

Public Comment Regarding Washington Cap-and-Invest Program Rulemaking

We appreciate the ongoing efforts to strengthen Washington's Cap-and-Invest Program. Linking with California and Québec could create a more stable carbon market, potentially improving efficiency and reducing costs for compliance. We support efforts that foster regional collaboration and help us achieve collective emissions reductions.

However, we also want to ensure that Washington's specific environmental priorities and the needs of local communities are not overshadowed. We encourage Ecology to maintain strong state-level safeguards and transparency as linkage is considered. We hope that future rulemaking will offer detailed opportunities for local input and ensure that equity and environmental justice remain central.

The Chehalis River and surrounding watershed are deeply important to our communities, wildlife, local economy, and future generations. As these programs continue to evolve, we believe it is critical that rural voices, environmental stewardship groups, and local residents remain part of the conversation.

Thank you for allowing the public to comment on these important developments.

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