



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON
WATERSHED
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

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Amira Streeter
Natural Resources Policy Advisor
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Re: SB 286 Environmental Justice Task Force

On behalf of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), I want to express my thanks to the Environmental Justice Task Force (EJTF) and the Governor's Natural Resources Office for fostering a place to identify, address, and connect with others on environmental justice issues that relate to the activities of OWEB. As a new advisory member, we are appreciative of the opportunities the EJTF provides to expand important conversations around environmental justice. We fully support the proposed adjustments contained in SB 286, recognizing they will ensure that Oregon continues to be a national leader in this critical work.

The EJTF members provide a crucial link between agencies and the environmental justice issues in local communities and provide guidance to agencies on addressing and connecting with local organizations. Through our recently adopted Strategic Plan, OWEB is working to implement policies and procedures that increase the inclusion and engagement of environmental justice communities in our core work. OWEB will use the knowledge and connections of EJTF members as we reach out to and connect with environmental justice groups and encourage participation in OWEB's activities.

OWEB looks forward to continuing to partner as we work together to advance environmental justice work in Oregon and work around reaching those goals.

With great appreciation,

Meta Loftsgaarden
Executive Director
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

cc: Senate Energy & Environment Committee