

March 17, 2017

From: Melanie Place  
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To: House Committee on Energy and Environment  
Representative Ken Helm, Chair  
Representatives Mark Johnson and Karin Power, Vice Chairs  
Members of the Committee  
[hee.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:hee.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov)

Re: HB 2669: Community Right to Know/Toxics Reporting

**Clean Corvallis Air strongly supports HB 2669.**

There are many examples of types of soil, water and air contamination that could have been prevented with materials balancing and public access to toxic materials data. If you pass the Community Right to Know bill (HB 2669) to allow Oregon cities to implement their own legislation, you will help prevent future toxic leakages and emissions. The costs of cleanup will be greatly reduced or virtually eliminated.

If Portland had enacted a HB 2669 (with materials balancing) before the art glass making companies had started production, Portland could have avoided serious heavy metal contamination.

If Corvallis also had enacted HB 2669 50 or 60 years ago, the Hollingsworth & Vose glass fiber company would not have to be spending millions of dollars to clean up the waste trichloroethylene regularly dumped by its predecessors into the Corvallis Millrace. The Millrace flows into the Willamette River. Water and soil have been contaminated for many years.

The beauty of HB 2669 is multiple: The thresholds for reporting will eliminate most small facilities. The chemicals to be reported are federally listed. There is almost a seamless process to collect the necessary information to put onto a website. The information is already being collected by Fire Marshals across the state. It is also being collected now by DEQ with its new emissions inventory requests. The "inputs and outputs" or materials balancing section, besides helping the public's right to know, should help businesses save money on raw materials.

The city of Eugene runs its program with one paid staff person and a seven-member appointed board. To save administration costs, adjacent cities and/or counties could collaborate to collect and post the data for public access.

With our increasing population, Oregon needs strong environmental protection now more than ever. Our citizens have a right to know without difficulty what chemicals they are exposed to. Clean Corvallis Air believes HB 2669 will greatly benefit Oregonians.

We welcome the opportunity to provide testimony to your committee.

Co-Chair, Clean Corvallis Air  
Melanie Place