



*from the office of*

**Senate Republican Leader  
JACKIE WINTERS**

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**Winters responds to DEQ audit**

SALEM, OR - This week, Secretary of State Dennis Richardson released an audit of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Air Quality Permitting Program. DEQ's Air Quality Permitting Program is essential to reducing climate pollution and ensuring that the air Oregonians breath is safe and healthy. The Secretary's audit found that DEQ had substantially underperformed in its task to issue the program's vital air quality permits, potentially causing significant negative consequences for Oregon's environment.

"We have laws on the books to limit pollution and protect Oregon's environment that are not being enforced," said Senator Jackie Winters (R-Salem). "The 2018 Session is not the time to add more environmental regulations to the bog of unenforced environmental protections DEQ should be enforcing. If we aren't using the laws we already have to protect the air Oregonians' breath, why are we looking to add

more?"

To view Secretary Richardson's press release and read the full report, click [here](#).

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