

February 8, 2022

## THE CEI HUB: LINNTON'S CALL FOR ACTION

Aware of the extreme threat that Linnton faces by our proximity to millions of gallons of fuel sitting on unsteady ground, not to mention the colossal risks to Portland and the entire state in the event of a catastrophe, the Linnton Neighborhood Association (LNA) is continuing to do everything in its power to reduce the risks associated with the CEI Hub.

We, residents of Linnton, have sufficient information to grasp the magnitude of the CEI Hub threat to our lives, our land, and wildlife. Given the projected loss of life, damage to infrastructure, waterways, transportation, and utilities and the incalculable financial impact and extended recovery period (decades, with environmental damage exceeding this), we cannot tolerate inaction. The public is aware and motivated to support this effort. Activists are marshalling and strategizing. Financially, in view of the multi-billion dollar threat that the CEI Hub poses, strategic investments in reducing risks are wise and fiscally imperative.

We applaud SB1567 as a step in the right direction. This legislation, and more like it, are needed to reduce human health risks and the disastrous consequences that are likely in an event involving the CEI Hub.

### Our Background

LNA endorsed a statement in 2018 demanding that the Critical Energy Infrastructure (CEI) Hub, known by many as “the tank farms,” decentralize and relocate to stable bedrock areas based on findings and recommendations of official agencies, seismic experts, and investigative reporters. Specifically, we examined “The Oregon Resiliency Plan” by Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission (OSSPAC, 2013); Oregon’s Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI); Scott Burns, Portland State University seismic geologist; Tony Schick, writing for OPB “How We Mapped NW Portland’s ‘Tank Farms’” (2015); City Club of Portland, “Big Steps Before The Big One” (2017); and Kathryn Schulz, “The Really Big One” (2015)  
<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/07/20/the-really-big-one>

Two years later, in 2020, we updated our opposition statement with newly released information from Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE); Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM); Peter Dusicka, Portland State University civil engineer; and OSSPAC’s 2019 report. OSSPAC’s major finding: “The Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub is a major threat to safety, environment, and recovery after a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake **on par with the 2011 Fukushima nuclear meltdown in Japan.**”

Both LNA statements were co-signed by 50 Portland Neighborhood Associations, faith-based organizations, and other groups and are available upon request.

We renewed our position in January 2022 as subsequent events have transpired.

- LNA sent two letters to executives at each of the CEI Hub tank farms, requesting they meet with local residents to discuss our safety and health concerns. They did not respond. We did receive communication from the Western States Petroleum Association, assuring us of our safety in

view of the existing industrial regulations and safety practices. This did nothing to allay our fears. The vast majority of tanks are so old they don't meet any safety regulations.

- Multnomah County and the City of Portland in conjunction with EcoNorthwest conducted a full seismic risk assessment of the CEI Hub ("Impacts of a Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquake on the CEI Hub" 2021) to identify the magnitude and extent of potential fossil fuel releases at the CEI Hub from an 8.0-9.0 Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake and to evaluate the resulting damages. The first part of report was published in July 2021 and is the most detailed and comprehensive risk analysis to date: The second part of the report was published 2/7/2022.
- Engineers for a Sustainable Future (ESF) has detailed potentially disastrous environmental and financial risks due to the CEI's Hub's location

Sincerely,

Nancy Hiser  
Linnton NA Environmental Committee