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Rep. Ken Helm, Chair House Energy and Environment Committee 900 Court St. NE, H-490 Salem, OR 97301

Support for HB 2857 Small-Scale Community-Based Renewable Energy

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

We represent Dry Creek Landfill (DCL), a regional municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill located outside of Medford, Oregon. We currently accept over 500,000 tons of material annually, serving 8 rural counties. Our landfill has over 100 years of capacity. We are committed to sustainability and have a proven commitment to implementing voluntary environmental initiatives.

Oregon's first Renewable Portfolio Standard, passed in 2007, supported our construction and operation of a landfill gas-to-energy (GTE) facility located at Dry Creek Landfill. This project allows us to process municipal solid waste (MSW) produced in rural Oregon into renewable electricity. We produce 3.2 MW of renewable energy providing clean energy for approximately 3,000 homes in rural Jackson County. Additionally, Dry Creek Landfill's GTE facility provides a local source of electricity that will be beneficial in the aftermath of a catastrophic event – like a Cascadia Subduction Zone event, or widespread catastrophic wild fire.

Our existing power purchase agreement with PacifiCorp will expire in 2022. Current rate structures under PURPA are significantly disadvantageous and will impact our ability to continue to operate the plant. We firmly believe that passage of this legislation will establish a pathway to just and reasonable pricing for the renewable power we generate.

Passage of HB 2857 will strengthen the Oregon Public Utility Commission's (OPUC) current goals of promoting small scale renewable development. We feel strongly that our small electrical generation facility is an important and strategic part of Oregon's energy, climate and resiliency goals.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration of the many ways Dry Creek Landfill supports community-based environmental and economic initiatives while protecting human health, public safety and the environment. We urge you to pass HB 2857.

Respectfully,

Jenifer Stuber, PE General Manager Dry Creek Landfill