Dear House Committee on Energy and Environment,

I'm writing to support HB 2021.

Clean energy can create opportunities in every community across Oregon. New projects can create attractive, green jobs and local economic
and resiliency benefits.

As a result of the pandemic, we need clean energy projects more than ever. Energy bills are high, renewable energy is cheap, and people are out of work.

We can create more demand for clean energy projects that put Oregonians to work and build economic opportunities around the state. The 100% Clean Energy For All bill requires
that Oregon be powered by 100% clean electricity as soon as possible (no later than 2040). This energy must maximize economic opportunities to environmental justice communities, meaning rural and low-income communities, Black people, Indigenous people, and other people of color, and Tribal Nations. Too often, these communities are exposed to pollution from power plants and cars. Clean energy and electrification can help solve that problem.

We need a major investment in energy from sources such as solar plus storage projects and clean microgrids. These will provide improvements in resiliency and reliability for the grid and for Oregon's communities.

Let's establish interim clean energy targets to ensure that rapid progress is made toward 100% emissions-free by 2040 at the latest.

We should have strong labor standards for renewable energy projects over a certain size, meaning those projects must:

Pay the same wage for the same work as is normal in the area (prevailing wage)
Offer healthcare and retirement benefits to employees
Participate in apprenticeship programs registered with the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries
Have 15% of work hours completed by apprentices (in apprenticeable occupations)
Establish and execute an outreach program to recruit and retain members of minority groups, veterans, and women, with the ultimate goal of having 15% of work hours completed by individuals belonging to these groups.

Thanks for your time.

Lisa Cohn