

THINK OUT LOUD

Eugene's J.H. Baxter & Co. faces federal criminal charges



By **Gemma DiCarlo** (OPB)

Jan. 2, 2025 6 a.m.

Broadcast: Thursday, Jan. 2



An aerial image provided by Beyond Toxics made with a drone shows the J.H. Baxter wood treatment facility in Eugene, Ore., in January 2022.

Courtesy of Beyond Toxics



STREAMING NOW
Think Out Loud

THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR:

[Become a Sponsor](#)

J.H. Baxter & Co. has faced numerous fines from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for [violating state environmental regulations](#). The Eugene plant treated wood products with creosote and other chemicals from the 1940s until it closed in 2022. Now, the company and its owner are facing [federal criminal charges](#) for allegedly boiling off 1.7 million gallons of toxic waste and venting the fumes into the surrounding air.

Christian Wihtol [covered the federal charges](#) for Eugene Weekly. He joins us with more details.

Contact “Think Out Loud®”

If you'd like to comment on any of the topics in this show or suggest a topic of your own, please get in touch with us on [Facebook](#), send an email to thinkoutloud@opb.org, or you can leave a voicemail for us at 503-293-1983. The call-in phone number during the noon hour is 888-665-5865.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR:

[Become a Sponsor](#)