

To: Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
From: Jeanne Roy, 23503 SE River Rd. #3031
Date: February 21, 2025
Subject: SB 726, landfill emissions monitoring

I am very concerned about methane emissions because of their contribution to climate change.

According to NASA, the concentration of methane in the atmosphere has more than doubled over the past 200 years. Scientists estimate that this increase is responsible for 20 to 30% of climate warming since the Industrial Revolution. Between 2021-21 global methane emissions increased by the largest amount since measurements of the greenhouse gas began in 1983 according to NOAA.

Over a 20-year period, methane traps about 80 times more heat than CO₂. The heat is causing extreme weather conditions in Oregon, including more disastrous wildfires.

Oregon's landfills contribute significantly to methane pollution, and current monitoring practices leave large portions of landfill surfaces unmonitored. Without improved tracking methods, methane emissions can continue unchecked and unregulated.

SB 726 will ensure that all areas of landfills are monitored for methane leaks by implementing modern technologies to detect emissions. Drones and flyover monitoring using planes or satellites would allow larger areas of the landfill to be easily monitored for leaks. The bill would also improve transparency by requiring reports to be shared in spatial data formats, a very common way to display data digitally.