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May 13, 2021

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Reschke, Representative Levy, Representative Marsh, Representative Smith, and Representative Valderrama,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB2021-A and the -A46 amendments or the “100% Clean Energy for All Bill.” My name is Alessandra de la Torre, I am the Energy Justice organizer at Rogue Climate, a grassroots climate justice group based in Southern Oregon and the South Coast.

Rogue Climate strongly supports HB2021-A generally, and the A-46 specifically. We believe this new language helps to ensure that Oregon communities will reap the economic, resiliency, and other co-benefits from the transition to clean energy in Oregon.

Every day in Southern Oregon we see new solar panels come up and on the South Coast conversations about the potential for offshore wind are rolling. With declining costs, technology advancements, the impacts that fossil fuels have on our climate and communities, and new commitment from the Federal Government, the transition to 100% clean energy seems inevitable. What is not inevitable is how this transition to clean energy is done and who will benefit. With HB2021 A-46, the Oregon legislature has the opportunity to ensure that this transition is done in the right way and that clean energy is a tool to reinvigorate local economies across the state and build resilience into our energy system.

We believe that the new language proposed in a forthcoming amendment by the Yakama Nation and other partners ensuring meaningful consultation with Federally Recognized Tribes on clean energy and energy storage proposals that could impact cultural resources is vital. This is a step in the right direction to ensure that clean energy and energy storage projects don't come at the cost of Tribal communities.

We are also very pleased with the commitment to community based and small scale renewable energy projects that directly benefit Oregon communities in HB2021-A, that is strengthened in the -A46. The -A46 adds a planning requirement to acknowledging the avoided costs and harms of fossil fuel generation. This can be displaced and mitigated by more intentional investments in

community-based renewable energy projects. These types of projects create local jobs, long term investment, and energy resiliency in our communities.

We are excited to see that the funding to support such projects will be focused outside of the City of Portland and hope that rural communities can take full advantage of these funds. Additionally, the new language that ensures the PUC considers energy resiliency for Oregon's energy system is another important step for our communities who are most impacted by energy shutoffs.

Renewable energy, like wind and solar, is affordable and can help lift communities across Oregon out of the economic downturn that has resulted from the pandemic and the destructive summer wildfires in Oregon. The 100% Clean Energy for All Bill is a critical opportunity for Oregon to create jobs, boost local economies, and ensure a just transition when we need it most. I urge you to move the -A46 amendment and HB 2021-A with a do-pass recommendation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Alessandra de la Torre
Energy Justice Organizer, Rogue Climate