

Submitter: Jane Stackhouse

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB1567

Every time I drive over the Freemont Bridge or along Highway 30 to go to Sauvie Island or the coast I look at our huge oil storage complex on the Willamette River and think - what will happen when the predicted subduction earthquake comes? In preparation for this quake I had a seismic retrofit to my home and built a shed with emergency food, water, and camping supplies as suggested by our Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Team. I have a flashlight, shoes and a fleece jacket by my bed because I don't expect emergencies to wait for daylight or warm weather. I am prepared. I am shocked that the owners of the oil tanks, rail, and pipelines in Portland are not required to have emergency plans in place.

Multnomah County has a detailed report that describes the hazards of earthquakes and maps the areas in the county that are especially vulnerable because of soil types and local fault lines. Here's the link to the very informative report https://multco-web7-psh-files-usw2.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/em/documents/mc-hmp_ch-6_earthquake.pdf. The area between Portland and Linton may have seemed either convenient or disposable at the time the bulk fuel storage and distribution centers were build but it is one of the worst locations given the potential for environmental degradation and disruption to distribution systems in the case of a natural disaster such as a earthquake.

We want DEQ to see the emergency preparedness plan to fully evaluate the dangers and to try to mitigate harm. The cities of the Portland Metropolitan Area are not alone in this concern. Fuel distribution to the rest of the state will be curtailed in a disaster and the oil spill will foul land and water all the way to Astoria. Please pass SB 1567 for infrastructure resilience.