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Submitted electronically

Bill Harvey

Commission Chair
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Chairman and Committee Members

Baker County will be significantly impacted by the proposed Cap and Trade Bill (HB 2020). This bill is a complex piece of legislation that will affect everyone in Oregon for the rest of their lives. It will be especially devastating to rural areas in eastern Oregon such as Baker County.

While we commend you on the outreach and hearings held throughout the State, the eastern Oregon counties have been treated unfairly. There were a minimal number of video hearings set-up and then a 1-hour time limit was imposed. In Baker City alone, there were over 300 citizens that attended the hearing on February 25, 2019, but only 30 were able to testify given the 1-hour time limit.

We request that a hearing with representatives in attendance be held in Baker without a set time limit. Everyone deserves to be heard.

Baker County is more than willing to take on the host role to secure a venue and make the public aware of the hearing. We will coordinate with your staff to make this hearing as effortless as possible.

HB 2020, as it is proposed, is going to be devastating to Baker County. This legislation will impact lives and livelihoods and create undue and unwarranted hardships for an ineffective and expensive plan. Please make sure you hear from everyone before this travesty takes effect.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Bill Harvey, Chairman
Baker County Commission