



4145 NE Cully Blvd., Portland, OR, 97630 | 503-290-8570

January 30, 2025

To: Chair Lively, Vice Chair Gamba, Vice Chair Levy, and Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment.

Re: HB 3119 - Oppose

Dear Chair Lively, Vice Chair Gamba, and Vice Chair Levy, and Members of the Committee,

Verde is a community-based organization whose mission is to build environmental wealth through organizing, advocacy, and social enterprise. I am writing to you today to oppose HB 3119, a bill that would delay the implementation of the Advanced Clean Trucks Rule in Oregon by two years.

Clean air is a fundamental human right. When the DEQ first adopted the advanced clean trucks rules, it promised to put Oregon communities on a path to cleaner, healthier air. Negative impacts of air pollution fall disproportionately on communities of color, children, and people experiencing poverty, who are more likely to be located near diesel death zones-- toxic concentrations of diesel pollution found in busy trucking corridors, bus depots, distribution hubs, and ports. Delayed implementation means justice is denied to these communities.

Oregonians pay for the damage from diesel pollution through medical and hospital bills, costly medicine, and missed days of work or school. In a two-year delay, 352 Oregonians will die due to preventable diseases related to diesel pollution, costing Oregon \$4 billion in health costs.¹

As an advocate, I hear and see community members' fear when they know how their families could be affected by dangerous pollution from Trucks. It can become the difference for a young athlete between sacrificing their sport, and risking their lungs to play in adverse conditions when their field is directly along a truck route. Decisions like this should be a thing of the past.

Across all sectors, the groundwork for a just and clean energy future is being set, we are on the precipice. The data shows that truck manufacturers are currently able to meet the requirements of this program. Allow it to continue, and we will see further progress, as this is enmeshed with other clean fuel and climate policies. There is ongoing state agency and utility coordination work to ensure that sufficient infrastructure is available. Allow our agencies to work and meet the moment at this critical time.

A delay will only signal that Oregon is not committed to regulating a critical sector of greenhouse gas and dangerous levels of pollutants that threaten human health. Furthermore, it would show

¹ [Clean Air Health Communities](#)



4145 NE Cully Blvd., Portland, OR, 97630 | 503-290-8570

that clean tech leadership is not a priority for Oregon, squandering the opportunity now presented. At this moment in time, Oregon needs to defend its stance as a state that works for its constituents and defends its existing laws.

For these reasons, I urge you to oppose HB 3119 and maintain the Advanced Clean Trucks Rules without delay.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Xitlali Torres
Air Quality and Climate Coordinator, Verde