

BENEFITS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Using a community with a population of 60,000 as an example, the benefits of generating energy from 60,000 tons of household trash and 35,000 tons of commercial debris would be transformative. Among other things, a waste-to-energy plant at this scale would:

- Power more than 8,000 homes with renewable electricity.
- Provide electricity through safer, more reliable, cheaper, distributed generation.
- Fuel local school buses, government, and public safety vehicles.
- Displace more than 100,000 tons of fossil fuels annually.
- Eliminate more than 100,000 tons of greenhouse gases annually.
- Conserve landfill space.
- Reduce the carbon footprint of the community by at least 10%.
- Increase the recycling rate of the community by 35 to 90%.
- Strongly complement a Zero Waste Policy.
- Generate up to 125 temporary jobs during the 18 to 24 month construction period.
- Provide 15 to 25 permanent green collar jobs with salaries ranging from \$30,000 to \$80,000.
- Introduce a \$50 million investment into the local economy and about \$2 million annually thereafter through the purchase of local goods and services.
- Reduce health risks 100-fold.
- Reduce emissions of hazardous particulates by up to 900 times.
- Be budget neutral, no cost to taxpayers.