

From: **Ken Bailey** <kenba@orchardview.com>
Date: Thu, Feb 2, 2017 at 1:27 PM
Subject: ODA Agriculture Water Quality Program Testimony
To: jwmnr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov
Cc: John Byers <jbyers@oda.state.or.us>

Senator Lew Frederick
Representative Brad Witt
Join Committee on Ways and Means, Natural Resources Subcommittee

Re: ODA Agriculture Water Quality Program

Senator Frederick and Representative Witt,

My name is Ken Bailey and I reside at 3900 Orchard Rd, The Dalles, Oregon. I am a cherry grower and our family farm, Orchard View, operates 2,500 acres of irrigated sweet cherries in the Columbia River Gorge area. The availability of an adequate supply of clean water is essential to modern agriculture.

Protecting water quality through the efforts of the ODA Ag Water Quality Program assures Orchard View and all of Oregon agriculture of being able to provide high quality ag products to Oregon and the world beyond. Agriculture is the second largest economic driver in Oregon and we need clean water to maintain our high production and quality standards.

From 2003 to 2004 I served on the Oregon State Board of Agriculture and at that time I help revive the ODA Ag Water Quality Program's PAC (Policy Advisory Committee) and I continue to serve as Chair of the PAC. In those roles I have found that we have been able to make great strides in improving Oregon's water quality as related to our agricultural lands. The PAC is not only representing the diversity of Oregon agriculture but also includes Oregon environmental groups as well as State and Federal agencies such as DEQ, EPA and USDA to assure the program is addressing everyone's concerns.

There is much more that is needed to be done and we will continue to need the support of the Oregon Legislature to continue to improve Oregon's water quality. I fully support the work the Ag Water Quality Program has accomplished and want to ensure continued 100% program funding.

Thank you for your support,

Ken Bailey

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