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March 24, 2017

The Honorable Michael Dembrow, Chair, and Members
Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources
S - 347 State Capitol, 900 Court St.
Salem, OR 97301

Re: SB 995

Dear Chair Dembrow & Committee Members:

I am requesting that you do not pass SB 995. SB 995 imposes yet another environmental reporting mandate on Oregon businesses where there is already a massive amount of environmental information required and available. The bill is redundant and unnecessary.

Prior to my retirement last year I was part of the Environmental, Health, Safety & Sustainability group at an Oregon facility of a major U.S. manufacturing firm. As such, I was responsible for preparing and submitting many of the required monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual environmental reports to the EPA, ODEQ and our local air quality regulatory agency.

These reports include the Air Contaminant Discharge Permit and Title 5 air quality reporting, SARA 313 (Toxic Release Inventory), Oregon TURHWR, Greenhouse Gas reports and U.S. Dept. Of Homeland Security Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism (CFAT) compliance reporting.

Other reports filed by the facility include the monthly National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) reports, general and hazardous waste reports, groundwater surveys, TSCA Form U and the annual SARA 312 chemical inventory report to the Oregon State Fire Marshall.

All of the foregoing with the exception of CFAT, along with all the various permits and permit applications are available as public information. From experience, I can tell you that preparing these reports and all the documentation necessary to pass agency audits consume a major amount of staff time and resources. Other Oregon businesses are similarly affected.

I support the public's right to know about chemicals in the environment but there is plenty of information already available. Oregon businesses do not need another reporting requirement forced upon them. **Please do not advance this bill.**

Respectfully,

Jerry J. Ritter
(as a private citizen)