

May 15, 2017



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**Oregon Progressive Party
Position on Bill at 2017
Session of Oregon Legislature:**

SB 1036 A: Oppose

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party opposes this bill, which "Provides that certain activities are not considered surface mining and are exempt from surface mining permit requirements of State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries."

What the bill actually does is eliminate DOGAMI monitoring or regulation of landfills. The overwhelming testimony submitted so far, by experts and laypersons, opposes this bill.

We commend the testimony of Leo Krick of the Yamhill Soil and Conservation District:

In Yamhill County, the proposed legislative change would allow the Riverbend Landfill operation located adjacent to the South Yamhill River and floodplain, to remove fill from any area located within the boundaries of the landfill, without addressing critical issues such as:

- Impacts of removal activities to adjacent wetlands and stream channels
- Impacts to channel stability and potential for channel migration
- Likelihood of channel migration and impact to existing landfill structures
- Impacts to threatened and endangered species protected under federal law
- Soil quality impacts and ability of soils to filter contaminants and protect water quality
- Impacts to adjacent landowners, fish and wildlife, and local water users

The proposed legislation is bad for Oregon and its natural resources. If approved, it would eliminate the process specifically established in law to protect natural resources and to provide assurance that sites have reasonable reclamation plans.

Please reject this bill.

Oregon Progressive Party

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