

Cindy Haws  
Rising Moon Ranch LLC.  
2888 N Myrtle Road  
Myrtle Creek, OR 97457

To: Oregon Legislature  
RE: Climate pollution and Bill 2020 Testimony

Dear Honorable Representatives and Senators of Oregon,

I am writing you in support of Bill 2020 asking you to support this bill. I have heard that my local representative and others are balking due to the threats of industry. I ask you to remember that you represent the people and industry has never **and will never** represent anything but their bottom line – profit. With climate change **there will be no forest regeneration and definitely no reasonable productivity** if we continue to allow them to destroy our sustainable natural resources and do not act NOW with this bill. Be there no doubt about how much they pollute (pulp and paper and lumber industries) as science has measured this and the timber industry in particular are the states greatest polluters sending 35% of the annual greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere where transportation is the second at 23%, and wildfire is only 4% (Law et. al. 2018) (McKinley, D.C. et. al. 2011) and others. And the people industry adversely impact which is already huge and includes me and my family will be left in the dust. I hold you accountable for this. Let them leave the state and we will survive and thrive without them with better more sustainable green jobs and livelihoods. Probably even get our communities out of the timber dependency/ control cycle that keeps us in rural Oregon in poverty.

In every state and province with **Cap ad Trade and Invest** laws there are growing economies AND falling emissions, stable energy prices AND 1000s of jobs created. History is our proof on all fronts here. I am aware that since the Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Initiative was put in place in 2009 the Northeastern region's economy has grown 25%. The industry said then that hundreds of thousands of jobs would be lost and they weren't. Electric prices have even fallen 3% and emissions have been slashed 40% in all 9 RGGEI participating states. They have so effectively reached their goals the RGGEI are planning to increase their reduction targets by 30%.

Speaking of history is our proof, the timber industry have already hurt us in many ways and will continue to with only a few who really profit from mining the forests and the rest of us are harmed forever from loss of productivity and water to loss of wildlife and fish to loss of quality of life in general. Their success in supporting communities was short lived and only involved about 20 years of "free wealth" in the 60's- into the early 80's while harvesting the primary forests. Now this is gone and automation and feller bunchers keep the mill owners rich for a while and a very few in our community semi- employed making much less than in the past. For example I have lost and will continue to lose summer water flows (50% loss) (Jones and Perry 2016 and others) due to their logging and climate change and the BODY of science is clear and sound as to how and why and I have provided citations at the end of this testimony letter. Our salmon and steelhead populations (healthy food and super valuable potentially real sustainable jobs) are all but gone thanks to logging and climate change. **Many in my community have to buy truck loads of drinking water now because of loss of wells, springs and summer flows.** Even my solar panels are not producing and now I have to pay more for my electricity because of prolonged smoke from **climate change caused fires and the dense plantations of the industry that cause higher severity fires across the landscape.** This is not supposition it is here to be

witnessed and I am living it. I still owe \$17,000 dollars for my solar panels and I now have a much lower income. It is very costly to people already in poverty and is literally causing rural people not to be able grow their food or water their fields. Again I really do not care if any of the companies of the timber the industry leaves the state if it means I can eat the food I grow and have water from my well. They should not be allowed to impact people's livelihoods as they do in every watershed across the land.

Stating the fact AGAIN: **Without effectively addressing climate change there will be no forest regeneration there will be no suitable forest productivity. And this will happen sooner than you think.** Researchers in Colorado are finding that forests are not regenerating due to climate change conditions. One such researcher Dr. Camille Stevens-Rumann, fire ecologist at Colorado State University said that as much as 1/3 of the forests there are not having reproductive success. The seedlings are experiencing too harsh an environment of warmer temperatures and prolonged drought. This is double the treeless land prior to 2000. She states "We need to start expecting that these landscapes aren't going to look the same in the future whether it's reduced density of trees or no longer a forest". Since I have worked in natural resources my entire life in both farming and forestry including tree planting in clear cuts I know how harsh and dry things can get such that regeneration will be impossible and even with regeneration forest fires will take out the even aged small diameter plantations resulting from logging faster than you can think what just happened. I have fought fire in those situations on 20 person crew and personally know the consequences including almost losing my own life in a blow up. This is not funny and very serious. You are needlessly toying with the suffering and fate of all life.

I do not see this bill as the end all much more will have to be done but I support it because it WILL make a big difference. I am a family farmer and my livelihood is directly threatened by these polluters that add to climate change and loss of summer water to raise my livestock and food crops. This loss of water is due to 2 things: 1) Logging and 2) The heat and drought from pollution from climate change (science publications referenced below). This is causing me to have problems in growing my food and keeping my livestock healthy. When my animals are panting and I have to think of ways to keep them cool and worry about having enough water **I think of you** as the only hope and I tear up wondering what my daughters and granddaughters FATE WILL BE.

Sincerely,

Cindy Haws

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Ebersole, J. L., Wigington Jr, P. J., Baker, J. P., and others. 2006. Juvenile coho salmon growth and survival across stream network seasonal habitats. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 135(6), 1681-1697. Online at:

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“Updating an earlier (Jones and Post 2004) synthesis of long-term paired watershed studies in western Oregon, Perry and Jones (2016) reported in this paper that logged watersheds still show no sign of recovery from prolonged depletion of low streamflows by ca. 50% in watersheds logged 40-50 years ago, compared to unlogged watersheds. The study suggests summer, fall and early winter streamflows are today dramatically depleted on a widespread basis across western Oregon and the Pacific Northwest as a consequence of extensive logging and vegetative regrowth in plantations following logging”.