From:	Martha Keane
To:	HAMMOND Joni
Subject:	In Support of Oregon"s Glass Manufacturers
Date:	Thursday, March 17, 2016 15:42:34

Dear Ms Hammond,

I am emailing you today to express my support for Bullseye and Uroboros Glass Factories in Portland. I am a glass artist that has lived in SE Portland near Bullseye and in North Portland near Uroboros in the past. I currently live in Clackamas County and frequent the Bullseye factory for their exceptional classes, products, and expertise. Over the years, I have witnessed their dedication to supporting glass artists and their community. I have been impressed with the consistent, friendly, professionalism that is apparent in all their employees at every level in the company. As a small business owner and employer myself, I know that this is no small feat and comes from a dedication by the owners and upper management to their employees, their company and the art glass community.

My respect and love of Bullseye aside, I have been very concerned about what I have seen in our local media coverage of this important issue. Unfortunately, it appears to me that people are putting the cart before the horse. Even just today, I heard on NPR that the results have come back and maybe its not as bad as everyone feared after all. In light of this report, it seems like a good thing that no one jumped to any conclusions at the DEQ/OEQC meeting earlier this week.

I am also a member of the Oregon Glass Guild and feel that fellow member Bob Heath did an excellent job of articulating my feelings on the subject in the statement he made at the DEQ/OEQC meeting. Since he said it so well, I will quote him below. Please know that while I am borrowing his words, my concern over how this issue is being handled is very real and I truly hope that decisions will be made based on science and not emotion or politics. I am confident that options exist to keep people safe and, at the same time, to allow Bullseye and Uroboros to continue to thrive.

"*Due to what I consider to be largely irresponsible, sensationalistic news reporting on this matter, the public demand for immediate action has been extreme. I feel that these proposed new rules are an unwarranted over reaction that will not improve the situation. Two recent soil test studies have already shown that the severity of the problem isn't nearly as great as what was originally feared and both of the Portland glass manufacturers cited as possible sources of pollution, Bullseye and Uroboros, have already taken actions to eliminate the use of, and therefore the potential for releases of, the identified hazardous materials. These actions, taken voluntarily and at significant sacrifice to these businesses demonstrate good will and the concern that both companies have for the air quality in our community."*

"...it would serve no purpose to restrict the use of Cr III by these glass manufacturers, but it would cause significant harm to both of these companies above and beyond that already resulting from their voluntary actions. The DEQ rule proposal identifies the public and the colored glass manufacturers as parties that would be affected by

these proposed temporary rules. Their estimation of how the glass companies would be affected completely overlooks the impact of forcing them to further curtail their production, the layoffs that would follow, and the very real potential for the businesses to be forced to shut down entirely."

"Oregon should be proud of and should help promote its home grown art glass industry. To my knowledge, there are only three companies in the world that make significant quantities of the type of art glass that can be readily used by fused glass artists, and we are fortunate to have two of them located here in Portland. Glass artists from all over the world travel to Portland every year to attend conferences and classes sponsored by these companies. Beyond the effect on the local economy, these unnecessary and scientifically unsupported new rules would also negatively impact the thousands of glass artists worldwide that depend on the products of these companies for their livelihood."

I strongly urge that you to make the right decision and reject these proposed rule changes in favor of a balanced, reasoned and scientifically supported solution to the air contamination problem. The global art glass community is watching what you do...and praying that you don't risk destroying the entire art glass industry in a rush to judgement." (Bob Heath, 3/15/16)

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Martha

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