

**From:** [Steve Cook](#)  
**To:** [JWMNR Exhibits](#)  
**Cc:** [Glenn Lamb](#); [Dan Roix](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of HB 2020 from Columbia Land Trust  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 4, 2019 8:46:35 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
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[image004.png](#)

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To: The Joint Committee on Ways and Means/Subcommittee on Natural Resources:

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB 2020 on behalf of Columbia Land Trust. Columbia Land Trust is the regional land trust for the lower Columbia River region, including Northern Oregon from the coast roughly 200 miles East to the John Day River. We have scores of conservation projects in Oregon, three offices in Oregon (plus a Vancouver, WA office) and a majority of our staff live and vote in Oregon.

Columbia Land Trust strongly supports HB 2020, and we urge the Committee to send the bill to the House and Senate for a vote, without further amendments.

As an organization that stewards thousands of acres of working forest, farms, natural lands and recreational lands, we are already seeing the ill effects of climate change. The science is clear—we humans, by burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas) are changing and warming the climate in ways that are harming, and will do much more harm to, nature, forestry, agriculture, and our economy. This is a pivotal moment—if we take strong action now to rapidly phase out fossil fuels, and shift to renewable power, we can avoid the worst effects of climate change, while giving our economy a shot of vitality through innovation and the creation of new infrastructure. But if we hesitate, things will only get worse and our options will narrow.

Therefore, Columbia Land Trust favors strong action, now, to fight climate change. Passing HB 2020 will not only put Oregon on a path to a clean energy future, but it will add to national and global momentum that will encourage other jurisdictions to take similar action. Furthermore, it will help make Oregon a leader, not a laggard, in the shift to renewable power, which will provide Oregonians with opportunities to build businesses and create jobs in the rapidly growing clean energy economy.

This bill has already gone through a very extensive process of hearings, work sessions, and amendments. It is not necessary to reopen the bill and consider further amendments at this late date—efforts to do that can only slow down and dilute this important bill. Instead, please move it forward, so that Governor Brown can sign the bill into law soon.

Steve Cook

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