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# Company Stopped From Accepting Abortion Waste

PORTLAND, Ore. April 24, 2014 (AP)

By STEVEN DUBOIS Associated Press

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County commissioners gave final approval Thursday to an order to stop an incinerator in Oregon from receiving medical waste until procedures are in place to ensure no fetal tissue is burned to generate power.

While taking the action, Marion County commissioners Sam Brentano and Janet Carlson said they were horrified to learn that the Marion County Resource Recovery Facility in rural Brooks might be burning medical waste that includes fetal tissue to generate electricity. Both strongly oppose abortions.

"We're going to get the bottom of it," Carlson said. "I want to know who knew, when they knew, how long they had known this was going on."

Brentano, however, noted that the county ordinance that sets the parameters for what can be accepted at the waste-to-energy plant allows for all human tissue.

"No rule or law has been broken, but there's an ethical standard that's been broken," he said.

The decision came about a month after reporters in the United Kingdom discovered that health authorities there used fetal remains to generate power at medical facilities. The Department of Health quickly banned the practice.

The Oregon facility is a partnership between the county and Covanta, a New Jersey-based firm that operates energy-from-waste power generation plants. The Marion County plant processes 550 tons of municipal solid waste a day, with only a small portion coming from medical sources. It sells the power to Portland General Electric.

Jill Stueck, a Covanta spokeswoman, said the company is cooperating with the suspension, and it does not seek out the waste that mortified commissioners.






"No one is saying bring us fetal tissue," Stueck said.

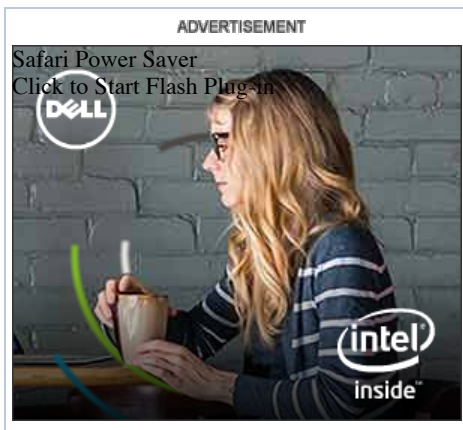
Some of the fetal material came from the Canadian province of British Columbia, where regional health authorities have a contract with waste management firm Stericycle and send biomedical waste, such as fetal tissue, cancerous tissue and amputated limbs to the Oregon facility, said Kristy Anderson, a spokeswoman with the British Columbia Health Ministry.

Stericycle, based in Lake Forest, Ill., has been criticized by anti-abortion groups for years because it disposes of aborted fetuses collected from family planning clinics. Company officials did not return phone calls seeking comment.



Jeff Bickford, environmental services division manager in Marion County, said the facility there has been taking material from British Columbia for five to seven years. He said clinical waste providers such as Stericycle bring in medical waste ranging from syringes and body parts to

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laboratory cultures and bodily fluids after hospitals and clinics place it into red bags and sealed containers.

"You've got biological agent and infectious diseases in there, so they're never opened once they're sealed," Bickford said.

Brentano said the county plans to rewrite its ordinance to spell out that no tissue from fetuses can enter the incinerator, and the providers will have to develop a workable system.

He stressed that other medical waste would be accepted.

"So if someone loses an arm, loses a finger?" Carlson asked at the meeting.

"That should go in and be burned," Brentano replied. "As gross as that is."

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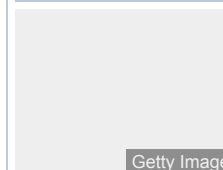


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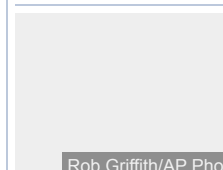
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**warren** · a day ago  
Could you have come up with a more inflammatory headline?  
13 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**TyroneJ** → warren · a day ago  
Notice there's no proof that fetal tissue of any kind has gone into this facility. This article just says "may".  
4 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Da Cruzian** → warren · a day ago  
A new staff member from CNN made it.  
2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**jvradar** → warren · 21 hours ago  
Oh, sure, lets just minimize this with a sweet headline and sweep it under the carpet so no one has to wrestle with their conscience.  
1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

