

## Julie Gilbertson

The City of Vancouver contracts with a private collector to offer curbside battery pickup as part of resident's garbage and recycling service cost. As this cost is embedded in the cost of service it is difficult to uncouple the cost of this add-on service currently offered to our community. In consideration of the rulemaking process, I encourage Ecology and the PRO to allow local control and flexibility for preserving existing local curbside battery collection services, if desired by the local government, and to provide funding to support or subsidize collection service. If new rules require program modifications, supplemental funding should be provided to help communities comply with standards without additional financial burden, funded by the EPR/PRO. Thank you.