

# Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of SSB 5703

SSB 5703, Concerning fair treatment of municipal solid waste systems  
(2025 Legislative Session)

Evidence indicates that SSB 5703 may result in Spokane's Waste to Energy Facility (WTEF) assessing emission control technologies, including carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) capture and storage technologies, and the City of Spokane assessing financing for emission control technologies, allowances, and offset credits. It is unclear how provisions may impact WTEF's ability to meet the Climate Commitment Act's (CCA) Cap-and-Invest Program requirements or WTEF's ability to continue operations.

## BILL INFORMATION

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**Sponsors:** Senate Ways & Means Committee (originally sponsored by Senators Holy, Riccelli, Short, Christian, Fortunato, Lovelett, and Nobles)

### Summary of Bill:

- Delays the date, from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2036, that a waste to energy (WTE) facility is a covered entity under the Washington State Climate Commitment Act's (CCA) ([Chapter 70A.65 RCW](#)) Cap-and-Invest Program if: 1) the facility reported emissions under [RCW 70A.15.2200](#) or provided emissions data required by this chapter; and 2) the facility's emissions equal or exceed 25,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2e</sub>).
- Exempts emissions from a WTE facility until January 1, 2036.

## HEALTH IMPACT REVIEW

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### Summary of Findings:

This Health Impact Review found the following evidence for SSB 5703:

- **Informed assumption** that delaying the date, from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2036, that a WTE facility is a covered entity under the CCA's Cap-and-Invest Program and exempting emissions from a WTE facility until January 1, 2036, may result in WTEF assessing emission control technologies, including CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage technologies. This assumption is based on current projects related to WTEF and information from key informants.
- **Informed assumption** that delaying the date, from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2036, that a WTE facility is a covered entity under the CCA's Cap-and-Invest Program and exempting emissions from a WTE facility until January 1, 2036, may result in the City of Spokane assessing financing for emission control technologies, allowances, and offset credits. This assumption is based on information from key informants.
- **Unclear evidence** how WTEF assessing emission control technologies, including CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage technologies, may impact WTEF's ability to meet the CCA's Cap-and-Invest Program requirements.

### For more information:

Phone: (360) 628-6823

Email: [hir@sboh.wa.gov](mailto:hir@sboh.wa.gov)

Website: <https://sboh.wa.gov/health-impact-reviews>

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- **Unclear evidence** how the City of Spokane assessing financing for emission control technologies, allowances, and offset credits may impact WTEF's ability to meet the CCA's Cap-and-Invest Program requirements.
- **Unclear evidence** how delaying the date, from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2036, that a WTE facility is a covered entity under the CCA's Cap-and-Invest Program and exempting emissions from a WTE facility until January 1, 2036, may impact WTEF's ability to continue operations.

**Additional Considerations** includes discussion of alternative municipal solid waste (MSW) management options for the City of Spokane and Spokane County.

### FULL REVIEW

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For review methods, logic model, strength-of-evidence analyses, and citations of empirical evidence refer to the full Health Impact Review at

<https://sboh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2025-03/HIR-2025-06-SSB5703.pdf>

**For more information:**

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