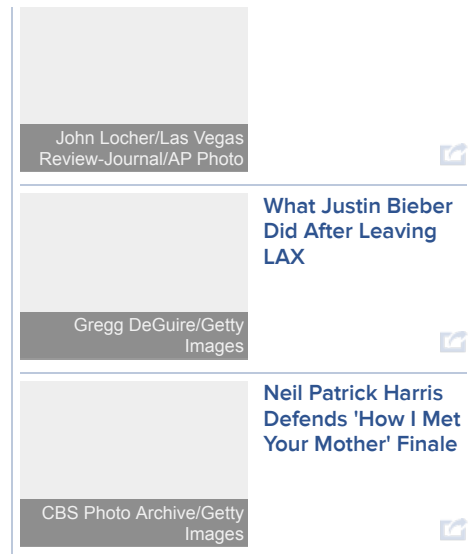
**URQ196** → warren · 15 hours ago  
More hits = more money warren.  
^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Poopier** → warren · a day ago  
I would have gone with incendiary.  
^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Fuzzy Tweener** · a day ago  
What else can be done with it?. You either get buried or cremated when you die, so it's basically the same thing.  
10 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**annabel** · a day ago  
I can't believe you don't see the problem with it. Sometimes I want to cry for how callous and uncaring we've become.  
  
Being buried or cremated involves a process and a ceremony and celebration of one's life. Incinerating the remains of potential human beings to heat homes just further reiterates how little those potential lives meant.  
17 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

**Paralegal** → annabel · a day ago  
@Annabel, while I understand your emotion since I agree that society has become callous and uncaring, this story is just not completely accurate. This plant is more than likely disposing of several types of waste, including medical waste, but to say that it is using human waste as a way to produce energy is unfounded. Human waste contains too much water and not enough oil, carbon, to burn efficiently for generating power. More than likely, this waste is burned with other products like paper and is being done as a disposal service only. What many people fail to recognize is that not all human waste comes from abortions. People lose limbs, organs, skin, etc...so for the avoidance of doubt, this power plant is doing a service to the community to rid it of a product that poses greater danger being disposed improperly. It is unfortunate that abortion is a problem in this country, but this story is not completely factual and is misleading the public.  
7 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



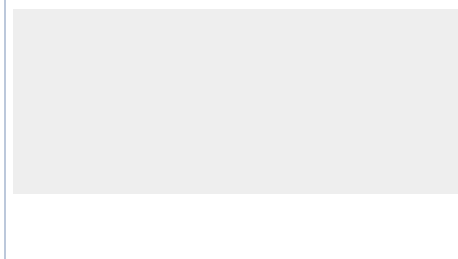
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**Hope23** → annabel · a day ago

Exactly... people wonder why there is so much hate, anger and ugliness but have no problem with powering a building with human remains. No dignity, no compassion....just waste.

6 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Poopier** → Hope23 · a day ago

I wouldn't mind being burned for fuel after I die. Ashes to ashes...

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Geeky Grandma** → Poopier · 13 hours ago

Well, you could specify that in your Will. You are living now, and you have a choice. The aborted ones, however, have no such choices. This is awful.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**URQ196** → Hope23 · 15 hours ago

yes you are.... just waste

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Hans Thorsen** → annabel · a day ago

Agreed. Our worth as human beings is tied not only to how we treat and honor the living, but to how we treat and honor the dead, or human remains of any kind. I once worked with an archaeologist. When we would dig up ancient human remains, we paused and remembered the lives that those remains pointed to. We envisioned people, who lived, suffered, laughed, built, had kids, and died. Human bones are more than bones, and a fetus is more than "waste". I say this by the way, as one who is for abortion if it saves the life of a mother. Ironic that some of the people who have no problem with burning human fetuses to generate electricity to power their wide screen TV's and toothbrushes would probably cry foul if they found out that their deceased pets were used in the same manner.

5 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**B-K KnightRider** → Hans Thorsen · a day ago

"...and a fetus is more than "waste"." - - - No, it isn't. NOTHING, including a fetus, has any inherent or innate value. The only meaning or value anything has is what people choose to give it. So far all you have is a lame appeal to emotion fallacy.

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Fred\_the\_Dog** → annabel · a day ago

I plan to donate anything that will help another person (fingers crossed I don't die of cancer because then I can't donate organs) and then donate the rest of my body somewhere.

Giving one's body to be burned for heating homes is actually not a bad idea if it's actually helpful; it's probably less undignified than allowing medical students to cut you up after you die. Or it could even be done in addition to that.

Seriously, I'll be done with my body when I'm dead. Why should I care what happens to it? The only thing I DO NOT WANT is to be put on display in a funeral home. I went to my first open casket at age 4 (and went to many after that as my parents' families were extensive) and to this day I think that is barbaric.

