

Submitter: Camille Hall

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB726

SB 726 Methane monitoring of landfills

Dear Senators,

I strongly support SB 726, Relating to landfill emissions monitoring. Landfills are the 3rd largest source of global methane emissions and one of the trickiest to manage. Landfill operators currently self-monitor methane emissions using testing protocols developed over 10 years ago. We currently do not have independent data about those emissions. More detailed and accurate information is needed to fully understand the complexities of landfill methane emission and potential for more effective control measures.

Oregon enacted methane emissions legislation 4 years ago that requires landfill operators to conduct surface emission monitoring of methane, primarily using handheld devices to walk specified areas of the landfill. This process is labor-intensive and limited to areas accessible to a worker carrying the test device. With the advent of accurate cost-efficient technology for remote measurements to be taken, this process can be greatly simplified.

Landfill operators will be concerned that more accurate testing will result in higher methane readings. We need to know the truth, even if it means changing our landfills to better control methane emissions.

I urge you to pass SB 726 so we can take the uncertainty out of discussions about landfill methane emissions and begin to operate from a common base of information.

Sincerely,
Camille Hall
Corvallis, Oregon