



THE BUREAU OF
**PLANNING &
SUSTAINABILITY**

March 9, 2023

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

Re: Senate Bill 803 – City of Portland Statement in Support

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Andria Jacob, Climate Program Manager for the City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability. I'm testifying in support of SB 803, which will gradually replace petroleum diesel with renewable diesel in Oregon by 2030.

Portland City Council adopted a similar ordinance in December 2022. Diesel emissions are a significant contributor to climate change, accounting for 12% of Oregon's emissions. In Portland, diesel makes up 17% of our GHG pie.

Diesel combustion not only contributes to climate change, but also produces deadly diesel particulate matter known as black carbon, which is linked to heart attacks, stroke, cancer, and asthma. Populations with higher exposures to black carbon tend to be low-income people and people of color who disproportionately live near freeways and industrial facilities.

Black carbon causes snow to melt prematurely and alters rainfall patterns, worsening drought conditions.

Renewable diesel is an amazing drop-in replacement fuel that doesn't require any equipment



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changeouts. The City of Portland's fleet has been using R99 since 2017. Our fleet managers report fewer maintenance issues and a healthier environment for workers. When vehicles need less repair, this increases vehicle availability, which is what fleet users prize most. We've consistently been able to procure high-quality fuel at favorable prices.

You've heard a lot of concern from industry about the availability of supply of renewable diesel to our market in Oregon. We concur that, today, the supply is not yet here. But it is coming – a compelling number of producers told Portland City Council so last year. Renewable diesel is already selling at parity with fossil diesel in California.

The reason policy like SB 803 is so important is because it sends a signal of market demand to producers and suppliers. It tells the market that we're serious about this fuel in Oregon. This is how policy makes markets.

Renewable fuel also trades in Oregon's natural advantage. Our river system and deep-water ports provide a natural advantage for the global fuel trade. It makes sense to position this system to provide cleaner, healthier fuel while we transition fully to an electric future.

Renewable diesel brings immediate health benefits to communities and workers, makes a major impact in fighting climate change and improving environmental health. The City of Portland encourages the committee to support SB 803.

Thank you.



Andria Jacob
Climate Policy and Program Manager