4 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›





**Maggiesweets** → Fred\_the\_Dog · a day ago

Our family agrees with your Fred\_the\_Dog...we are all donors and, after death, our bodies are being picked up by OHSU for medical students use and then either can be returned to the family for "burial or cremation" or OHSU will cremate the remains and dispose at sea. I think the headline is pretty inflammatory and forcing people to think about things they ordinarily don' consider.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**B-K KnightRider** → annabel · a day ago

And what if the SOURCE paid respects BEFORE shipping? Would that make a difference? What happens TO the tissue makes ZERO difference to or for the tissue. Burning the tissue eliminates any possibility of future contamination to actual living people so burning the tissue removes a potential harm to future actual people, it does not waste space/land (another minor benefit), and it might actually produce a positive benefit of marginally more energy. So far all you have is a lame appeal to emotion fallacy.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**L Cotnam** → annabel · a day ago

Makes me want to cry at how ridiculously emotional some people get over dead tissues. It's dead, in fact, it was never technically living. All the problems in the world and this is what people decide to focus on? Big surprise the world is going to hell in a handbasket.

Make this kind of stink over something that actually is alive, breathing and needs help. It might even help someone. Crying over this certainly won't.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Jana** · a day ago

I don't see a problem with it except if it could somehow spread pathogens...

7 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**B-K KnightRider** → Jana · a day ago

Burning the tissue actually eliminates the possibility of spreading pathogens and forever removes a possible source of contamination from any pathogens that might be present at any time.

7 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Hans Thorsen** → Jana · a day ago

Many women who lose babies before they are born - including pro-abortion women - grieve, as do fathers. Not all think as you do.

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Buffalo Bob** → Hans Thorsen · a day ago

hmmmm I guess we should ban all cremations in this country.

This is all hype..... No adverse affect to anyone except the fact that this news should not have been news !

There is a saying..... "That is too much news" when telling a story that could describe something that would affect someones thoughts.

Please try to do something for the millions of children living in poverty in this world.

6 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Debra** → Hans Thorsen · a day ago



**Debra** → Hans Thorsen · a day ago

The issue is not that the bodies are burned, but that they are tossed out with the garbage and treated as such.

I was about to send an e-mail to a Catholic Church in the area to see if they could organize volunteers to sift through the medical waste in search of small bodies (or body parts). They may not be able to prevent them from being cremated, but could make sure they were treated with dignity first. They could give each one they found a name, a prayer, perhaps last rights if appropriate.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share >



**B-K KnightRider** → Hans Thorsen · a day ago

Okay, they grieve. So what? Looks like the foundation for a lame appeal to emotion fallacy.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share >



**Fred\_the\_Dog** → Hans Thorsen · a day ago

It's just a form of cremation when you come down to it. I think women who have miscarried or aborted have the option to keep the remains and have a funeral if they wish. At least that was the case for my friend who had to have an abortion after her child died at 6 months in utero.

^ | v · Reply · Share >



**xtch3** → Fred\_the\_Dog · a day ago

An abortion is the termination of an existing pregnancy. If the baby has died, no pregnancy exists. Therefore if the child had already died, it isn't an abortion. It's simply a matter of making sure all the parts of the disintegrating fetus have been removed from the mother's body. Any remaining bits and pieces can decompose and poison the mother.

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share >



**Poopier** → Jana · a day ago

Like fireproof ones?

^ | v · Reply · Share >



**ZucchiniBlossom** · a day ago

What imbeciles. Who cares? Dead bodies get too much attention as it is.

4 ^ | v · Reply · Share >



**BRPhillyUSMC** · a day ago

An absolute disgrace

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share >



**B-K KnightRider** → BRPhillyUSMC · a day ago

WHY? ? ?

^ | v · Reply · Share >



**mary wagner** · a day ago

So its ok to kill an unborn baby and throw it in the trash but not ok to turn it into energy?!

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share >



**B-K KnightRider** → mary wagner · a day ago

Not okay. Acceptable? Tolerable? Yes. But "ok"? Not necessarily. Regardless of how immoral that may or may not be it is much worse to turn pregnant girls and women into the functional equivalent of baby making slaves minus the

ownership paperwork.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Oh no!** · a day ago

If you have the courage to take the right pill you'll see how dark and evil this is...

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**B-K KnightRider** → Oh no! · a day ago

Oh please. No harm no evil - it is that simple. Burning the tissue for ANY reason makes ZERO difference to or for the tissue. Burning the tissue makes ZERO difference to anyone or anything; except to the living who choose emotional reactions instead of rational thinking. Ultimately, it is necessary to dispose of the tissue in some way. EXACTLY how does the disposal method make a difference to you or impact you in any way other than how you choose to react? So far all you have is a lame appeal to emotion fallacy.

