

Senate Environment and Natural Resource Committee
senr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

January 14, 2020

Dear Committee:

My name is William Harvey and I am the Chairman of the Baker County Commission and the owner of a 25,000 sqft office complex and have been a building contractor for over 40 years.

My office complex is rented under contract that I pay for all utilities, including gas heating. These contracts are long term and I do not have escalation clauses for utilities. I will have to pay the increase that this bill will now add at great expense and burden to my family. We also own a home 15-miles outside of Baker City where we work. Due to the distance from town, we must use propane to heat our home. Legislative Concept 19 will add a great financial burden to my family for heating and travel costs.

We are, and have been, owners of a construction company for over 40-years in Baker County. Most of our projects are outside Baker City and this new tax will cost greatly for our business and employees in new and higher fuel taxes. This new tax will add costs to everything we buy or use in our lives. The new taxes are going to negatively affect the economy of Baker County.

There is nothing that this new tax will do to benefit anyone here in Baker County. It will result in lost jobs and greatly increased living costs.

Please join us in voting "no" on this Cap and Trade bill and let us keep our rural way of life.

Sincerely,



William Harvey
Chairman of Baker County Commission
Owner of Bill Harvey Custom Builder and Rock Creek Development