

Thank you Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley and Committee members for allowing me to testify in support of SB 803.

My name is Mike Mercer and I live in Joseph, Oregon in Wallowa County....the Oregon County without a stop light 😊. I run a business consulting company.

Over the last several years, I have followed the evolution of renewable diesel and other renewables. I often start with a skeptical point of view – Is it really renewable, what is the full value chain involved, can it be scaled, is the cost to consumers equal to the fossil fuel alternative. Renewable Diesel can and is being made in a manner that addresses each of these issues.

Here in eastern Oregon, a good many of the trucks on the road and much of the farm equipment run on diesel. Even our small ski hill, Ferguson Ridge, runs its lift on diesel. I find that the folks here are a practical lot: If fuels costs are equal and renewable diesel is readily accessible; If they spend less on equipment maintenance; And if Renewable Diesel improves air quality and reduces harmful emissions folks will make the switch to renewable diesel...it's a classic, win, win, win approach.

I encourage your support of SB 803. Thank you for your attention.

Michael P Mercer

3/8/2023