

Submitter: Denice Searcy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2332

YES on HB 2332

An air curtain incinerator (ACI), also known as an air curtain burner, is a device used for controlled open burning of wood waste such as trees and brush. It consists of an insulated box to contain the wood waste and a fan powered by a diesel engine that blows a curtain of air over the box to reduce smoke and particulate matter. Oregon uses ACIs for both wildfire cleanup and fire prevention efforts, as they produce less smoke and particulate matter compared to traditional open burning.

Air curtain incinerators play a crucial role in reducing environmental impact. ACI's minimize harmful emissions, significantly reducing particulate matter and smoke compared to open burning. They help prevent landfill overflow, mitigate wildfire risks by safely disposing of biomass, and contribute to cleaner air quality. ACI's are an eco-friendly alternative for responsible waste disposal and environmental protection. Oregon needs more Air Curtain Incinerators (ACI) to safely burn wood waste, prevents forest fires and significantly reduces air pollution from the burning of wood waste. The Biochar created by ACI's is an excellent soil amendment. Plants love it and, Biochar sequesters carbon. There should be "No" fees to pursue the good work of ACI operators. The use of ACI's could potentially reduce costs for smaller forest products/logging operators by eliminating permitting fees for burning wood waste, clean lumber, or yard waste.

Use of this equipment will allow land managers to potentially monetize slash. We have tried to 'Timber Sale' our way into fuels management. Unfortunately the nature of Timber Sales ignores the fuels at risk of ignition <1000 hours fuels. The ACI's treat the fuels and create a product which can benefit the farmers.

Please vote YES on HB 2332. Thank you.