



February 12, 2018

Senate Committee on Business & Transportation
500 Capitol St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: *SB 1537 and SB 1519*

Committee Members,

On behalf of the Northwest Energy Efficiency Council (NEEC), I am writing to express our support for the Oregon Department of Energy, and our concern regarding the possible changes to the state energy policy administrative structure outlined in both SB 1537 and SB 1519.

For the last several years, NEEC has served on the Energy Advisory Work Group (EAWG) convened by the Oregon Department of Energy. As the only trade association representing the interests of the energy efficiency industry in the Pacific Northwest, we have appreciated the opportunity to share the perspective of the businesses we represent through this work group. We've also appreciated the positive changes communicated to us by the new Acting Director, Janine Benner, and have an overall positive sense of the direction of the agency. We hope the Committee takes into consideration the good work that is underway and yet unfinished.

It is also our hope that the Oregon legislature ensures that any state energy policy administrative framework provides a venue through which groups like NEEC might represent the interests of the energy efficiency business community, and the overall industry upon which these businesses depend, such as we currently have within the EAWG established by the Oregon Department of Energy.

We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kerry Meade", is positioned above the typed name.

Kerry Meade
Executive Director,
Northwest Energy Efficiency Council