

Thank you. Gary Smith, Executive Director, Independent Business Association. I represent small businesses. We have some significant concerns about the permit as it is going to affect small businesses. We believe that the new benchmark levels for some of the metals are excessively low. It's going to trigger, based on what we heard today, approximately half of the people that are now under a permit are probably going to be out of compliance. They will exceed the benchmark. When you couple that with the issue of the new seasonal median comparison requirement, this could put a lot of people into a situation of having to go through a step B corrective action. In the case of a small business having to go through a step B, you could be in a position of jeopardizing the very existence of that business because of the high cost of having to go out and get an engineering report for a facility. I work with all kinds of businesses, but one of the businesses that we work with on this issue is people in the auto wrecking industry. Here's an industry that's fundamental to the state of Washington, needed because there are about a half a million cars a year that are end of life, and these entities are the ones that take care of getting rid of those cars. They don't produce the waste. Somebody brings them the waste in their wrecked or junked car, and these people – it's their responsibility to take and manage that waste or that material in a responsible way. 40% of that industry has gone away in the last 6 to 8 years in the state of Washington, and if the costs of this permit are excessive, the state of Washington probably needs to do an economic impact analysis of how they're going to get into that business, 'cause these folks aren't going to continue to exist. Finally, we have reviewed the small business economic impact statement that was prepared for this permit. We think it's woefully inadequate. We believe it does not fairly look at the costs in the step B at all. It does not look at the costs involved with the additional monitoring requirements that are imposed here. It does not look at the costs imposed in the additional visual monitoring requirements that are imposed by the permit. We think that the economic impact statement needs to be completely redone.

I didn't tell you my address so I'm going to put it at the end. My address is 16541 Redmond Way #336C, Redmond, Washington, 98052. Thank you.