

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bailey, Bentz, Boone, Krieger, Thompson, Witt, Cannon, Gilliam
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Liz Puskar, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/29, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: In ORS 469.373, broadens reference to emissions from “carbon dioxide” to include all emissions. In ORS 469.503, changes reference to emissions standards from “carbon dioxide” to “greenhouse gas.” Requires Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) to adopt rules establishing global warming potential of greenhouse gases and to determine greenhouse gas emissions based on carbon dioxide equivalent. Specifies that, unless established otherwise by EFSC rule, global warming potential of methane shall be 23 times that of carbon dioxide, and global warming potential of nitrous oxide shall be 296 times that of carbon dioxide. Defines “greenhouse gas” as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide. Declares emergency; effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Other governments and scientific bodies that have adopted greenhouse gas emissions standards
- Oregon carbon sequestration projects, particularly relating to forestry
- Additional cost of rulemaking process
- Level of success achieved by Climate Trust projects

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: In 1995, the Legislative Assembly established the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Task Force (Senate Bill 951) to review the process of siting energy facilities. The Task Force held 17 public meetings in 1996 and 1997. Based on the Task Force deliberations, the 1997 Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 3283 A, requiring fossil fuel power plants to comply with carbon dioxide emission standards adopted by the Energy Facility Siting Council. House Bill 3538 A would expand this requirement to include other greenhouse gases, including methane and nitrous oxide, by amending ORS. 469.373, which relates to expedited processing of certain natural gas energy facilities, and ORS 469.503, which governs site certificates for fossil-fueled energy facilities.