



City of Nyssa

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April 23rd, 2019

To: Governor Kate Brown
Oregon State Legislature
Carbon Gas Committee

I would like to state my concerns for HB2020. As you know we are a small town in Eastern Oregon directly across the Snake River from Idaho. Economically we struggle now against Idaho's tax laws and permitting process, not to mention their wage scale. These issues have been a great hurdle for us to overcome. For the first time in as long as I can remember, businesses and homes are beginning to flourish. This bill will literally kill that growth and even go so far as to push us back further than where we started. It will hurt every good Oregonian in Eastern Oregon, our Farmers, Ranchers, Producers, industries, the poor, the disabled, the veterans, and yes, the everyday Oregonian. Higher fuel bills as well as natural gas bills cannot be tolerated; some folks will be forced to choose between eating or having heat. So, do we starve or freeze them out? This impacts our economy in a way that businesses cannot afford to stay in Oregon. We will lose the Cement plant near Durkee. Gas stations as well as Gas and oil companies could potentially close, as we are so close to Idaho people will just go across the border for fuel. Teague Mineral Products just outside of our town will leave. This Bill will hurt our Farmers and Ranchers in a way I not sure they will recover from, we have to remember these folks are the backbone of our State and how our Country was founded. This bill will economically suppress our State and drive working citizens into poverty. I implore you to reconsider this bill and to either carve Eastern Oregon out of its grasp or make it a livable solution for all, not just one side of the State. I have provided you some examples of Carbon gas, where it comes from, and where, we as people, as a whole, stand in the vast scheme of things.

99.72 percent of greenhouse gases in our world are produced by nature. The overwhelming majority of these naturally produced greenhouse gases is water vapor, of which, mankind does not generate a measureable percentage. The remaining 0.28 percent are produced by man. The two largest volumes of greenhouse gases produced by man are CO₂ and methane. All of the CO₂ generated by humans, including breathing, agriculture, and industrial activities combined, comprises 6 percent of the total CO₂ generated annually in the world; the remainder is produced by natural processes. Our atmosphere is composed of 0.04% Carbon Dioxide. CO₂ generates approximately 30 times more thermal gain per particle than water vapor; however, because of its very small percentage in the atmosphere, it contributes approximately 1.2 percent to thermal gain in the atmosphere. Humans contribute a small fraction of 0+/- 6%, or 0.072 percent of global heat gain produced by CO₂. Totally eliminating CO₂ emissions worldwide would have an immeasurably small impact on global warming. Reducing our CO₂ emissions in the State of Oregon would have even less impact.

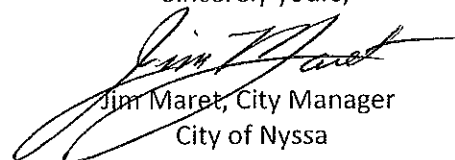
Methane is much more effective than CO₂ in warming our planet. It is approximately 25 times more effective, particle for particle, than CO₂. Humans, and our various animals (including livestock) generate approximately 30 percent of the methane given off by animals worldwide. Although methane comprises

a much smaller percentage of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere than CO₂, it contributes almost as much to global warming at an estimated 1 percent. If we could eliminate all methane generated by our livestock worldwide, it would have a much larger impact on our global environment by approximately 0.3 percent, or 4 times greater than eliminating all CO₂ emissions. Reducing the amount of methane produced by our livestock would be easier and more effective than reducing industrial activities. However, the overall impact of reducing, or even entirely eliminating methane generated by man, would be less than we have the ability to measure.

Please do not misinterpret this letter for I am not arguing that global warming does not exist. It most certainly exists. Without the greenhouse effect of the various gases in our atmosphere (mostly water vapor), our planet would be dramatically colder (estimated 58 degrees Celsius), and it would not sustain life as we know it. We also need to be good stewards of our environment. Most of the environmental impact of our industrial and agriculture activities are felt locally in our air, in our rivers and in our soil. These local impacts are things we can and should influence. Reducing our carbon footprint is, in effect, chasing after the wind.

Governor Brown I want to let you know how much I appreciate what you are doing for Oregon and I know you care about Eastern Oregon more than any other governor before you. I think we should have a committee on this that is made up of people from each area, including the North, South, East and West to determine the best outcome. I also believe that if we are given the task locally, because each area is different, we could expect better results. An example would be if Portland could reduce the amount of cars on the road, it would reduce CO gases this could be done by focusing on more public transit. Here in Eastern Oregon, we, along with your help, have been working on the Reload project, which ultimately will take more trucks off the road. Also, we could do better with our soil erosion through better farm practices. These are just a couple of ideas. With representatives from all areas getting together every quarter or half year explaining their efforts and results to you, I believe we can have the outcome desired. I beg you, as an Oregonian to consider this and not pass the current bill. Please feel free to contact me either by email at jmaret@nyssacity.org or by phone my cell is 541-212-2863 or my office is 541-372-2264 ext6. I would love to help in any way I can with this and any way I can help make Oregon great. Thank you for reading this and considering my idea.

Sincerely yours,



Jim Maret, City Manager
City of Nyssa