

Morrow County Testimony on HB 2322  
House Committee on Energy and Environment  
Monday, April 1, 2019

Chair Helm, Vice-Chairs Reschke and Schouten, and members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment:

I am Carla McLane, Morrow County Planning Director, and in this role I want to encourage your support of House Bill 2322 relating to the adoption of energy policies into statewide land use planning goals, particularly Goal 13. And please accept my apologies for not being there in person to share this support with you.

Much has changed in the energy landscape, particularly in the last 10 years, with the adoption of Oregon's Renewable Portfolio Standard including recent increases, as well as development of varied types of renewable energy – solar, wind, biomass and biofuels. Morrow County supports development of a comprehensive energy goal that incorporates and balances other goals with the desire to conserve energy, balance impacts of energy development, and encourage development of a sustainable energy supply for Oregon. Morrow County supports renewable and sustainable energy development, policies, and regulations that balance impacts to resource lands and people.

Goal 13 Energy Conservation, which is governed by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC), needs to be brought into this century. When the LCDC first adopted Goal 13 it was the mid-1970s and the United States was in the middle of an energy crisis. This had a tremendous amount of influence on the development of Goal 13 and over time the LCDC has not felt the need or been adequately pressured to make changes.

What Goal 13 lacks is a 21<sup>st</sup> century view and an acknowledgement of the Renewable Portfolio Standard and Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Requirements, both embedded in Oregon Revised Statute. Energy Conservation, the foundation of Goal 13, should not be replaced; it needs to be brought current with a view to renewable energy generation, today's energy consumption patterns, the development of data centers that are intense users of power, and the transmission needed to move this power from generation to consumption. There needs to be a recognition that Oregon has moved from the 1970s energy crisis to a place where there is substantial energy generation, movement and consumption with a focus on renewable energy sources.

Morrow County wants to participate fully with the Legislature and the LCDC as changes are proposed and vetted, leading to adoption and implementation of changes to Goal 13. And to more local involvement in the siting of renewable energy projects.

Thank you for your time and consideration of HB 2322.

Respectfully,  
Carla McLane, MBA  
Morrow County Planning Director