

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Helm, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, and Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environment,

I am writing in support of HB 2021, 100% Clean Energy for All. Thank you for your time and attention to this bill to improve the lives of Oregonians and the environment on which our lives depend. I do hope you adopt legislation that does more than just mandate the PUC to study the matter.

I am a former bilingual elementary school teacher, retired from Canby School District, now living on SW Canby Street in Multnomah Village. I'm an active grandmother, member of the Jewish Renewal Congregation P'nai Or, an artist and community volunteer. I spend most of my volunteer time working for equitable, just solutions to the climate crisis.

I support House Bill 2021 because our futures depend on the transition to clean energy free of carbon emissions. Continued use of fossil fuels and other carbon-emitting practices will increase the frequency and severity of extreme weather events and wildfires, and will ultimately cost much more than the cost of converting to 100% clean energy sources. The rural communities most at risk from climate-caused disasters are the same communities that will benefit from clean energy and the jobs it can bring.

As a grandmother, continuing business as usual is unthinkable to me. Let's not stand by as human-caused climate pollution makes our planet unlivable, especially for those who have consumed the least energy and have the fewest resources to move elsewhere.

I support building a strong, resilient, and clean energy economy in our communities by ensuring that Oregon's 100% Clean Energy Standard includes:

- Strong labor standards that ensure clean energy projects hire local, pay the prevailing wage and provide good benefits, and reserve opportunities for apprenticeships.
- Good incentives for community-based energy projects such as solar plus storage that increase energy independence, affordability, and disaster-resilience.
- Provisions that prioritize benefits and avoid harms to communities in need of environmental justice including BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color), low-income communities, Tribes, and rural and coastal communities.

We have the opportunity to increase local community ownership of energy, job opportunities and economic development. By doing this, we can improve the health and safety of communities throughout the state. Please help your colleagues see the wisdom of doing so.

By setting clear targets for cleaning up Oregon's electricity and supporting community-based energy projects and good jobs for local communities, we can seize the opportunity of clean energy to help rebuild from today's many crises.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2021. Please support a strong 100% Clean Energy Standard with good jobs and community-based energy projects for Oregonians.

Sincerely,
Emily Polanshek, SW Portland, 97219