

Attachment 5

Evaluation of House Bill 3470

Concerning Standard (1): As HB 3470 advocates essentially acknowledge, it is an incomplete bill. One of those, who testified in its favor during its hearing before the House Committee on Energy and Environment, was a Corvallis City Council member. He wrote in an e-mail to Representative Rayfield and posted on the Corvallis CCL website: "The bill does not create any mechanism for reaching goals, it requires the state to move responsibly and the Environmental Quality Commission to establish green house gas limits. So it can't hurt to pass the bill, but it doesn't really do anything. More like a statement of principle."

I agree with all but the following part of this statement: "So it can't hurt to pass the bill,". Enacting the grossly incomplete, open-ended HB 3470 will prevent enactment of a carbon pricing bill, which satisfies all of the Standards (1) through (7). That is essential if conversion from fossil fuels to safe energy is to be achieved.

Concerning Standard (1): As written, it is impossible for any citizen or legislator to predict what the provisions of HB 3470 will be after the executive branch develops them.

Concerning Standard (2): HB 3470 describes a very complex process for developing its provisions. This simply cannot "minimize the time or cost to execute its processes". It is impossible to determine how much this complexity will add to time and cost.

Concerning Standard (3): Without definition of its provisions it is impossible to judge whether HB 3470 will lead to provisions and processes that will be effective and timely in eliminating the use of fossil fuels. It has been 35 years since the National Academy of the Sciences issued its first warning about fossil fuel use. We simply cannot afford to risk any more time loss on inadequately-defined legislation that gives no way to judge its outcome before committing to its enactment.

Concerning Standard (4): HB 3470 provides no way to judge whether its "to be developed" provisions will result in fairness to the public.

Concerning Standard (5): HB 3470 provides no way to judge whether its "to be developed" provisions, will provide the incentives that are necessary to eliminate fossil fuel use.

Concerning Standard (6): HB 3470 provides no certain way to judge whether its future provisions will be resistant to interference from opposing interests, such as the fossil fuel industries. The complexity of its process for developing provisions and the time required to do so suggests extraordinary exposure to such interference.

Concerning Standard (7): The only Standard that HB 3470 satisfies is that it can be enacted by a simple majority vote. Inexplicably, HB 3470 has been advanced the farthest of any of the carbon-pricing bills. It is now being considered in the House Committee on Rules.

Walt Eager
Oregon Licensed Professional Engineer
Retired Energy, Environmental and Transportation Engineer