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March 27, 2019

RE: 1.5% GET Program Comments

As a design and installation firm of photovoltaics, we have been fortunate to have successfully completed projects under the GET program spanning across central and eastern Oregon.

Over the past few years we have noticed a decline in project bid requests for renewable energy for public works projects. Central Oregon has experienced rapid growth and along with that has been the construction of multiple public buildings that do not appear to have installed any form of renewable energy on the new facilities.

A few examples of projects not participating in the 1.5% for Green Energy Technology law are quoted from emails I have received when inquiring on the renewable status.

March 28, 2018 - email response from Architect:

We have heard from they don't pursue solar panels on their buildings because "the incentives don't pencil with BOLI wage requirements."

March 26, 2019 - email response from General Contractor:

Thanks for the link. We will present your number to the Owner/Architect; however, at this time the Architect has indicated to carry an allowance of 1.5% of budget for the PV Array...I'm not sure why since we are able to work with contractors like yourself that can provide detailed budgets.

I believe this program to be extremely important for Oregon's economy and health of our communities. Over-site of this program is critical for its success and the growth of our industry.

Sincerely yours,

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Kelli Hewitt President