

Submitter:

D Clark

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB685

Hello, I'm Deborah Clark from Shedd, Oregon.

I'm writing to you because I'm concerned about NW Natural blending hydrogen into the gas supply in Portland without notifying its customers. It seems they aren't legally required to do so, which I find very troubling. I believe we, as customers, have a fundamental right to know what's being piped into our homes. Regulators need the power to protect our interests in this matter. I'm urging you to take action and ensure NW Natural is properly regulated and that customers are informed of any changes to their gas supply.

My understanding is that this blend has significant potential health and safety risks, including increased pollution emissions and the risk of leaks.

I am also concerned about the source of hydrogen. I understand NW Natural is pursuing "turquoise hydrogen," derived from methane gas, a potent fossil fuel. Methane is a super pollutant, responsible for about 45% of recent global warming. It's 86 times more potent than CO₂ over a 20-year period! While hydrogen may seem cleaner, the methane used to create it has a significant climate impact due to leaks and emissions during extraction and production. Controlling methane pollution is one of the fastest ways we can address climate change.

For all these reasons, I urge you to support SB 685. It's crucial for transparency, safety, and our environment.