



350PDX  
3625 N. Mississippi Avenue  
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350pdx.org

March 3, 2025

Dear Chair Tran and members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans,

**350PDX strongly supports HB 2949, which calls for a study of the viability of a risk bond requirement for CEI Hub and other bulk fuel storage facilities. We urge you to pass this bill out of Committee.**

For over a decade, [350PDX](https://www.350pdx.org) has been building a movement for climate justice in the greater Portland metro area. We have hundreds of active volunteers with a base of thousands, all who support our work to fight for just solutions to the climate crisis, and many of whom live near the Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub. The CEI Hub has been a major aspect of our organizing and advocacy work. Those who do not live in the immediate vicinity would also be negatively impacted by a disaster at the CEI Hub due to toxic particulates causing public health damage, disruption in infrastructure and services, and damage to the river ecosystems.

**HB 2949, the Risk Bond Study**, will enhance Oregon's energy resilience, safety, and disaster preparedness. As our state faces increasing climate and wildfire risks and seismic threats, these policies offer proactive solutions to protect both people and the environment. Right now, Oregon taxpayers – not the fossil fuel industry – are left to cover the costs of environmental disasters caused by bulk fuel storage facilities. HB 2949 commissions a study on implementing risk bonding, which would require companies who operate at the CEI Hub to set aside funds for potential spills, explosions, or other environmental damages. This ensures that those profiting from hazardous infrastructure – not communities – bear financial responsibility for any harm caused. Passing this bill is a common-sense step toward corporate accountability, reducing cost burdens on taxpayers. **The bill needs to specify studying costs associated with additional events that trigger a catastrophe, not just an earthquake, such as derailment, fire, storms, or leaks.**

This bill represents a forward-thinking, fiscally responsible approach to protecting Oregonians from preventable disasters while advancing climate resilience. We urge you to support and pass HB 2949 (and the other 3 CEI Hub bills - HB 3450, HB 2152, and HB 2151) to ensure our state is well equipped and prepared for any upcoming disaster.

Thank you for your time and commitment to safeguarding our communities. We look forward to your leadership on these critical issues.

Dineen O'Rourke Crowe,  
Campaign Manager, 350PDX

Building the climate justice movement.