The facts about renewable natural gas for the City of Vancouver

At FortisBC, we’re always looking for ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and we’re proud to be the first utility in North America to create a renewable natural gas program for our customers.

How is renewable natural gas made?
Bacteria break down organic waste from landfills and agricultural waste to create biogas. We work with suppliers to capture and upgrade it to carbon neutral renewable natural gas (RNG).

If renewable natural gas is the only natural gas allowed in Vancouver, where will it come from?
Today, we have about 108,000 customers in the City of Vancouver who use conventional natural gas. If the City of Vancouver’s Renewable City Strategy requires all of those customers to switch to renewable natural gas, we would need to produce about 26 million GJ of renewable natural gas.

FortisBC currently works with two landfills and two agricultural facilities to produce about 300,000 Gigajoules (GJ)/year of RNG for 7,000 customers.

Vancouver alone would need 26,000,000 GJ/year of RNG.

A need for 104 more large landfill facilities to produce RNG.

Today the Delta landfill has the capacity to produce about 250,000 GJ/year of biogas. That would provide enough renewable natural gas for just less than one per cent of the City of Vancouver.

While renewable natural gas is part of the solution, FortisBC is also focused on new energy technology, conservation programs and working with industry partners to create more energy-efficient appliances.

For more info or to ask us a question, visit talkingenergy.ca.