

Submission for public comments on House Bill 1507.

I am speaking for myself in this e-mail, not any group I am involved with.

Since I have been so outspoken against this bill, I will share what I could support:

A cap and trade bill that would provide benefit regardless of whether or not it reduced greenhouse gases.

It would contain the following components:

1. Be specific enough so that no matter which agency administered it, it would look the same.
2. Would subsidize things that reduce energy consumption rather than focusing on subsidizing companies building industrial renewable energy or paying for things that have no relationship to energy.
3. It would focus on providing benefits to individuals or communities, but not for profit groups with the exception of small businesses, and I am talking businesses with perhaps 10 or fewer employees.
4. It would produce jobs.
5. It would be based upon direct funding as opposed to tax credits.
6. It would not subsidize, nor rely upon large industrial energy developments or transmission lines.

For example: Funding would be directed toward things like subsidizing energy efficient irrigation systems, rooftop solar, heat pumps, insulation, locally produced hydro power or other energy, microgrids, etc.

It would be available to homeowners, renters, non-profits, cities, counties and small businesses only.

It would require that a cost/benefit analysis be included in the application.

It would have the option of providing funding for part or all of the project depending upon the resources available to the owner or developer.

It would require reporting of changes in the use of electricity before and after it was installed.

Decisions regarding what got funded would be made by a committee that included at a minimum representatives from the public, low income individuals, small business, environmental groups, renewable energy, and counties.

In the event that this legislature does not pass this bill, but decide to develop a new approach including components such as those listed above for consideration at the next legislative session, I would be happy to work with you in producing a bill that would benefit the state and the citizens living here.

Irene Gilbert  
2310 Adams Ave.  
LaGrande, Oregon 97850

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