

Still time to comment on climate program

By TRACY LOEW

Salem Statesman Journal

SALEM — Oregon has extended the deadline for the public to comment on a plan to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions to slow the impacts of climate change.

The proposed Climate Protection Program is being criticized by both those who have fought for years for such a plan, and those the plan would regulate.

The state has received more than 5,000 written comments on the proposal, said Colin McConaha, manager of Oregon's Office of Greenhouse Gas Programs. The new deadline for written comments is 4 p.m. Oct. 25.

Gov. Kate Brown signed an executive order in March 2020 directing multiple state agencies to take actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The proposal also calls for declining caps on greenhouse gas emissions, with targets of reducing greenhouse gas pollution by at least 45% below 1990 levels by 2035, and by 80% by 2050. It regulates large corporate polluters, transportation fuels and other liquid and gaseous fuels. It exempts landfills, electric power plants and some natural gas compressor stations.

Many of those speaking at the hearings pushed for the reduction targets to be accelerated.

They noted that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's updated report, published in August, found that to have any chance of meeting climate goals, drastic reductions in CO₂ are needed this decade, and net zero emissions by 2050.

Oregon's targets were developed before the report was released.

Business and industry groups, meanwhile, said the proposal goes too far and could raise prices for businesses and consumers.

"We do have to take action here in Oregon. At the same time, action that Oregon takes will not have much impact on what we're experiencing today," said Dan Kirschner, executive director of the Northwest Gas Association.

HOW TO COMMENT

Written comments must be received by 4 p.m. on Oct. 25. To submit comments, email GHGCR2021@deq.state.or.us.

MORE INFORMATION

For information about the proposed Climate Protection Program rules, go to: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/ghgp/Pages/capandreduce.aspx>.



Nora Hawkins stands in front of her new Wallowa Mountain Midwifery in Wallowa, on Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2021, which is housed in the former Home Independent Telephone Co. building.

Photos by Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Dial 'B' for baby

Wallowa Mountain Midwifery moves to former telephone company building

By BILL BRADSHAW

Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA — Want to call someone in Wallowa to get a baby delivered? Try dialing the old Home Independent Telephone Co. building downtown.

Actually, the historic building is where Eleanor "Nora" Hawkins has moved her midwifery practice, Wallowa Mountain Midwifery, from where she both visits with expectant mothers and reaches out to them in their homes.

A midwife specializes in child delivery, pre- and postnatal care. After returning to school to become a midwife and then practicing briefly in Central Oregon, she moved home and opened her practice in 2017. She has seen clients primarily in their homes until now.

"Midwives practice a model of care that focuses on individualized patient care and a thorough, informed choice about every step of pregnancy and birth," she said. "Rather than having a baby at home, a birth center or in the hospital, midwifery care is the standard in much of the world."

Hawkins said the U.S. is one of the only places where physician care is the standard for low-risk pregnancies.

"But in Europe, in Australia, in Canada, you go to your midwife," she said. "Having an OB (obstetrician) is something you'd do only if you had a complication — a risk factor — in much of the world."

She said midwifery care very much parallels the care an obstetrician would give.

"We do the same prenatal visits, the same blood work, lab work, the same ultrasounds, the same vitals and statistics to monitor both fetal and maternal well-being," she said. "It differs in that midwives are just specialized in the child-bearing year of a woman, so I don't do all of the other things a doctor does."

That "child-bearing year" is the nine months of pregnancy and the



WALLOWA MOUNTAIN MIDWIFERY

Who: Eleanor (Nora) Hawkins
What: Midwifery
Where: 301 E. 1st St., Wallowa
Hours: Open Wednesdays or by appointment.
Phone: 541-263-1724
Email: info@wallowamountainmidwifery.com
Online: wallowamountainmidwifery.com

Nora Hawkins sits on the bed in one of her two examination rooms Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2021, at her recently opened Wallowa Mountain Midwifery in Wallowa.

first three months of a child's life. Also, since a midwife specializes in child delivery, pre- and postnatal care, she does not do or have training in many of the other skills a general practitioner does.

Long-time Wallowan

Hawkins, who is the sixth generation of a local family, is not the first in her line to be a midwife. Her great-grandmother, Mae Schaeffer Hawkins, was a midwife in the lower valley during the 1920s and 1930s.

"I did not know that when I wanted to become a midwife. My dad told me after I'd gone back to school, 'That's what my grandmother did.' Barter was common and she used to trade things to people who didn't have money," she said. "There are various things around the ranch that came from her delivering someone's babies."

Historic preservation

Hawkins obtained a matching grant from the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, which administers the Diamonds in the Rough grant through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. She said the grant helped refurbish some of the building's exterior.

