



Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Helm, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2021, 100% Clean Energy for All. My name is Indi Namkoong, and I am the Coalition Manager at 350PDX. We are a Portland-based organization working to build a diverse grassroots movement to address the causes of climate disruption through justice-based solutions by inspiring, training and mobilizing people to act. Over the last few months, we've had the honor of working in coalition with organizations from all over the state representing those most impacted by the climate crisis to set a strong mandate for the 100% clean energy future all Oregonians deserve and for a just transition that leaves no one in our state behind.

HB 2021 offers us the chance to ensure that our transition to a clean energy system doesn't compound the harms done by both our current energy system and the climate crisis to Black, Indigenous, people of color, as well as rural, coastal, and low-income folks around the state. Transformational change can't happen when we reproduce the structures of harm and disadvantage that existed before; communities that have been marginalized by pollution, high costs, or the lack of job opportunities in energy need to be the first to lead on and benefit from our shift to a clean system and energy economy.

We can achieve this in part by strengthening the labor standards already specified in HB 2021 to ensure that communities most impacted by our energy system and by the climate crisis can share the rewards of new, good jobs as the clean energy sector expands. By requiring that clean energy projects in our state hire locally, pay a prevailing wage and good benefits, include hiring targets and thresholds for women, BIPOC, and other marginalized folks in the sector, and provide apprenticeship opportunities, we can make a clean energy transition a chance for Oregon's workers to thrive and grow.

We can offer that same chance to communities of color, low-income communities, and rural and coastal communities by setting ambitious targets to increase generation and incentivize development of community-based clean energy projects. Community-based clean energy investments give communities the chance to self-determine their energy needs and how best to meet them in a local context. Oregon's communities are not cookie-cutter, so our solutions can't be either. By incentivizing these small-scale projects led or owned at a local level, particularly in combination with microgrids or battery storage, our most impacted communities can build wealth and stability while securing co-benefits that range from good local jobs to disaster resilience and beyond.

As an organization with a long history resisting the expansion of polluting fossil fuel infrastructure across the state, we are excited to see the inclusion of a ban on siting of new natural gas facilities in HB 2021. We urge you to include facilities that generate electricity from "renewable" natural gas in this ban as well,

further addressing the health impacts that communities of color and low-income communities disproportionately face from these facilities. We're also excited to continue to work with you and with our partners in this movement to ensure that the mandated emission reductions targets for both 2040 and interim years laid out in this bill and in the -1 amendments remain strong, ensuring that our progress towards 100% clean energy as a state is real, tangible, and accountable.

We're so grateful to be working alongside an incredible statewide coalition to shape this standard for the state and lay the foundation for Oregon's clean energy future, and are grateful as well for your efforts in making this bill the best that it can be for all of our communities. Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Indigo Namkoong
Coalition Manager
350PDX