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**Testimony to the House Energy and Environment Committee
on House Bill 4034**

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Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Oregon Environmental Council OEC supports HB 4034 with the -3 amendment. We appreciate this bipartisan effort, spearheaded by Rep. Helm, to evaluate black carbon.

Black carbon contributes to climate change and harmful air quality that can be dangerous for Oregonians, especially children and the elderly, our most vulnerable citizens. Black carbon is primarily sourced from transportation, particularly diesel emissions, but also results from open burning and wild fires.

It is particularly important that the Global Warming Commission assess the contribution that black carbon makes to Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions. Black carbon can reduce snow pack: when particles fall on snow they absorb heat and melt snow and ice. Many glaciers are already in retreat from climate change, and black carbon adds another risk factor. Black carbon resides in the atmosphere for short amounts of time--days to weeks--so actions to reduce black carbon have immediate positive impacts.

We look forward to seeing the recommendations that are developed and encourage a strong stakeholder process that includes advocates for sustainable forest management.