



March 27, 2017

Honorable Senator Michael Dembrow, Chair
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 995-Material Balance Report Legislation

Chair Dembrow and members of the Committee:

The City of Eugene supports the concept of statewide material balance reporting advanced within SB 995, with targeted amendments based on our 21-year history of operating our local program. We request provisions in the bill to ensure consistency in data reporting requirements.

SB 995 and the companion bill HB 2669, are loosely modeled after the City of Eugene Toxic Right to Know (TR2K) program and both could modify the reporting structure of the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office Community Right to Know (CR2K) program. In order to minimize reporting duplication for businesses required to report to both the CR2K program and a statewide DEQ program; we request that the bill require the statewide program to utilize a common database approach so that both statewide reporting information and the more detailed community program information can utilize the same statewide database. With a common database approach, data reports can be created to meet the need of both the CR2K program and a locally adopted program.

A community's right to know regarding the hazardous substances that are present within the community is a standard that Eugene has held since our popular vote to establish the TR2K program. And through the 21 year history of managing this program, we have heard first-hand the difficulty which governmental required reporting is for the businesses, organizations, and public agencies within our cities and counties. As part of our request to ensure data reporting consistency between local programs, State Fire Marshal program, and the proposed DEQ program, we encourage efforts by the Legislature to understand the environmental reporting landscape for manufacturing companies across the state and look for pathways to simplify these requirements while also advancing reporting efforts and public access to non-confidential data.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lucy Vinis