

February 6, 2022

To: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Findley

Re: Support for SB 1567 Relating to Energy Infrastructure Resilience

Dear Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Findley,

A good explanation for why this bill to improve fuel safety and energy security is critically important comes from a meeting during the creation of the Oregon Resilience Plan (ORP). Section leaders had gathered to discuss the relative importance of various types of critical lifeline infrastructure. It turned out to be a short meeting when there was unanimous agreement that the number one concern was getting fuel for the trucks so that workers and material could get to the damaged areas. This concern was based on the DOGAMI CEI Hub report which had brought home the reality that 95% of Oregon's fuel was stored at the hub in a 100 year old facility built on dredged material in storage tanks of unknown seismic capacity.

Essentially, all sectors would be left with just the fuel in their tanks to respond to a devastating subduction zone earthquake, creating long delays in emergency response and recovery efforts in the entire state. In addition, the lost fuel would cause an environmental disaster and a potential fire would damage homes and businesses on both sides of the river.

This bill goes along way of addressing these concerns by requiring bulk fuel terminal operators to conduct seismic vulnerability assessments, with DEQ as the regulator, to ensure seismic risk mitigation is implemented.

The bill also directs the Department of Energy to develop a state fuel security plan to improve just-in-time delivery systems, spreading fuel storage capacity and distribution throughout the state and providing coordination with Oregon's renewable fuels goals.

Passage of such a bill will a major step in the implementation of the ORP, bringing the State closer to seismic resilience.

Sincerely,



Jay Raskin, FAIA
Past Chair and Vice-Chair of OSSPAC

cc: File