

Submitter: Howard Shapiro

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB1567

The tank farms in the CEI are in a very hazardous subduction zone built on soil with high liquefaction. This creates a severe and present danger to our city and habitations downriver in the event of the earthquake that experts say will happen. As the earth shakes the soil will begin to liquefy similar to quicksand. The unreinforced tanks will buckle as they sink, spilling their contents. The friction from the collapsing metal may cause a spark and the highly flammable petroleum products might ignite. These intensely hot and toxic fires are almost impossible to extinguish and must be left to burn themselves out.

The petroleum residue will get into the river and groundwater and pollute the surrounding waterways. If there is no fire, the cost estimate of mitigating this situation is estimated at up to \$2.6 million. This is not including business, cultural, physical and habitat loss.

If the tank farm owners were responsible for reinforcing or replacing the older tanks and to mitigate the liquefaction factor in the existing soil, it would help to reduce their liability and make our environment and city somewhat safer.