

Smith Holly

From: wen hoff <wendyhoffman21@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 10:25 PM
To: HEE Exhibits
Subject: Testimony in Support of House Bills 2705, 2706, and 2707

Hi,

I am a very beginning farmer and feel as though there will be no resources left for the coming decades. Many people within the state that I see and talk to are well aware that Oregon has major water issues to deal with.

I support HB 2705 because measurement of water use has been identified as a need across the state for decades, but little progress has been made despite continued calls for smarter water management.

I support HB 2707, but I think there should be more adjustable fees based off income and if the water right holder is a corporation or not. I do not want any water bottling companies coming to this state and those that are here I want to leave because they are depleting the water table at a higher rate than a small scale farmer. I also think that large scale farmers should be forced to pay more, because of all the other negative side effects that farming on a large scale can do. An example of a large scale farmer would be 3 Mile Canyon farm. This out of state farm is causing an array of environmental problems (acid rain when emission combined with PGE emissions). This is just one example of large water users. These large scale farmers should have a similar hit to their wallet that a small farmer who is scratching out an existence has to experience. It isn't fair that our economy is so slated against small farmers and large farmers barely experience any financial loss. I do not think that even the maximum fee is high enough for the large companies that steal so much from our state (clean air, clean water, and acreage).

I support HB 2706 because a December 2016 audit of the Oregon Water Resources Department found that the agency is chronically underfunded and lacks the resources to adequately manage our state's surface and groundwaters. Without a stable funding source, the Department can't fulfill its responsibilities to ensure the long-term sustainability of Oregon's rivers and water supplies, economy, and quality of life.

Regards,

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