

Watts Remy

From: JJNeu <jjneusies2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 8:41 PM
To: SENR Exhibits
Cc: Rep Fahey; Sen Manning; Jim Neu
Subject: SB 931 & SB 926

Senators,

The fact that private timber companies and the Oregon Department of Forestry is allowed to aerial spray endocrine disruptor herbicides in the State of Oregon in forests and on our drinking water watersheds is astonishing. Thirty years ago, Bayer's product Roundup and other glyphosates, were banned from being sprayed in state forests. These toxic applications were not needed in productive historic timber management practices and were fabricated by the fossil fuel and chemical corporations for industry profits. Recent court decisions have proven that endocrine disruptor chemicals cause non- Hodgkins Lymphoma and other cancers in users and victims of glyphosate overspray.

That being stated, I urge you to modernize the Oregon Forest Electronic Notification System (FERNS), SB 931, which would require accurate and timely notification of pesticide aerial spraying. Advance notification by timber owners of aerial or ground spraying should be required a minimum 48 hours before spraying to allow for animal and human cover. There should be a two week notification prior to spray operations. These notifications need to be an enforced statute, not a voluntary or case by case process.

Also, state regulators should collect accurate data on types and amounts of chemicals sprayed entered onto forms or websites within five days of spray operations. The timber industry and spray notification applicants should be charged per application in order to fund county staff to enforce aerial spraying procedures. Violators should be fined accordingly and those fees go to fund county full time employees that oversee spraying events.

SB 926 bans herbicidal aerial spraying in state forests. As mentioned earlier, thirty years ago this practice was banned in state forests. Recently, Oregon Dept. Of Forestry aerial sprayed herbicides in over 10,300 acres in Tillamook State Forest. Aerial herbicidal spraying occurred in 70% of their herbicidal operations. This practice is not recommended in sustainable forest management procedures and should be prohibited in public lands.

Clear cutting and other poor industrial forest practices are the leading source of greenhouse gas emissions in the State of Oregon. This practice is one of the biggest threats to resiliency of our rural communities as climate change increases. Clear cutting and forest plantation farming makes our land more susceptible to wildfires, flooding, drought, toxic algae blooms, and poisoned soils from spraying than in natural forests.

I urge you to approve SB 931 and SB 926. Thank you for your dedicated service and consideration in this matter.

Jim Neu
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350.Eug Volunteer

Sent from my iPad