

Honorable Chairman and Members of the House Committee on Rules:

I am a member of Portland Neighbors for Diesel Action (PNDA) and I live in Portland's Brooklyn neighborhood, within ¼ mile of the Brooklyn Rail Yard, which over the past few years has absorbed much of the inter-modal traffic from the Albina yard in North Portland. We are working with the Oregon Just Transition Alliance (OJTA) in support of HB2007, the long-awaited diesel bill. We very much appreciate your leadership and attention to this important issue.

I support the general direction of the amendments proposed by Representative Power and OJTA, although I regret very much that political necessity may require narrowing the scope of the bill to the Portland tri-county area. I hope that adequate provisions will be made to deal with the inevitable difficulties of enforcement, including a requirement for prominent compliance stickers on all diesel trucks using the tri-county area. I also urge the Committee to resist making the distinction between the 2010 and 2007 model year engines. The former significantly reduce the amount of Nitrogen Oxide and Nitrogen Dioxide tailpipe pollution, which is itself a serious health hazard and a contributor to smog. If the geographic scope of the bill is reduced, the case for controlling Nitrogen Oxide and Dioxide becomes even greater in our concentrated neighborhoods.

We understand that compromise is necessary to attract a winning coalition and we strongly support your continued attention to this very important and long-awaited bill. We really cannot afford to wait another two years to begin the transition to cleaner air in the Portland metropolitan area.

Respectfully submitted,

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