5 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Oh no!** → B-K KnightRider · a day ago

No worries, mate. For those who can see, the mission is to save the world. For those unable/unwilling to see, you will be left alone with wishes of love and peace. However, for those of you who want to see...let us show you how deep the rabbit hole goes...

2 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**B-K KnightRider** → Oh no! · a day ago

?? ? Got a rational argument somewhere?

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**xTessel** → B-K KnightRider · a day ago

No way, man. This waste tissue should just be thrown in a garbage heap to create pools of rot that our children will have to dig through to find old cell phones to recycle for money.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**limapie** · a day ago

I read many of the comments here and they all did not mention the fact that this is an international matter. The 'waste' is coming from Canada. In Canada, even the Catholics are all in bed with the abortion industry...they have to be and now it has become second nature to them all. Abortion is simply another medical treatment, supported in full by the national health policy and all residents. All Canadian taxpayers pay for abortion in open fashion. Canadians all know that they are funding abortion and do not object, while in this country, our new health policies are sneaking around the bush and snow jobbing taxpayers into believing that they still can be free of contributing to abortion. The Canadian view of abortion is definitely not the same as the majority view in this country.

For the commission to take offense at the import is tantamount to a slap in the face to all of Canada. Canada will probably return the cut in begrudging fashion by telling the USA that the whole country is a fat lie...(which it is). They would say, "Why are you all up in arms about this, like your country doesn't support abortion to the hilt? The USA deducts from people's health insurance premiums for many more abortions than Canada ever had and also, deducts without the citizens even knowing about it! Your country isn't so 'holy' and 'honorable'! Look at yourselves! What, pray tell, do YOU do with the 'waste'?"


1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Sean** · a day ago


Now no one can say they were wasted lives. They kept people warm

 Now no one can say they were wasted lives. They kept people warm.  
1 ^ | v · Reply · Share >


 **Avatar** · a day ago  
They also use fetal tissue in some Swiss skin creams for wrinkles, I think those should not be allowed in the USA.  
1 ^ | v · Reply · Share >


 **Fred\_the\_Dog** · a day ago  
Hey, I'd be OK with powering homes after I'm gone. It's better than my alternative plan, which was the Body Farm.  
1 ^ | v · Reply · Share >


 **Christine Vanoff** → Fred\_the\_Dog · a day ago  
...or Soylent Green.  
^ | v · Reply · Share >


 **Poopier** → Christine Vanoff · a day ago  
It's Peeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee-Pllllllllllllllllllllllle!  
^ | v · Reply · Share >


 **CyndielnMich** · a day ago  
Isn't this how Soilent Green got its start? Its not news that medical waste is incinerated. What makes this article news is that the medical waste is now being defined, detailed for the world to see. The headline used is for sensationalism only and isn't truly descriptive of the story.  
1 ^ | v · Reply · Share >

 **B-K KnightRider** → CyndielnMich · a day ago  
NOPE, not even close, at least not for the movie which could be different from the original story it was loosely based upon. You need to watch the movie again and pay closer attention.  
2 ^ | v · Reply · Share >

 **Paralegal** · a day ago  
This story is ridiculous. And, obviously the reporters have done little research on BTU's. They may be incinerating human "waste" as a disposal service, but it would have to be mixed with other waste such as paper products due to the inefficiency of burning human tissue alone. Human waste contains too much water and not enough carbon making it an unreliable source of BTU's and would greatly decrease the efficiency of the plant to generate the power needed. Tire derived fuel and other BTU fuels, which contains mostly oil, is a better source of energy since it burns hotter, increasing the intensity of the flame so to speak.  
1 ^ | v · Reply · Share >

 **URQ196** · 15 hours ago  
so either Marion County commissioners Sam Brentano and Janet Carlson were not doing their jobs or they got caught. this is non news, cremation is cremation, burning non viable tissue is hardly news, I do not want to hear from the anti abortion flatlanders, these were not live people, they were DOA body parts.  
^ | v · Reply · Share >

 **L Cotnam** · a day ago  
This is just beyond absurd. It's WASTE, who cares what it came from?  
^ | v · Reply · Share >

 **Bee Sap** · a day ago  
Feel kind of weird knowing I was watching the Blazer's last night while the little



... electrons that make life so wonderful were coming from burning medical waste (I'm not sure there's a big difference in my mind between fetal tissue and amputated limbs...).

OK, I'm over it.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

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