

Submitter: Cameron Hubbe
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB685
Subject: Support for SB 685 – Hydrogen Oversight and Public Notice Legislation

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Cameron Hubbe, and I was born, raised, and live in Eugene, Oregon. I am very concerned about NW Natural's plan to begin piping blended hydrogen and methane gas into homes in West Eugene, as well as in Portland, and the lack of public notice about these experiments.

Oregon's current regulatory framework lacks sufficient oversight and notice requirements for blending hydrogen into natural gas residential home pipelines. This regulatory gap poses significant risks for ratepayers, public safety, and environmental health. This is why I support SB 685 to provide hydrogen blending oversight and public notice.

Oregonians deserve to know what's being piped into their homes. Public utilities should not be experimenting with hydrogen blending without notifying impacted communities. Regulations are needed to ensure public safety and transparency.

Hydrogen blending is risky. Hydrogen can make pipelines brittle and subject to leaks and even explosions. SB 685 will create safety protocols for blending to protect our homes from these risks.

In addition, Hydrogen blending will only prolong our dependence on fossil fuels, by greenwashing our use of methane, and justifying our continued use and further development of fossil fuel infrastructure. This is a false solution, and must be opposed for both the immediate health risks it poses, and long term climate consequences.

I strongly urge you to support SB 685.

Sincerely,

Cameron Hubbe
Eugene, Oregon