With the grant — and her own

funds — she was able to get new awnings and masonry work done. She elected to keep the word "TELEPHONE" at the top of two sides of the historic building.

Since buying the building Hawkins said she also put on a new roof and has completed a full remodel of the inside.

"It was in a state of disrepair," she said.

Open for business

Prior to opening about a month ago, Hawkins set up two examination rooms — one with a double bed and the other with a typical medical examination table — and a couple of sitting rooms. The front room has a small table and toys to help keep older siblings occupied while mom is getting examined.

Hawkins has her office day on Wednesdays. Winding Waters Medical Clinic in Wallowa has also started leasing the building on Thursdays for its clinic to have a space in Wallowa as it prepare to build its own place.

She hopes to have both massage and acupuncture available in the building soon, as well.

Hawkins received training and national certification as a certified

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Hemp growers facing changes

By GEORGE PLAVEN

Capital Press

SALEM — New rules are coming for Oregon hemp producers as the state brings its Hemp Program into compliance with the USDA.

The state Department of Agriculture filed draft revisions for the program on Aug. 30. A public comment period is now underway, with a deadline of Oct. 22.

Once adopted, the agency will submit the plan to the USDA for final approval.

The changes would take effect for the 2022 growing season, said Sunny Summers, ODA cannabis policy coordinator.

"It's really important to follow the requirements," Summers said. "There are a lot of people looking at this industry, and you can't afford to be naive to the requirements any longer."

Perhaps the biggest change, Summers said, is ODA's new statutory authority to conduct background checks on growers applying for a hemp license.

Under the USDA hemp rule, anyone convicted of a felony cannot participate in growing or processing hemp for 10 years. But ODA previously was unable to conduct background checks into applicants' criminal records.

House Bill 3000 — a broad cannabis bill signed by Gov. Kate Brown in July to crack down on illegal marijuana operations — changed that, granting ODA the ability to conduct background checks in partnership with the Oregon State Police.

"The background check is probably one of the biggest, if not the biggest, change that growers are going to need to anticipate," Summers said.

HB 3000 also gives ODA stronger authority to deny or revoke hemp licenses, Summers said. For example, if applicants have already planted hemp before their license applications are approved, the agency can require the crop be destroyed.

"Just because you submitted an application to ODA does not mean you are legal to grow," Summers said. "We're trying to get that message out, that you have to have fully received your license."

The revised hemp plan sets a cutoff date of May 31 for grower applications. Anyone who submits an incomplete application will have 15 days to provide missing records, or have it rejected, Summers said.

The USDA requires all hemp be tested no more than 30 days before harvest to ensure THC levels do not exceed the legal limit of 0.3%. THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol, is the main component in marijuana that gets users high.

Summers said growers may be subject to random testing as well throughout the growing season. Part of HB 3000 approved ODA's request to hire eight new employees in the hemp program to keep up with the increase in production statewide.

Acupuncturist set to open office in Baker City

Hopi Wilder joining Integrative Physical Therapy

Baker City Herald



Wilder

Wilder, L.Ac., will offer acupuncture, herbal medicine, supplements and nutritional counseling and practice in Baker City and the surrounding area.

BAKER CITY — Hopi Wilder, a licensed acupuncturist from Halfway, is opening a new branch in Baker City on Nov. 13.

Wilder will be joining Integrative Physical Therapy. Anne Nemec owns the business at 1928 Court Ave.

"We are going to start off with one per month in Baker City, yet that could grow depending on the requests for treatments," Wilder said. "Patients are also welcome to make the

trek to Halfway if they want to get in to see me sooner."

Wilder began her career as a sports massage therapist in ski towns for 15 years. After receiving her Master of Science in Oriental Medicine in 2010 she developed specialties in women's health, chronic pain, anxiety/depression, food allergies, weight loss and stress relief. She was an apprentice for the past 21 years with her mentor who taught her orthopedic acupuncture for muscu-

lo-skeletal pain. Wilder obtained her license in acupuncture for Oregon in 2017 shortly after moving to Halfway, about 53 miles east of Baker City.

"My specialties are cowboys and tough women who've lived a full life," Wilder said. "It makes it all worth it to me to see people get out of pain naturally and without side effects," she said.

Her clinic in Halfway, Wilder Health, is open two days per week at 207 N. Main St.

Wilder Health is expanding the practice because of a growing need in our communities for more peace and relaxation, Wilder said.

Wilder Health stocks herbs and supplements for cold and flu season to boost the body's immune system.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment online, go to wilderhealthacu.com. Wilder is available by email at wilderhealth@gmail.com or by calling 541-406-0615.