

Smith Holly

From: Sue Van Loon <suevanloon@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 7:58 PM
To: HEE Exhibits
Subject: Testimony in Support of House Bills 2705, 2706, and 2707

Water is a limited, precious resource. We need to know how much we have, how to use it wisely, and all share in the costs of maintaining an equitable supply for the future. I support these bills, and I also think it's time to meter everyone's water, in the city and in the rural areas of Oregon. I think a base price of perhaps \$100 /year should be charged per account for wells as well as for irrigation water. And like city users, those tapping water above a reasonable amount should be expected to pay for it. This money can be used for infrastructure as well as aquifer research. Agriculture uses more than 70% of the state's water, and yet they pay little or nothing for it. Paying for it allows them to be more mindful to treat it respectfully. There are many examples (in Nevada & Australia) of how water equity is being brought into the 21st century. It's time for Oregon to get on line too.

Sincerely,
Sue Van Loon