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Statement for March 7th Hearing in Salem:

"The Clean Water Act requires states to revise their water quality standards to reflect the best science available. As a general rule, EPA believes states are best positioned to develop and administer these revised water quality standards. In the event that Oregon does not promulgate its revised human health criteria rule, EPA is obligated under the Clean Water Act to promulgate a revised rule for Oregon. As ^{has} ~~is~~ Oregon, EPA will be required under the Act to take into account all available scientific data on fish consumption rates in Oregon. We currently believe Oregon's ^{rate of} 175 grams of fish consumption ^{ed} ~~per~~ per day is the appropriate rate. EPA believes that an Oregon rule is better for Oregonians because EPA will not be in a position to develop and administer the innovative compliance approaches Oregon is ~~looking at~~ ^{proposing} right now. "