

February 10, 2020

Representative Ken Helm, Chair
House Committee on Water
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: HB 4043, Relating to Water and Waste Water Infrastructure

Dear Representative Helm and Members of the House Committee on Water:

McMinnville Water & Light appreciates the opportunity to comment on HB 4043. For over 130 years, McMinnville Water & Light has installed and maintained water infrastructure that has continued to exceed our customers' expectations. As one of the oldest customer owned water utilities in the State of Oregon, we are directly accountable to the people we serve through our Local Governing Board.

As a utility controlled by our local governing board, HB 4043 would restrict our local governing board from making decisions on pipe material for installation of new water pipe. As the local utility, we feel that we know best what material will work in our water system. There are many instances where we make judgments on material based on local conditions and maintenance practices.

For these reasons, we believe that HB 4043 is bad not only for our customers, but all Oregonians and McMinnville Water & Light is opposed to this bill.

Sincerely,



John C. Dietz
General Manager