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Before the Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Testimony of the Oregon Conservancy Foundation In Support of SB 1007 and HB 3343

Lloyd K. Marbet and Cathryn Chudy
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Mr. Chairperson, and members of the Committee, my name is Lloyd Marbet and I am the Executive Director of the Oregon Conservancy Foundation (OCF). Testifying with me by email is Cathryn Chudy, a member of OCF's board of directors. We strongly support SB 1007 and HB 3343, but oppose some of the proposed amendments to HB 3343 which we expect will also be proposed for SB 1007.

In preparation of our testimony we have reviewed both bills, the proposed amendments to HB 3343, and the public testimony provided to the House Committee On Energy and Environment on 4/10/17. (<https://apps.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Measures/Exhibits/HB3343>)

The public testimony was overwhelmingly in support of this legislation and offered well reasoned justification for performing a climate test on fossil fuel infrastructure projects in Oregon. We especially note the testimony of the Friends of the Columbia Gorge on the impacts of transporting fossil fuels, the testimony and attached documents of Patricia Weber, and the analysis of the NW Climate Methane Task Force which challenges the effectiveness of reduction goals under the current reality of greenhouse gas emissions. We also agree with the conclusion offered in the testimony of the Oregon Progressive Party:

If anything, the requirements of the bill are too narrow. A climate test should be required for all public projects in the same manner as an environmental impact report. It should not be limited to reviews for approval of proposed fossil fuel infrastructure projects.

Thus we do not agree with the following proposed amendment to narrow the definition of what constitutes a "Fossil fuel infrastructure project:"

(4)(a) 'Fossil fuel infrastructure project' means a project for new or expanded large-scale infrastructure used to produce, transport, store, combust or refine

carbon-based fuels that is projected to contribute annually to the atmosphere a minimum of 500,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent of life cycle greenhouse gas emissions.

(b) 'Fossil fuel infrastructure project' does not mean a large-scale publicly funded transportation project in which fossil fuels may be transported but the transfer of fossil fuels is not the primary function of the project.

The goal of the Oregon Conservancy Foundation is to avert catastrophic climate change:



Let Oregon lead the way in reducing greenhouse gas emissions!

We appreciate this opportunity to testify.