

Submitter: Diane Meisenhelter

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General  
Government, and Veterans

Measure: HB4044

My name is Diane Meisenhelter and I support HB 4044 and urge you to pass it out of committee. I live in inner NE Portland and volunteer as a NET member (Neighborhood Emergency Teams)--city-trained volunteer emergency responders ready to help out in the event of an emergency. For a long time we have had strong concerns about the CEI HUB which is right across the river. I recently attended a training with a well-known chemist and hazardous materials specialist and came away even more concerned. We need this study which Multnomah county has recommended as well. The CEI HUB is in a liquefaction zone and is very close to a fault that runs along the west hills. We do not even know the full picture of what to truly expect in case of an earthquake although a recent study highlighted the hazards of the mixing of toxic materials stored within the HUB. More importantly, we do not know how to prepare for such a disaster in terms of the toxic plumes that are likely to affect our neighborhoods nor do we have a full sense of what measures to take to most effectively protect Portlanders from inhaling these toxic fumes during such a disaster. Please support this study and pass this bill out of committee. Thanks for your time and consideration.