

Smith Holly

From: joho@joehovey.com
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:00 AM
To: HEE Exhibits
Subject: HB 2669 Toxics Reporting & Community Right To Know

Writing this email to express my concerns about the quality of air in the Portland OR area. And the lack of any communications from ODOT or PBOT re: its current status.

I live in the SE section of Portland, on SE 26th Ave near the Union Pacific Rail yards. As a member of the Creston Kenilworth Neighborhood Association, I am currently working with other members on Truck Safety and Air Quality in the neighborhood, especially as it relates to the Union Pacific RR. Currently, there are no official records on how many diesel trucks use SE 26th Ave to access and exit the rail yard. So we are taking it upon ourselves to “count” the trucks at various 15 minute intervals throughout the day. We’ve been doing the count for over 2 months now, and on the average, in any 15 minute time frame, 5-7 trucks are entering or exiting the rail yard. And often times, these trucks idle in the rail yard for long periods of time.

Thus our concern for the amount of diesel fuel toxins that are being released into the air around our neighborhood community. When looking for any studies or research done to determine exactly what is happening to our air - there is virtually no information available from ODOT or PBOT. I did find a study from ODOT from several years back, but the study was conducted around heavy traffic areas on major thoroughfares. There was no information on any studies done in specific communities. But in reading various reports from the EPA, it is known that Multnomah County has a very high concentration of diesel particulate matter concentrates. Much higher than what the EPA considers “normal”.

As a resident of Portland, living in an area that is so near to the Union Pacific RR, I think ODOT and PBOT need to be measuring exactly what is happening with regards to these pollutants and to provide this information freely to the members of the communities. We need to be working together to make the air safer and cleaner. My hope is that this bill will be a step in the right direction.



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