

Submitter: Gordon Molitor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB685

Dear Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment:

Please support SB 685.

There are not a lot of good reasons for using hydrogen for burning in the home with natural gas.

Hydrogen is expensive.

- Hydrogen costs a lot to produce. It's more expensive than methane and will cause rates to go up.
- Displacing methane with hydrogen actually requires more fuel because it's not as fuel efficient.
- As the blend increases over 15% by volume, every mile of existing pipeline will need to be retrofitted at a high cost.

Safety Impacts: Oregon needs to have Public Utility Commission Oversight

- Unlike WA and CA, NW Natural was able to blend hydrogen with natural gas without notification to customers.
- Hydrogen makes the pipes more brittle increasing leaks.
- Hydrogen is more explosive than methane, increasing risks of explosions and fire.

Climate & Health Impacts-more emissions

- Burning hydrogen in home stoves and furnaces increases the health harms of gas by increasing emissions of asthma worsening nitrogen dioxide.

It's important to reserve hydrogen for uses that are hard to electrify.

- Heavy manufacturing of steel, glass and cement requires high heat that hydrogen is good for.
- Transportation-shipping, aviation and long-haul trucking are better uses of hydrogen until these can be electrified with battery technology.
- Energy storage of "green hydrogen" (produced with renewable energy), offers energy security and storage.

Thank you for your time and hard work.

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