

**From:** [catie faryl](#)  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Comments in support of a strong Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program in Oregon  
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Comments in support of a strong greenhouse gas reduction program in Oregon:

As a rural Oregonian I favor having a strong greenhouse gas emissions reduction program in Oregon. I am a Core Team member of many groups in Southern Oregon working to address the need to limit and sequester greenhouse gases. These are my personal comments on the need to create systems and make decisions and regulations that help communities address climate change and solutions, as well as adopting policies and practices that support social, economic and environmental justice issues, through legislation reduce greenhouse gases.

Having studied and been part of the international Project Drawdown education program to share and implement over 80 solutions to reduce global warming, it has become apparent to me that leadership and regulations are part of a missing infrastructure to implement change. Our grassroots groups struggle for funding to hire younger people and mobilize the programs that could reduce the carbon load. However, many of the most impactful ways to reduce and sequester carbon are bound by traditional practices whose roots are too firmly planted in status quo thinking and governing and in antiquated business practices.

The out of proportion budget for Oregon Department of Transportation (with gas taxes going to roads, instead being re-apportioned to public transportation, high speed rails or passenger trains) needs to be addressed. Car salespeople, lenders and the automotive industry in general need education on alternate fuel vehicles and also need to be asked to incentivize their sales of energy efficient products instead of pushing monster trucks and gas-guzzling cars. Giving the financial data of why buying a hybrid, electric or other alternative vehicle and farm equipment can reduce costs to farmers and other rural folk would be a great strategy. (In many conversations across the political spectrum we ask ourselves "how do we unite people to address the problems?". My analysis is that only two basic strategies will work: 1) an alien invasion or 2) SHOW THEM THE MONEY! AND HOW THEY WILL SAVE!)

We are hamstrung in other related areas of implement climate solutions as well:

In Waste Management and addressing the problem of plastics, pollution, food waste reduction: more funding for soil building, food waste composting, regulations on manufacturers and business use of styrofoam and non-biogradable packing materials, more regional facilities to address appropriate waste management in the bridge time as we transition to bulk foods, tare systems and making toxic, fossil based products illegal and social acceptable. (I do want to give a "shout-out" to Oregon Department of Environmental Quality" who recently added "community based organizations" to those able to use DEQ funds! This is a start to get climate solution mobility at the local level, where many of local solutions are already underway via community members and partnerships with a few cities).

in Jobs - Several years ago I proposed through our then Representative Peter Buckley and then Senator Dr. Bates, that the State create a "Boomer Corp" program for seniors to receive a stipend and some health care benefits in return for being the advance guard for health and welfare screening and support to the public. Meaningful jobs for young people, college

students and the unemployed in Southern Oregon funded by some creative State programs is greatly needed and could be accomplished through partnerships with big business in Oregon.

In Farming and increasing local food supply - The statistics have barely changed since the mid 1990s; we still import 95%+ of our food to the Rogue Valley, and have less than a 3 day food supply here. Much of our effort to address climate change is now hand-in-glove with emergency prevention and preparedness. We need regulations and support for zoning from the State to limit hemp and marijuana's "gold rush" in Southern Oregon in order to stabilize our farms, polluting our water and land. We need your help to support family farms and boost our locally grown foods. The amount of fossil fuel used by trucks to our region is a very real contributor to greenhouse gases. Without very strict laws that demand companies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we continue make all our problems worse. (Years ago the citizens tried to restore passenger service and increase the amount of freight with the railroads but we were defeated in those attempts.)

Writing this reinforces my belief that we are in dire need of a very strong GHG emission policy with strict and strong reduction requirements and tough enforcement. And we need stronger leadership and more effort from the State to collaborate with business, regional governments, oversight organizations, and all funding entities, donors and budgeting and financial support to help our State address the very real threat of the climate crisis and the socially destabilizing events that are being telescoped worldwide to us!

Sincerely, Catie Faryl  
Phoenix, Oregon  
541 530-8454 cell  
541 535-1854 home

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