

Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony. I am writing in strong support of HB 3372. My name is Janet Roxburgh and I am a member of the Hayden Island Livability Project. For years, Hayden Island and its neighbors have been subjected to periods of suffocating petroleum-based out-gassing that has been repeatedly traced to local oil re-refineries. My husband and I have ourselves gotten in our vehicle to verify the source, and there has been no doubt whatsoever because the toxic fumes were the absolute worst right beside the oil re-refinery facility. Our eyes hurt. Breathing was harder, and lungs hurt. Nausea and a headache also followed. These were the same reactions to the poisoning of the air as experienced at times on Hayden Island when the southerly wind direction brings the fumes there.

Like a growing number of other people who have developed asthma or other respiratory conditions due to toxics emitted into the air, and now for some, serious respiratory issues due to COVID-19, I have irreversible lung damage and illness that will unfortunately be with me for the rest of my life. It is extremely disturbing to find out that DEQ does not have the power, even after 5 years of air toxics rules overhaul, to really do anything to correct the situation. DEQ does not have the authority to stop the problem even when a permit is violated and there are unhealthy levels of pollution being emitted. DEQ say they do not have the authority to deny the permit, but can only give the polluter an "immediate curtailment" plan, that upon further investigation is neither immediate nor true curtailment.

DEQ must be given the authority to properly do their job and protect public health. Without passage of this bill, Governor Kate Brown's Cleaner Air Oregon can not be fully effective. Rules need to be enforced when it comes to pollution and health issues. Please pass HB 337 and fulfill the mandate of Cleaner Air Oregon. Please give DEQ authority to do their job and enforce the rules. Thank you!