

11 February 2020

House Committee on Energy & Environment
House Bill 4159

Dear Chair Power, Vice-Chairs Bonham & Sollman, and members of the Committee:

I am adamantly opposed to House Bill 4159 for a number of reasons. To begin with, not only is tacking an "emergency clause" on to it an insult to voters, taking on such legislation during this short session is unbridled arrogance, thinking such an issue, with far-reaching ramifications and consequences can be adequately addressed, with scant voter participation.

The bill is couched in terms of *benefits* while in reality it's asking us to hand over millions of dollars to the state of Oregon so it can pretend to control atmospheric temperatures, sea levels and storm activity - forever. An exercise in pure hubris.

This legislation is wrong on many levels. I remind the Committee that there is no proof for any of the alleged affects caused by the emissions mentioned in the bill. Glaring omissions, such as merely a passing mention of the predominant green house gas - clouds, i.e., water vapor, is purposefully missing. A clear indication of the bias in this bill.

This bill speaks as if global atmospheric circulation models are infallible - that "projections" which is a dubious term in itself, are guaranteed. There is no proof for this but this bill is not about the science or the facts of the matter. It is about who is going to pay and who is going to get paid. There is no bona fide, empirical evidence that so-called green house gasses are causing anything, nor that human activity is responsible.

This bill is typical of the prevalence of public and policy discourse heavily influenced by the way it is presented in the media, by campaigning organizations, by advertisers, by green energy vendors and other vested interests. The media do not, in fact, act as neutral conveyors of information. This legislation, if passed, will cause more trouble; more taxes, more financial hardship for Oregonians. This bill is misguided and should not be passed.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Wisner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard Wisner
Lincoln County