

Heidi Cody

I testified at the 10/18 hearing and am submitting this written version of my testimony. Thank you.

Hello,

My name is Heidi Cody and I live in Vancouver. According to the Washington Health Disparities Map, my neighborhood is a 9 out of 10 for air pollution. I didn't know that when I moved here 11 years ago. And I would have thought twice about moving here if I'd known. Now, I worry about the impacts of poor air quality on my family's health, all the time. In my neighborhood, the biggest culprit is heavy traffic from both I205 and SR 14.

Vancouver has a lot of neighborhoods in the 8 to 10 out of 10 range on the Health Disparities Map. We also have a lot of neighborhoods that are in the 80th percentile on the Environmental Justice map, and a few in the 90th percentile.

On Vancouver's West side, we have the I5 corridor. In the middle, we have the I205 corridor. On the south side is the Columbia river, where the Port of Vancouver has heavy industry and six bulk fossil fuel projects. Big dirty trucks go in and out of the Port all day long. Also on the Columbia, we have a gas-powered River Road Generating Plant that is one of Washington's ten biggest polluters. We are also adjacent to Portland International Airport.

I am glad the Health Disparities Map shows data about air quality, because a lot of criteria pollutants that have serious health consequences are invisible. That is why air quality monitoring is so important. Vancouver needs to be on your list of Overburdened Communities. I hope Ecology will provide thorough air quality monitoring down here, so we can learn more, and start figuring out how to reduce air pollution. I also hope the monitoring information is accessible to the general public, and that there is enforcement, and clarity about who's doing the enforcement.

Thank you for holding these hearings, and allowing the public to comment.