



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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The Yamhill County Board of Commissioners Opposes Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Climate Protection Rulemaking

After the Oregon Court of Appeals invalidated the Environmental Quality Commission's 2021 rules establishing Oregon's Climate Protection Program, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has offered an updated rule to reduce carbon emissions.

The new rule imposes significant carbon reduction goals and hands off potentially billions of dollars in revenue to community groups with little oversight.

This program could have significant impacts on timber and agricultural industries in Yamhill County and throughout Oregon.

The proposed program will generate billions of dollars in fees that will be handed over to third parties with little or no government accountability or oversight.

Oregon-based timber companies in particular, are at risk based on this new rule. Production and any associated emissions will simply be outsourced to other places, costing Oregon jobs, and failing to meet any global carbon reduction goals.

The Yamhill County Board of Commissioners is deeply concerned about the impacts of this proposed rule on our rural economy.

Oregon consumers and businesses will see sharp increases in energy costs as utilities and fuel suppliers will have to purchase "compliance instruments."

There's still time to create a program that is within DEQ's authority and better aligns with other states where market principals can support carbon-reduction.

We respectfully submit these comments for your consideration.

Yamhill County Board of Commissioners

Lindsay Berschauer
Chair

Kit Johnston
Vice-Chair

Mary Starrett
Commissioner

Approved by the Yamhill County Board of
Commissioners on 09/26/2024
via Board Order 24-295