



Alan R.P. Journet Ph.D.  
Cofacilitator  
Southern Oregon Climate Action Now

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## SOCAN Testimony relating to HB4032

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

I write as cofacilitator of Southern Oregon Climate Action Now, an organization of some 2,000 Southern Oregonians who are concerned about the climate crisis and encourage state action to address it. As rural and coastal Southern Oregonians, we live on the frontlines of the warming, reducing snowpack, heatwaves, drought, rising sea level and the increasing wildfire risk that these trends conspire to impose on us. Because of this, we pay close attention to what is happening in the state legislature that relates to climate.

A few moments of reflection on the Portland Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub will reveal that this facility constitutes a serious problem. The uncontested series of Hub realities (e.g., Whitcomb 2024, Smith undated) indicate Portland and the state have a serious problem:

- The Hub comprises tanks that store 90% of Oregon's liquid fuel and all the jet fuel used by the International Airport.
- Most of the tanks were built in the 1950s.
- The tanks are located on a substrate (soil) that will probably simply liquefy in the event of a severe seismic event causing their contents to escape into the surrounding community and nearby river.
- The likelihood that the Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake will strike within a few decades is rising.
- Should an earthquake occur and destroy the hub, the environmental damage and greenhouse gas emissions will be devastating.
- Oregon Senate Bill 1567 (2022) drew attention to the problem several years ago, but the continuing threat tells us it's time to do more.



[alan@socan.eco](mailto:alan@socan.eco)

541-500-2331

541-301-4107

#### Sources Cited

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