

Thank You for the opportunity to comment on Carbon Reduction Bill. HB2020

I have been a member on the Natural Resource Advisory Committee for many years. We have been involved hands-on with Ashgrove Cement, Cattlemen, ranchers, Trucking, logging, mining and every resource based aspect in our economy.

The 1990 Forest Plan was reasonable until it was amended: The East Side Screes (21 inch rule), and the Spotted Owl debacle. When we lost our 106 year old mill the resources of Baker County went down 47% this caused our greatest EXPORT our young people.

If it wasn't for Ashgrove Cement we would be bankrupt. We have many displaced log cutters, truckers and support industries working there. They are good neighbors pay a good family wage, health care and retirement benefits. They also have invested \$20,000,000.00 in scrubbers to remove pollutants. Their safety record is excellent. If this onerous bill is passed they would be forced to compete with counties that are not required to follow the same rules.

Malheur is the poorest county in the State of Oregon. Businesses are leaving and moving across the border into Idaho that is much more business friendly. Many are employed by Ashgrove Cement. They are forced to commute many miles daily. This bill will devastate Ontario and the surrounding agriculture community.

If this bill is passed it will kill Eastern Oregon, It will finish of family agriculture, raise the taxes on fuel and fees from the transportation passed in 2017. If passed it will devastate us with increased costs, loss of businesses, jobs, families and public service organizations. We have not, despite NRAC, Economic Development efforts been able to attract comparable businesses and jobs. Our existing businesses have not been able to secure qualified employees. We have lost a whole generation of our skilled work force.

We are a proud people and are not looking for a handout and we can't afford any more "investment" tax and spend. Many of us are third generation Pioneers we cleared and LOVE the land. We want our children to have the same opportunities that we have had.

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