

## Wheeler Derrick

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**From:** Paul Lipscomb <judgelipscomb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 20, 2017 11:53 AM  
**To:** Rep Clem; rep.susanmclain@state.or.us; rep.sherriesprenger@state.or.us;  
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rep.caddymckeown@state.or.us; rep.karinpower@state.or.us; Rep Smith D;  
Rep.BradWitt@state.or.us  
**Cc:** Wheeler Derrick  
**Subject:** HB 2106: Hearing before the House Ag and Natural Resources Committee, February 21, 2017

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Dear Chair Clem:

Please include this letter in opposition to HB 2106 in the record of the hearing on HB 2106. I would also appreciate it if a copy could be distributed to the other members of the committee prior to the hearing.

I am opposed to two specific provisions of HB 2106.

I oppose Section 14 which would allow landowners in eastern Oregon counties to bypass local government review when undertaking surface mining activities. Current law allows surface mining activities as a conditional use only. The conditional use procedure allows local government to review mining proposals to ensure compatibility with existing uses and activities on surrounding lands. There is no good reason to by pass local control over surface mining in eastern Oregon which is what this bill provision would do.

Second, I oppose the suction dredge provisions in HB 2106 because they are inadequate to protect our threatened and endangered fish species in Oregon. SB 3 which is currently proceeding through the legislative process does a much more balanced job of establishing an appropriate regulatory framework for suction dredge mining in Oregon.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

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