



The Climate Reality Project®

PORTLAND CHAPTER

2/10/2026

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 phase-out of dangerous combustion fuels. Well-designed risk bonds are key to mitigating harm after spills and disasters.

Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter is pleased to support HB 4100 **with the -2 amendment.**

The -2 amendment is key because it puts safeguards around the financial assurances so that the needed disaster relief and harm mitigation funds will actually be paid out if a disaster occurs.

Specifically, the -2 amendment requires “that an owner or operator that uses self-insurance be solvent, demonstrate continued ability to cover spill-related liabilities, provide a guarantee for the required amount of established insurance and establish a standby trust fund.”

Also importantly, the -2 amendment adds the date - March 31, 2027 - by which bulk oils or liquid fuels terminals operating in Oregon must apply for a certificate of financial responsibility.

We do still have one concern: the initial maximum of \$300 million in insurance per terminal is likely too low to cover the actual damages in a Cascadia event. We encourage that the limit *be deleted* from the bill language so that the Department of Environmental Quality can do an unbiased evaluation of what level of financial assurance is needed.

Risk bonding is a common requirement in many sectors, from construction to financial services, and is already required for fuel terminals in neighboring states. We can’t stop an earthquake, and industrial accidents happen. This bill will reduce the cost of disaster to ordinary Oregonians, the environment, and the economy. Please pass it.

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