

February 25, 2019

Dear Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction

Please reconsider this bill as currently written. This program is not looking toward the future impacts. It is only considering today's impacts in Oregon only. This bill, as written, can and will reduce the CO2 emissions in Oregon by shutting the doors on manufacturing facilities that provide good paying jobs in the communities that they reside in. Which incidentally are typically rural areas which rely heavily on those jobs. Big cities may be able to handle the job loss, but small communities cannot.

The products that these manufacturing facilities make are a necessary part of living. I work at Ash Grove Cement and we supply a product that buildings, roads and numerous other things are constructed with. If the plant in Durkee, OR can no longer generate this product and be able to recover the cost of making it, then where do you think that product will come from? China, since the product can be made cheaper and shipped at the same cost as we can make it today. If the production costs due to the carbon tax increases substantially with no environmental benefits, we cannot pass that cost on to the consumer because they will go somewhere else to purchase the product. Again, China or another state that does not impose this high tax.

Cement is a product that will be made. Where it is made is what you are deciding on at this time. If you are interested in cement no longer being made in Oregon to reduce the CO2 emissions, please first consider how many jobs will be lost, the tax base revenue that supports the communities, the schools, etc. The good salaries that provide a way to support families in Eastern Oregon. The CO2 emissions will still be emitted just not in "your back yard". The problem with CO2 emissions, there is no "your back yard".

Here at Ash Grove, we are always proactively looking to reduce our emissions. The problem that we are facing today is that even if we spend millions of dollars and find a technology to reduce our CO2 emissions, what then? For example, if we were to capture the CO2, what do we do with it... put it under ground as carbon sequestering currently is done? What are the side effects of this process going forward in the future? Is it really any safer? Finding a technology that does not have the potential for a future side effect takes time and research. This bill does not provide for that.

I like my job and I like the town I live in. Again, please consider revamping this bill so that Ash Grove is not put in the position of having to shut the doors.

Respectfully,

Norma Job
Ash Grove Cement
Durkee, OR