

**From:** Eastside Portland Air Coalition  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** SB 995: Letter of support  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:46:40 AM

---

Honorable Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee,

Eastside Portland Air Coalition supports SB 995 and hope that you will pass it without hesitation.

Accurate data is the backbone of sound regulatory and public health policy. When we don't have a clear picture of the hazardous chemicals citizens are being exposed to, it is very difficult, if not impossible to make meaningful policies that will result in meaningful protections.

Full materials balancing reports give a comprehensive picture of not only the hazardous material stored on site (as required by federal law) but also of what and how much is captured in the product, what and how much goes into the air via stacks, what and how much travels into the waste water stream, and what and how much is transported off site as hazardous waste.

Stack testing and monitoring are very expensive. And computer modeling is guesswork. SB 995 will give our underfunded DEQ a cost-effective, full materials balancing report from all the industries it regulates, enabling them to identify toxic hot spots and prioritize deployment of limited monitoring and enforcement resources.

This is a matter of accountability and an opportunity for businesses and regulators to get up to speed on industrial processes and hazardous chemicals in the environment. This will allow our public health officials to have a comprehensive picture of the toxic burden their communities are facing and for DEQ to write permits that adequately protect public health and the health of the environment.

The crisis of heavy metals exposure with the art glass facilities revealed how unaware DEQ is of the processes at the facilities it regulates and how unprepared Oregon Health Authority is to deal with an environmental health crisis. Policies and actions based on full materials balancing would establish a strong, realistic foundation for informed and decisive action.

Cleaner Air Oregon is a great, long-overdue start to correcting some of the regulatory imbalances and oversights, but it is very narrow in scope (stationary industrial air toxics only) and doesn't account for the entirety of what people are actually exposed to. The DEQ's recent call for an inventory is a good first step, but is also narrow in scope and incomplete.

Please pass HB 995. Our protective agencies need to have a complete understanding of environmental toxins so they can fulfill their mission of protecting the quality of Oregon's air, water and soil.

Please pass SB 995.

Thank you,  
Katharine Salzmann & Jessica Applegate for  
the 3500+ members of  
Eastside Portland Air Coalition

[Eastside Portland Air Coalition](#)

Twitter: @eastsideportlandair

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/448557395350732/>