

Submitter: Evelyn Whitlock

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4100

Dear Chair Tran, Vice-Chair Lewis and Committee Members,

I am writing as a community member and retired public health physician to support HB 4100. The location of the CEI Hub for flammable fuel storage in Portland, Oregon poses an extreme threat to ecosystems, human life and property, and wildlife. There would be grave economic and ecological consequences if there should be an oil spill or fire. The cleanup and remediation costs of such disasters, which would be highly probably in the event of the Cascadia or other earthquakes, would be astronomical, and should be borne by the businesses that operate these facilities and not local or state tax-payers.

While DEQs Fuel Tank Seismic Stability Program [FTSS] works towards mitigating risks associated with this fuel storage, we need a financial mechanism to protect the community for the residual risks. And, while HB 1032 is intended to diversify storage sites across the state, it would not result in a complete shut down of fuel storage in this vulnerable location. We need this bill in addition.

Please support this common-sense solution that will protect our communities and further incentivize businesses to mitigate environmental and human risks associated with their commerce.

Yours sincerely,
Evelyn P. Whitlock, MD, MPH