

**Email Response to Dennis Richardson
Received May 9, 2009 Regarding:
“Oregon Prepares for Final Budget Phase,”
Graph of Oregon State Spending History**

“I looked at the budget chart in the newsletter and I was shocked. As a physicist, the shape of the graph immediately struck me as best fit by a power series or an exponential. Either of which spell disaster for our State. I entered the (approximate) data values from your chart into Excel, then determined the best fit to the data. The data suggests that Oregon's budget for the last 17 biennia is best fit with an exponential equation, as follows:

$$\text{Budget} = 5E-54 \text{EXP}(0.06305 \times \text{Budget Mid-Year})$$

A plot of your data, together with the exponential fit is shown in the graph below. together with a 10-year budget projection using the exponential model. Note that the 10-year projection for the growth of Oregon's budget will place the budget at \$102B by the 2019-2021 budget. Over 100 Billion dollars!! What ARE you guys thinking???. This is crazy! Please show my graph [Below] to your colleagues and point out to them the massive disaster they have put in motion. Oregon's spending MUST be brought under control. I might be alive in 2020. If I am, and if Oregon's budget continues to follow the model, I will be destitute after trying to pay for the excesses of our State Government.

