



March 1, 2023

Senator Janeen Sollman
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon

Subject: Senate Bill 803 - Port of Portland Statement Supporting the Transition to Renewable Diesel Fuel

Dear Chair Sollman and Members of the Committee,

The Port operates under a public mandate to facilitate the movement of goods and provide efficient cargo and air passenger access to national and global markets. The transportation industry is, by nature, resource intensive due to its reliance on fossil fuel combustion, which in turn produces greenhouse gases (GHGs), diesel particulate matter and other air pollutants.

The Port is focusing our mission and resources on building shared prosperity for the region through travel, trade and economic development. Every department in the organization is working to integrate a social equity lens into our decision-making processes and program priorities.

The Port's Air Quality Program is prioritizing diesel emissions reductions as they are one of the largest contributors to air toxics in our region and their health impacts disproportionately affect low-income and communities of color. The Port has established a target to reduce diesel particulate matter by 70% below year 2000 levels for all Port and non-Port operations by 2030 and aspires to reach a 90% reduction to meet regional air quality goals. In pursuit of this goal, the Port is maximizing the use of renewable diesel.

The Oregon DEQ recently adopted the Climate Protection Plan, which calls out renewable diesel as a beneficial and necessary green alternative fuel to replace petroleum diesel. The Port of Portland shares this perspective and has been promoting a shift to R99 (99% renewable diesel) for Port operations (both airport and marine), partners, and contractors. Renewable diesel reduces lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions up to 85%, emits up to 30% less diesel particulate matter and also emits less carbon monoxide and other ozone forming pollutants.

According to DEQ's 2022 Clean Fuels Forecast, Oregon uses 687 million gallons of petroleum diesel per year. Transitioning to renewable diesel will benefit the health of communities throughout Oregon and along the West Coast, especially vulnerable communities along major traffic corridors.

While the Port strongly supports the transitioning to cleaner diesel, we also stress the importance of ensuring that safeguards are put in place to ensure that small and disadvantaged businesses and rural Oregonians have access to adequate supplies at affordable prices.

Sincerely,
Port of Portland



Rose Arsers
Manager, Air Quality, Energy, and Aviation Noise



David Breen
Sr. Manager, Environmental Mixed Media