
From: Sattie Clark <sattie@eleekinc.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:27 PM
To: SENR Exhibits
Subject: YES on HB4002 & SB1508 NO on SB1541

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am the co-owner of a manufacturing business formerly based in Portland, Oregon. Over the 14 years that we were based in Portland, we provided 12-20 living wage jobs with good benefits at any given time. Air pollution drove us to move our family and our business to California in 2014. Let me explain.

In 2009, my son was diagnosed with chronic arsenic exposure. It was at a level that required his pediatrician to alert the Centers for Disease Control and they in turn assigned a doctor to help us figure out where the arsenic was coming from. We eliminated suspect foods, tested our soil and our carpets and our son's school even tested their playground soil. Nothing. Then we found out that Oregon DEQ had an air monitoring site just a few blocks from our home in North Portland. We got access to the historic data and to were shocked to learn that Portland had been a toxic hotspot for many years. Not only were levels of arsenic routinely high but also many other toxics known to cause cancer and other horrible health conditions. We were also able to see the data that was being generated from new tests that were performed every six days at that site. Because our son was getting tested frequently at that time, we were able to see a trend—the levels of inorganic (toxic) arsenic in his body were rising and falling with the levels in the air.

By that point we had been trying to work with health officials at the city, county and state level to help us protect the health of our family and our employees. It quickly became apparent that in Oregon, lobbyists for industrial polluters had been shutting down efforts to regulate air pollution for decades. Toxic industrial air pollution was and still is Oregon's dirty secret. The data was there but no one was acting on it to safeguard the health of Oregonians. We started making our plans to move our family and our business to California, a state that unapologetically prioritizes human health above corporate profits. Yes, the cost of doing business is higher in California but we happily accept that as the very reasonable price we pay to know that the air we are breathing is safe, and that the powers that be care about the health of our communities and our environment. Right now Oregon legislators have the opportunity to make decision that will determine whether Oregon gets serious about its dirty secret and stops kowtowing to dirty industry. It's too late to protect my family and keep our business in Oregon but you can take the historic step now of protecting current residents and future generations. I urge you to vote yes on HB4002 and SB1508, and vote no on SB1541.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Sattie Clark
Co-Owner
Eleek, Inc.
PO Box 838
Redwood Valley CA 95470

ph. 503.232.5526
fx. 503-232-5527

