

[SB 685 Public Hearing Feb. 12, 2025](#)

Hi everyone—My name is Myong O and I've lived in the Brooklyn neighborhood in SE Portland for over 20 years. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I'm here today to express my support for Senate Bill 685.

At the end of last year, I heard for the first time that NW Natural had been blending hydrogen into our gas supply at their facility near my neighborhood and they had already been doing it for about a year.

I couldn't believe that a public utility company like NW Natural could actually change the content of what was coming into my home without letting me know. This means that for more than a year now, every time I turned on my gas stove to cook, I and my neighbors in Brooklyn, have been exposed to higher risks of methane leaks, and even explosions, right in our homes. From PGE, I even get a notice when they plan to trim the oak trees by my house! Is NW Natural too scared to simply add a notice in the bill they send or send me a quick email letting me know of such significant changes? It is not ok that NW Natural is avoiding this important step of notifying their customers of safety risks just because it's costly or burdensome.

I was even more shocked when I learned that what NW Natural did was perfectly legal, because Oregon doesn't require public utilities to report hydrogen-blending projects for oversight and accountability.

I trust and depend on the experts at the Public Utility Commission, the Multnomah County Health Department, and the fire marshall, to look out for my safety.

I support SB 685 because it prioritizes transparency, oversight, and planning for the health and safety of people.

Thank you.
Myong O