



To:

Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction
jccr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

February 8, 2019

Dear Co-Chair Dembrow, Co-Chair Power, and Members of the Joint Carbon Reduction Committee:

Good afternoon, my name is Ivy Major-McDowall. I am the Legislative Coordinator for the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon. We are a statewide, grassroots organization uniting and advocating for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders across the state of Oregon.

We appreciate that the Oregon Legislature and its leaders are taking on climate change as a top priority. Asians, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders are on the frontlines of climate change, both here in Oregon and across the globe.

Our members have emphasized the need to have a climate solution that will truly reduce emissions to meet the challenges of this moment, **and** to provide investments for our communities to be able to transition to a renewable and more equitable economy.

For these reasons, we have 3 concerns that we want to highlight with regard to the current Oregon Climate Action Program (OCAP) bill:

1) Accountable Governance: The current bill gives one person, the Director of Climate Policy Office, an inordinate amount of centralized power, with no oversight. We need to make sure that rulemaking isn't just shaped by one person appointed by the Governor who will be susceptible to political pressures. We need to have a commission structure to protect that position and to ensure strong and effective rulemaking.

2) 100% Free Allowances Means Less Money for Community

Reinvestment: We all have to pay our fair share towards a just transition. We should limit free allowances to no more than 50% so that communities can get the reinvestment dollars that they need, thus ensuring that the most impacted communities have the support to justly transition towards a renewable economy.

3) Limit Pollution Offsets to 2%: The current level of 8% offsets is too high, and it means that **the majority** of emissions reductions could come from offset projects, half of which don't have to even be located in Oregon. This means that benefits don't come to Oregon and Oregonians. We need companies to reduce



their emissions and not buy offsets from somewhere else, therefore APANO recommends either no offsets or a limit of no more than 2%.

Thank you for your time. We look forward to working with you to make this bill as strong as it needs to be if Oregon is to be a true climate leader.

Sincerely,
Ivy Major-McDowall
Legislative Coordinator
APANO