From: Michael Mitchell
To: HEE Exhibits

Subject: Gas leaf blowers are a big problem where I live

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I have lived in the same house in northeast Portland for 27 years. When we moved in, most neighbors, like us, cut our grass ourselves, and raked leaves in the fall. About once a month I might have trimmed the edge of the sidewalk and curbs.

Times have changed and the neighborhood is a good deal noisier than it was. A majority of the (new)neighbors have a lawn service which comes weekly to mow, edge, and leaf blow. The leaf blowing is the noisiest, and very few of the companies use electric leaf blowers or edgers, which are substantially quieter.

I support a ban on the use of 2-stroke gas powered leaf blowers in Portland due to the noise pollution they cause and the fact these devices are also polluting the air. Already, Palm Springs and Washington DC have banned their use. If they can do it, so can we.

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