



COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

729 NE Oregon, Suite 200, Portland, Oregon 97232

Telephone 503 238 0667

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March 18, 2013

RE: Support for Oregon Clean Fuels Program

Dear Esteemed Member of the Oregon Legislature,

On behalf of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC), I would like to share our concerns about the impact of climate change on the tribal fishery and way of life. Climate change threatens tribal First Food resources, including salmon, steelhead, and lamprey. Climate change will bring unwelcome changes to flow in the Columbia River and to tributary stream temperatures. We will also see increased insect outbreaks, wildfires and changing composition of species in forest and upland areas. The expected effects of climate change pose huge challenges to the health of the ecosystems that sustain our way of life. CRITFC is preparing mitigation and adaptation tools for tribes to implement, but we cannot tackle this issue alone. Therefore we support broader state and regional policies and strategies to address climate change, including lifting the sunset on and ensuring a successful Oregon Clean Fuels Program.

The Clean Fuels Program will reduce demand for tar sands petroleum, a fuel that is far more carbon intensive on a lifecycle basis than conventional oil. The Clean Fuels Program will send a strong market message that Oregonians don't want tar sands petroleum in our transportation fuel mix. Under the Program, as oil companies are required to ratchet down the carbon content of the fuel they deliver to Oregon, they will avoid using tar sands oil.

CRITFC supports development of economic opportunities associated with the Clean Fuels Program. By boosting demand for clean fuels that can be produced right here in Oregon, the Program will create new jobs, including rural ones, in a variety of clean fuels industries.

For these reasons, we urge you to lift the 2015 sunset on the Clean Fuels Program, SB. 488, during the 2013 legislative session.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you have any further questions please contact me or Dianne Barton, PhD at 503-238-0667.

Sincerely,

Babbist Paul Lumley
Executive Director