

I wish I could make it to the community hall meetings, but I have other obligations to attend to with my children. This whole Cap and Trade issue is a waste of time, taxpayer's money, and needless paperwork and money trail. There is NO benefit to anyone except the people handling the money and possible the people who need a job filing paperwork. This is NEVER going to solve the carbon/pollution issue you all think we have. It is only a transfer of money and paperwork from one business to another and a waste of time.

The increase in gasoline tax may make the bureaucrats think we are headed in the right direction, when in fact it certainly is not. When fuel prices go up, everything else does too. Our food in the stores, merchandise we buy, to input costs on the farm will all go up because the price effects EVERYTHING. So in other words, you are shooting not only the business owners who need fuel for deliveries, production needs, inputs, and transportation, in the foot. You are shooting the Oregon consumer in the foot as well. A lot of consumers in our area already have a hard time making ends meet and now you are adding an unnecessary tax to their means of getting to work?!? It just doesn't make sense.

To add to the problem, many times the money is allocated to one thing, but spent on something completely different. Thus needing more money for the original project and upping the tax again. It is a horrible cyclical problem that never ends!

None of this makes sense to the Oregon consumer and doesn't make sense as a business owner and farmer either. Cap and Trade is a horrible idea and will continue to ruin the Oregon business owner and the very people you are trying to protect. Many businesses have been run out of and shut down in Oregon due to high minimum wage requirements, regulations, and mandations. Don't make this another nail in the coffin and drive not only business owners, but hard working Oregonians out of the state.

Thank you for your time,
A very concerned business owner and concerned Oregonian