

## Climate Solutions Supports Senate Bill 242-A Amending Oregon's Emissions Performance Standard

Climate Solutions believes continued investment in coal plants looms as one of the largest challenges in designing the energy mix of the future. We should maximize the opportunity to redirect investment from high-carbon resources toward clean energy, and avoid any further investments that prolong the operating life of coal plants.

SB 242-A modifies our Emissions Performance Standard (EPS), passed in 2009. The EPS establishes the maximum amount of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions that is permitted for electricity generating plants used to serve Oregon customers. It essentially prohibits utilities from making long-term commitments to new coal plants or entering new long-term contracts with existing coal plants.

## Why amend the EPS?

Senate Bill 242-A clarifies how the law should be applied – to any basleoad electric plant located in Oregon and out of state that are used to serve Oregon customers.

The bill provides clarity to utilities as to what resources are permitted to be used going forward by setting the standard at 1,100 lbs of CO2 per MWh, essentially the level of an efficient gas plant. And rather than allowing periodic review of the standard, the Oregon Public Utility Commission will review the standard only upon relevant changes to federal and state law.

The bill also creates an additional exception to the standard, allowing utilities to rely on plants that may be converted from coal to other generating fuels, such as natural gas, without violating the standard.

Please support SB 242-A and support a healthier and cleaner energy future for Oregon.

## ClimateSolutions.org

Seattle 1402 Third Avenue, Ste 1305 Seattle, WA 98101 tel 206.443.9570 fax 206.624.2022 Olympia 219 Legion Way SW, Ste 201 Olympia, WA 98501 tel 360.352.1763 fax 360.943.4977 Portland 610 SW Broadway, Ste 306 Portland, OR 97209 tel 503.332.9893