



Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee:

My name is Hank Doane and I am Senior Vice President for PNW Metal Recycling, Inc. I look forward to helping to identify what responsible members of our Industry have done and are doing to prevent Fires such as the one experienced by a different Company in March of 2018 in Portland. Before I tell you a bit about our company, I wanted to tell you about our Industry.

The **Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)** to which PNW and other Companies represented here today belong to, represents over 1,300 private and public for-profit companies – ranging from small, family-owned businesses to multi-national corporations. As recyclers of valuable commodities, we firmly believe that scrap is not waste.

A couple facts about the recycling Industry:

On average, the United States processes enough iron and steel scrap daily, by weight, to build 25 Eiffel Towers every day of the year. By using iron and steel scrap rather than virgin materials in the production of new iron and steel, CO2 emissions are reduced by 58%. The amount of energy saved by using recycled materials is up to: 95% for aluminum, 75% for copper, and 60% for paper and steel. The U.S. based scrap recycling industry is a sophisticated, capital-intensive industry that has been creating “green jobs” in the United States for decades. The Industry directly employs 156,000 men and women in the USA.

PNW Metal Recycling, Inc. (PNW) is a family owned and operated Metal Recycling business based out of Portland Oregon. PNW receives metal commodities from the public as well as industrial customers including our local governments, and processes those commodities into furnace ready feedstock that can be made into the new products we all use in our daily lives: vehicles, bridges, rebar, the copper wire in your house, and the aluminum beverage container that holds our soft drinks!

PNW supports and partners with our local Fire Departments and Emergency Responders. Portland Fire regularly visits our Rivergate Facility and has performed training exercises to better prepare for real world emergency scenarios. PNW takes the safety of our community and employees very seriously. We employ a full time Safety Manager as well as multiple support employees throughout the company who focus on safety every day. PNW trains its people on Fire Safety as well as takes appropriate measures to ensure we are managing Fire Risk at all times at our various facilities.

PNW is inspected and monitored annually by many different regulatory agencies including: DEQ, OSHA, DMV, local Fire Departments, and the Fire Marshal. We work with our regulators to help us create the safest environment possible for our employees and our customers.

We do everything we can to keep recyclables out of the waste stream and out of our landfills so that they are able to be recycled into new metal products. We care about our communities and the environment, and we are happy to be here today to look at ways to prevent another FIRE from occurring like the fire in March of 2018.

We appreciate the time and commitment by Speaker Kotek and Senator Frederick for taking on this serious issue. We do not feel that as drafted SB 792 is the answer and support the -4 amendments with minor modifications and appreciate the continued conversations with the Sponsors.

Thank you to the Committee and others here today who are working to prevent bad actors from operating under the radar and without proper oversight. We value the opportunity to help make our communities a safer place to live for all of us. Thank you.