

Submitter: Robin Bloomgarden

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB488

Testimony in Support of SB 488

The Covinta-Marion incinerator is located in an area of low-income communities that receive the bulk of Covinta's toxic waste streams from the stack, and, from the ash waste blowing around after it is deposited as an end product. Both streams contain dangerous by products!

Covinta intends to expand its ability to receive more hospital, medical and infectious waste (much of it from out of state) because there is more money to be made from this toxic waste, than just plain garbage. I object for a number of reasons:

1. Burning normal garbage is not healthy.
2. Burning toxic garbage is even less healthy.
3. Using our state as a sacrificial garbage dump and incinerator is very unfair to the communities directly impacted by the effluent.
4. Because Covinta can DO IT, is not a good enough reason either! Why should Oregon suffer so that Covinta can make more money?

At the very least, Covinta should be reclassified as a Medical Waste Incinerator, thereby putting it under Federal Emissions oversight with tougher rules that might help keep local communities better protected, whether they continue accepting out of state medical waste or not .

I understand that DEQ would be responsible for inspecting the facility more often if this passes.

Short of shutting Covinta down completely, this seems like the best scenario for Oregonians.

In support of SB 488

Robin Bloomgarden  
3690 Wood Ave  
Eugene, OR 97402  
541-688-1820