

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

I am writing today in strong support of HB 4032.

My family and I are residents in NE Portland, with other family members in the Willamette Valley and have a strong vested interest in the passage of this bill, as do our neighbors and other members of our community and throughout Oregon.

As a retired person, besides helping raise the next generation in my family, I have worked to educate myself and other community members about our needs to protect our environment from natural disasters. In that process I have learned about the alarming potential disasters which could be extremely exacerbated by our current fuel storage at the CEI Hub on the Willamette River.

I fully support the bill's intention in reducing the amount of fuel stored at the CEI Hub on the Willamette River and distributing it to more diverse and more stable sites throughout Oregon. At this time, the several hundred thousand gallons of fuel and other chemicals stored at the CEI Hub are vulnerable to earthquakes, train derailment, wildfires and flooding. As I know from the first hand experience of close friends in Mosier, OR, such incidents can happen without notice at any time. It is alarming to me to realize that over 90% of our state's fuel supply is stored there, and might be unavailable in the event of a disaster, just when it would be most needed.

We have already waited far too long to take action on finding secure dispersal locations for the fuel and out of this very vulnerable site. As it is, not only do we risk not having access to those resources when we most need them, but the site itself is a danger to the people who live nearby and to the river and land around it, in the case of one of the natural disasters occurring at the CEI Hub.

Please support this critically important Bill.

Sincerely,  
Donna Acord

This bill's intent is to reduce the amount of fuel stored at the CEI Hub on the Willamette River and distribute it to more diverse and more stable sites throughout Oregon. Currently, several hundred thousand gallons of fuel and other chemicals are stored at the CEI Hub, which is potentially in danger of four types of catastrophes: earthquakes (Cascadia fault), train derailment,

wildfire, and flooding. Any of these could happen at any moment, creating a human and environmental disaster. More than 90 % of our state's fuel supply is stored here, and could be unavailable in the event of a disaster, precisely when it is most needed.

The CEI Hub is a disaster waiting to happen. Hundreds of millions of gallons of fuel and other industrial chemicals are stored on silt fill that would liquify in the event of an earthquake. Its location in Portland, along the Willamette River poses a threat to people and the environment. This can has been kicked down the road for too long and the legislature needs to act to protect our state's fuel resources as well as our people and environment.

I am writing today in strong support of HB 4032, which takes a small, but critical, step forward in

the long process of protecting Oregon against a catastrophic collapse of the Hub. This bill directs the

Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to study and report on potential emergency fuel storage sites.

Developing a comprehensive plan for ensuring that emergency responders and recovery teams have

essential fuel in wake of a disaster is critical and the first step is to provide a list of geographically

dispersed sites that can host emergency fuel supplies. The criteria for inclusion includes sites that:

- Are suited to support population islands that form as a result of destruction of roads & bridges;
- Are under the control of the state of Oregon;
- Are proximate to the highest risks and highest needs in the event of disaster;
- Are proximate to priority and ancillary transportation routes across the state;
- Are consistent with the 2024 Oregon Energy Security Plan.

Each of these elements of the bill is a critical and necessary component of the final action plan.

Of particular importance is the explicit direction in the bill to increase geographical distribution of the

fuel storage system. One of the reasons the CEI-Hub was developed in a zone now known to undergo

liquefaction under intense stress (such as "The Big One") is that the dangers of liquefaction were not

well understood until the current CEI-Hub site was well past any reasonable fix. Given that we do not

know what we do not know, it is prudent to design our emergency fuel system to be built in a distributed fashion on geographically diverse locations to hedge our bets. I strongly urge support for HB 4032 by the Committee.