

Submitter: Benjamin Platt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB685

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice–Chair Brock Smith, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

My name is Benjamin Platt and I live in Portland. 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.

NW Natural is currently operating without oversight and without notifying its customers, which is unacceptable for a rate-payer funded organization, especially considering the potential health, safety, and climate impacts. Hydrogen has its own pollution and emission considerations and degrades pipes differently from methane, not to mention that the climate benefits of this experimentation countered by the prolonged dependency on fossil fuels that hydrogen blending would engender.

I strongly urge you to support SB 685.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Platt