



*The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 100-year-old grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.*

January 22, 2020

**TO: Oregon Environmental Quality Commission**

Kathleen George, Chair  
Sam Baraso, Vice-Chair  
Greg Addington  
Molly Kile  
Wade Mosby

cc: Stephanie Caldera, the commission's assistant: [Caldera.Stephanie@deq.state.or.us](mailto:Caldera.Stephanie@deq.state.or.us)

**RE: Petition to Adopt Rules Regarding Indirect Sources of Air Pollution**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon has a long history of supporting efforts to protect air, land and water resources. The League's position is "Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment". The League particularly insists on pollution prevention.

We support the effort underway that strongly urges the Environmental Quality Commission to establish new regulations to address emissions from indirect sources. Such a new rule would use existing authority to regulate the toxic diesel emissions found in non-road sources that are responsible for the majority of emissions in areas of high population concentrations such as the Portland metro area. The high concentration of diesel particulate matter in our air presents a serious threat to public health, a threat that disproportionately affects children and environmental justice communities.

Diesel emissions have a disastrous effect on the environment. The League of Women Voters of Oregon recognizes that the greatest environmental/moral challenge facing us at this time is climate disruption. Reducing these emissions can have an immediate impact on carbon levels and could play a key role in meeting our two climate goals: first, a 20% reduction in the carbon emissions of transportation fuels, and second, supporting businesses in minimizing the carbon intensity of their supply chains.

Oregon's clean air laws lag behind nearly every other state when it comes to diesel, particularly California and Washington. Revising the Indirect Source Rule is a practical and immediate way to minimize the disastrous impacts of diesel pollution. **We urge the Environmental Quality Commission to vote yes: direct Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality to commence the Indirect Source Rulemaking to control diesel emissions.**

Thank you for considering our comments.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca L. Gladstone".

Rebecca Gladstone  
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Mates".

Susan Mates  
LWVOR Air Quality Portfolio