

**From:** [Clair Clark](#)  
**To:** [HEE Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** NO on HB 4049  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 5, 2020 10:30:48 PM

---

Chair Karin Power and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment:

As a resident and homeowner in the city of Salem, I am concerned about House Bill 4049, which would give renewable energy credit eligibility to the Covanta garbage incinerator in Brooks, Oregon. The energy produced by the incinerator is not new, renewable, clean, nor carbon-free.

Despite many claims to the contrary, **burning garbage is not a climate solution**. In fact, the Covanta facility is ranked as the 19th largest greenhouse gas emitter in Oregon. Local groups and experts have looked into other options for Marion County's refuse and found we could reduce emissions by using the nearby Coffin Butte landfill instead.

In addition to contributing to climate change, the incinerator is the **single largest polluter of particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur oxides in Marion County**. These small particles are known to cause or aggravate health problems in people who breathe them — especially for sensitive groups such as the elderly and very young. Particle pollution exposure, according to the U.S. EPA, is linked to aggravated asthma and decreased lung function and can lead to premature death for people with heart or lung disease.

**Please oppose House Bill 4049 to protect our climate and our health.**

Sincerely,

Clair Clark  
Co-coordinator of 350 Salem OR