

Submitter: Helena Birecki

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB871

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-chair Findley, and members of the committee,

I live in Tillamook County and I'm writing in support of the buildings resilience package-- SB 868, 869, 870, and 871. Taken together these should provide very real benefits to public health, job creation, and people's pocket-books.

I have not seen the full text of SB 871, but I have read the one pager, and I agree that it is imperative to align the cost-effectiveness criteria under performance contracting with state statutes, rules, and efficiency and emissions goals:

I pray this new cost-effectiveness criteria will clearly include calculating in the negative costs of continuing to use combustion-based solutions --i.e. burning "natural" gas, diesel, etc. All combustion based solutions, even renewable* ones, have significant health and climate impacts, including:

-- increasing rates of heart, lung, and cognitive disease when people are exposed to its leaks or combustion,

-- NOx, particulate matter, and other pollutants created in the processing for use, and final combustion of the products

-- methane leaks in the production, transport and/or use process. Methane is a greenhouse gas 84 times the potency of carbon.

And the positive benefits of cleaner, more efficient solutions.

I fully support the state of Oregon leading by example, and paving the way for everyone in Oregon to build and retrofit for a safer, healthier, more vibrant future. Committee, I urge you to make the final text of this bill strong and successful!

Thank you!

Helena Birecki

*<https://farm-energy.extension.org/anaerobic-digesters-and-biogas-safety/>