(A) As a transportation fuel in the form of compressed natural gas or liquefied natural gas; and

(B) By residential, commercial and industrial consumers of natural gas;

(b) The potential for the use of renewable natural gas in this state to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

(c) The potential for renewable natural gas in this state to improve air quality; and

(d) The technical, market, policy and regulatory barriers to developing and utilizing renewable natural gas in this state.

(4) The department shall appoint an advisory committee to assist in developing, maintaining and periodically updating the inventory required by this section. The committee must include but not be limited to persons familiar with the renewable natural gas industry. The committee shall make recommendations to the department:

(a) Regarding the identification and removal of barriers to producing and utilizing biogas and renewable natural gas in this state as a means toward providing the greatest feasible reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and improvements in air quality;

(b) On establishing policies to promote renewable natural gas; and

(c) On any other matters related to this section, as requested by the department.

**SECTION 2.** The State Department of Energy shall, no later than September 15, 2018, develop the initial inventory required by section 1 of this 2017 Act and submit a report on the initial inventory to the appropriate interim committees of the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided by ORS 192.245.

**SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this 2017 Act is repealed on December 31, 2018.

**SECTION 4.** This 2017 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2017 regular session of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

**Passed by Senate March 22, 2017**

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Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

**Passed by House June 1, 2017**

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

**Received by Governor:**

.....M,....., 2017

**Approved:**

.....M,....., 2017

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Kate Brown, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M,....., 2017

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Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State