



Testimony in Support of HB 4086
Rhys Roth – Center for Sustainable Infrastructure (CSI)
House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade
February 2, 2026

Chair Nguyen, Vice Chairs Isadore and Skarlatos, and members of the Committee,

My name is Rhys Roth, executive director of the Center for Sustainable Infrastructure, and I strongly support House Bill 4086.

Industrial symbiosis is an approach to circular economic and infrastructure development where one facility's waste streams—such as energy, water, and materials—become valuable resources for other businesses.

In short, we're turning waste into wealth.

This approach has taken off in Denmark and we've organized study tours to the country to see how industry is voluntarily working together to reduce waste, strengthen the economy, and grow jobs.

Our delegations have included state Representatives Sanchez, Helm, Bobby Levy, Gamba, Elmer, Kate, and Edwards, Senators Lieber, Broadman, and Neron Misslin, commissioners from Columbia, Klamath, Cook, and Lake counties, port directors, and businesses including ones you'll be hearing from shortly.

Just to our north, Washington state has been investing in industrial symbiosis projects for several years including in Spokane, Wenatchee, Pasco, Longview, Vancouver, and Port Angeles.

Last year, Washington passed \$5 million to replenish an existing industrial symbiosis grant fund and to support new projects at six industrial parks across the state.

This bill will put Oregon on the same path by providing targeted technical assistance for critical planning and collaboration in communities to advance industrial symbiosis projects across the state.

From Klamath County to the Port of Morrow, from East Portland to Clatsop County and across the entire Oregon Coast, we have communities already exploring infrastructure opportunities to reduce waste, exchange resources, and build local economic resilience.

If you and your fellow legislators pass HB 4086 this short session, each of these communities will return in one year with a capital project identified that can save money, reduce emissions, and create new jobs and tax revenue.

Especially during a tough economic and budget environment, this is a targeted and smart investment that will advance Oregon's economy. Thank you.