

Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Grayber and Lewis, and Members of the Committee:

My name is John Christensen, and I'm a member of the MCAT (Mobilizing Climate Action Together) working group on forestry.

I support HB 3450, which would direct the Oregon Department of Energy to study and develop an energy storage transition plan for the Critical Energy Infrastructure (CEI) Hub. This Hub, which spans 200 acres, along a 6-mile stretch of land between the Willamette River and Hwy 30 in north Portland, stores most of the liquid fuels used throughout the state, 100% of the jet fuel, and more than 150 chemicals used by Oregon companies. It is long overdue for a holistic plan that moves us from bemoaning the dangers of the CEI Hub to solving the problem.

Benchmarked goals can support a safe and equitable transition to renewable sources of energy by recognizing that any flammable, combustible, or toxic materials stored in the CEI Hub zone poses a danger.