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On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General
Government, and Veterans

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Coal is the filthiest fossil fuel, much worse than oil and natural gas (methane). Every effort should be made to end Oregon's investments in coal. The coal industry is declining. The European Union has made drastic cutbacks in its coal production and use. In 2022, the EU production of hard coal was 55 million tonnes, 80 % less than the 277 million tonnes of 1990. (A tonne is 1,000 kilograms.) From 2018 to 2022, the EU reduced its consumption of hard coal by a fourth and brown coal by a fifth. The shutdown of U.S. coal plants is expected to affect 75 coal-fired power plants across the country, with at least 26 plants in 14 states saying they will stop burning coal, according to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Sierra Club.

Clearly, nations recognize the hazards of coal mining, transport, and combustion. Oregon should be in the vanguard of states refusing to invest in this climate-polluting fossil fuel. Toxic coal ash pollutes that land and water.