

Watts Remy

From: Jeanne Roy <jeanne@earthleaders.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 1:30 PM
To: SENR Exhibits
Subject: SB 451 should be rejected

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Dear Senate Environmental and Natural Resources Committee:

My understanding is that Senate Bill 451 would establish eligibility for renewable energy certificates for facilities that generate electricity from the direct combustion of municipal solid waste and became operational before January 1, 1995, if the facility had been registered with WREGIS at any time.

This bill obviously refers to Covanta, the waste incinerator in Marion County. Covanta has been lobbying to undermine Oregon's renewable portfolio standard for over ten years. Waste incineration should not be eligible for renewable energy credits for these reasons:

- The process results in serious air pollution. Substances like dioxins, heavy metals, and ultrafine particulates are harmful to the health of people living in the area.
- Even with air pollution control equipment in place, waste incinerators emit more dioxin, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, mercury, lead, and sulfur dioxides than coal power plants per unit of energy produced.
- The fly ash from the facilities has a high concentration of hazardous substances.
- Because of the high cost of such facilities, incinerators create demand for waste and a disincentive to reduce waste at the source and invest more resources in recycling and composting.
- Renewable energy credits should be reserved for solar and wind projects that lead to more jobs than electricity by incineration.

I urge you to reject SB 451.

Yours truly,

Jeanne Roy

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