

Eastern Oregon Climate Change Coalition
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July 20, 2022

Senator Ron Wyden
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wyden:

On behalf of the Eastern Oregon Climate Change Coalition, (EOC3), I would like to express our deep concerns about recent federal legislative and judicial events.

EOC3 is a non-profit, non-partisan all volunteer organization with a current mailing list of about 300 people. EOC3 formed in 2017 with a mission of promoting education, adaptation, and solutions, based on the best available science. Through numerous monthly "Climate Conversations" and other events, we are engaging our communities with information and ideas on how best to deal with a changing climate.

The recent Supreme Court decision restricting the Environmental Protection Agency from promulgating regulations to reduce greenhouse gases is a serious set-back in meeting national goals. That decision also begs the question about other agencies' abilities to regulate for the public good.

Just this week, the Senate was unable to muster the votes for the bold action needed to combat climate change. It appears that Congress is now giving up trying to pass meaningful legislation.

The United States represents 5% of the world population, yet we consume 30% of the world's resources. Other countries look to us for leadership in this global threat. When they see us falter, it gives them little incentive to move forward on their own. With little to no national foundation and pathway, we will be relegated to 50 individual and uncoordinated state actions ranging in scope from the aggressive approach Oregon is taking to none at all. Achieving meaningful progress on national climate goals will be impossible to accomplish.

Eastern Oregon has an economy strongly tied to agriculture and natural resources. Many of these resources now being threatened by a warming planet are culturally significant as well. We are seeing and experiencing the effects each season. Many of my generation have already lived most of our futures, while younger generations and those to come are looking at a future much riskier than what we grew up with. We ask you to do all that you can to promote a meaningful, national pathway to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, develop a more

sustainable energy economy, and reduce the personal impacts we are all experiencing with a changing climate. Our children's' futures are at stake.

Respectfully,

/s/ Jeff Blackwood
Chair, Eastern Oregon Climate Change Coalition