

From: [Michelle Snowball](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Electric Waste Recycling Senate Bill 61
Date: Wednesday, April 02, 2025 3:22:43 PM

Mr Chair and Members of the Committee;

My name is Michelle Snowball, I'm from Native Village of Saint Michael, Alaska and I'm representing Native Village of Saint Michael EPA/IGAP Recycling program. I support/oppose SB61 Bill. EPA program has been working with Native Village of Saint Michael for 20+ years and working to improve awareness and increase the amount of recyclables that can be backhauled to be recycled. Our Good Earth! By helping Alaska deal with hazardous materials and protect the health of the people, the animals and the land. The earth is our mother, whatever befalls on the earth befalls the sons of earth. If men spit upon the ground, they spit upon themselves. This we know, all things are connected like blood which unites one family. All things are connected. Man did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself. Contaminate your bed, and you will one night suffocate in your own waste, Chief Seattle Duemish Tribe 1854. Exposure to humans and animals happens by 1. Breathing it. 2. Touching it. 3. Eating it. 4. Absorbing it. Exposure pathways from the dumpsite. Most of the contaminated paths will be at our dumpsite. Leachate always forms, smoke always forms if it was burned, wastes are always present on the ground, there are some vapors, but contaminates or pathogen may not go through this path, for example, styrene from styrofoam is not released by stepping on the waste, and it is not released as a vapor. It is only released when styrofoam is burned. The fate of the contaminate means how it ends up when it is released. There is a lot of chemistry involved, but at the basic level, it is whether it goes to air, water, ground and in what form.

Backhaul is being provided to improve the health and protect our land. Life is supported by the quality of our relationship with the earth. In order to have a good earth, good life, we must have a good earth and need to work together to achieve this goal.

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Michelle Snowball
EPA/IGAP Coordinator
Native Village of St. Michael
P.O. Box 59050
St. Michael, AK 99659