



Rep. Helm, Chair  
House Committee on Water  
Room 453 State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
*Via Email: [hwtr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:hwtr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov)*

RE: HB 4086 – Letter of Opposition

Chair Helm and Members of the House Committee on Water:

The Oregon Ground Water Association opposes HB 4086, which proposes to establish that the filing of a petition in a circuit court or Court of Appeals shall not automatically stay a final order from the Oregon Water Resources Commission (OWRC) or Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD). The OGWA association believes this change in longstanding policy removes existing due process protection from water right holders afforded them under ORS 536.075(5) while adding costly and time-consuming barriers.

Removal of a water right, even temporarily, can have significant negative and long-term impacts on a property owner and is not to be taken lightly. Every available avenue for an equitable remedy should be preserved and protected. The Department does have other available tools to halt water usage in emergency situations.

On behalf of our members and property owners across the state, we ask that you vote “no” on HB 4086.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donovan Sippel".

Donovan Sippel  
OGWA President OGWA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Klobes".

Michael Klobes  
Government Affairs Committee Chair