



2/9/2026

Dear Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Lewis and Watanabe, and Members of the Committee,

Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter has members who live and/or work inside the “blast zone” of the CEI hub. As an organization focused on climate justice and public health as well as a just transition to clean energy, we support near-term action to mitigate pollution and emergency-related harms to communities and longer-term phaseout of dangerous combustion fuels.

Climate Reality supports HB 4032, with the goal of ensuring that diverse geographical regions of Oregon have access to needed fuels in the event of a disaster that cuts regions off from the current reserves at the CEI hub. In addition to facilitating better emergency management, moving reserves out of the CEI hub will reduce fuel being wasted and polluting our water and air in a Cascadia event or other disaster.

We regret that this bill is missing the thoughtful attention to environmental justice and a Just Transition to clean energy that last year’s bill on this topic (2025, HB 2152) contained.

- We strongly encourage bringing back the consideration of community safety and environmental justice in selecting new or expanded disaster fuel storage sites.
- We think it’s important to recognize the need for and reality of a declining reliance on fossil fuels as electric vehicles become the norm. Electric vehicles are more efficient, cost effective, easier to drive, and better for individual and public health. We further think the bill would be strengthened by the recognition that all combustion fuels– whether fossil or “bio/renewable” – are flammable and dangerous to communities, and every gallon of fuel that is burned adds to health-harming pollution.
- According to the Department of Energy’s Oregon Energy Strategy Modeling Presentation, the least-cost scenario for Oregon requires electrification, including electrification of trucking, with an overall reduction of all fuels.

Considering these points is relevant to long term reserves planning, workforce planning and minimizing hazards to communities near the disaster reserves.

Nonetheless, we recognize the need to pass this truncated bill during this year's session in order to diversify the location of disaster reserves. Emergency responders across the state need to be able to access needed fuel for an emergency response even if a disaster renders inoperable the CEI Hub which currently holds 90% of the state's fuel reserves.

Thank you for your work on this important topic,

Helena Birecki
Interim Chair, Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter

About The Climate Reality Project. Portland Chapter

The Climate Reality Project (CRP) Portland Chapter is a local, volunteer-led chapter of The Climate Reality Project, an international nonprofit of 5 million members led by climate leader and former US Vice President Al Gore, whose mission is to catalyze global solutions to the climate crisis. Our legislative committee bases its advocacy on CRP's 5 pillars: a just transition to clean energy, zero carbon transportation, climate justice and public health, green communities, and a fair, representative democracy. climaterealitypdx.com/, www.climaterealityproject.org