
From: Margaret Gardner <reed67@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:20 AM
To: SENR Exhibits
Subject: YES on HB4002 & SB1508 NO on SB1541 - respectfully submitting my Senate testimony

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To my esteemed representatives in the Oregon Senate:

I have lived in North Portland near North Lombard and Mississippi Ave for almost 15 years. It takes some effort for my neighbors and me to track the intricacies of government agencies and decisions that affect our quality of life and health. We count on you to consider the day-to-day experiences and well-being of residential communities. Given what's placed in front of you with HB4002, SB1508, and also SB1541, I'm compelled to share my experience and concerns.

Over that last few years, my neighbors and I - some life-long Portland residents and some newer - have been experiencing noxious odors that smell like the petrochemical industry - sulfur/oil/creosote/burning rubber types of smells. The foulness has at times woken me from sleep during open window seasons, at times driven me inside while working on home maintenance projects, and has limited my ability to breath easy at home overall. It has ruined my appetite at times and it has triggered reactive airway reactions on a few occasions.

I contacted DEQ during occurrences as often as I was able to do so. Recently, after hearing little in the way of response, I spoke with a DEQ representative at the DEQ reporting hotline. I found from this individual that data on air quality complaints, the time I take to share with DEQ the air quality issues i'm experiencing, is shared with DEQ permit review staff only if they specifically request it. There are no standardized keywords, categories of concerns, or maps of issue areas. There is no decent system in place for feedback from the communities that DEQ serves.

What I understand from my time working with large organizations is that the effect of budget cuts or lack of funding can have a profound effect on the ability of staff to implement sensible and efficient solutions that ultimately save time and provide greater service results. As someone who lives just a couple miles from industrial operations along the Columbia River in Portland, I want DEQ to be properly funded, and I want initiatives that effectively protect my air quality and consider the short and long-term impact of that air quality.

I need my voice and my neighbors' voices to be heard and considered in sharing our concerns about air quality. I need DEQ to be fully funded and empowered to protect my air quality from current and potential polluters who are more concerned with their economic bottom lines.

As my and my fellow Oregonians' representatives, please take action on our behalf to protect our health and wellness. Vote yes on HB4002 and SB1508, but vote no on SB1541. Hold industry accountable for finding environmentally sound solutions that put people before profits.

I truly hope that you consider my effort to share this testimony in light of so many of my neighbors who did not have the time or means to share their stories, and those who didn't know about today's public hearing or that sharing their testimony was even an option.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Respectfully,
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