



Office of Sustainability

May 14, 2021

Representative Nancy Nathanson, Chair
House Committee on Revenue
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room D
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Multnomah County Supports HB 2021 and a just transition to 100% Clean Energy for All

Chair Nathanson and Members of the Committee:

The Multnomah County Office of Sustainability asks for your support for a just and equitable transition to 100% clean electricity for Oregonians. The -46 amendment to HB 2021A strengthens a bill that already set in place important elements to justly transition to a clean electricity system and prioritizes community benefits, family wage jobs, workforce equity, and resiliency.

Multnomah County is committed to transitioning to a clean and resilient energy system while centering environmental and energy justice. Our goals go beyond meeting 100% of our electricity and energy needs with renewable energy, and include community benefits through community-based renewables and through partnerships with our environmental justice communities to ensure that they too enjoy the economic, social, and environmental benefits associated with this clean energy transition. Your support for a just and equitable transition to 100% clean electricity is critical for us to meet our local commitments.

The positive impacts that the -46 amendment to HB 2021A would have for Multnomah County go beyond helping us reach our renewable energy goals. Like the rest of Oregon, Multnomah County's community has been impacted by the health and economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and the natural disasters and other events of the last year. These impacts have highlighted for us the importance of an energy transition that translates to economic opportunities for Oregonians and that helps us build a stronger and more resilient energy system.

The -46 amendment is the result of a process that included multiple stakeholders and centered the voices of the frontline-community leaders that have worked hard to bring 100% Clean Energy for All within reach. We appreciate seeing in the -46 amendment a framework that facilitates the development of community-based projects and of solutions that can make our

communities more resilient. The fires and winter storm of the last year taught us the value and importance of resilience. In a world altered by global warming, the resilience that comes from distributed energy resources and micro-grids is no longer a luxury, but a central component of a grid capable of offering safe, reliable, and high quality electricity services in the 21st century.

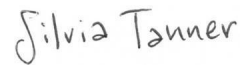
The Multnomah County Office of Sustainability looks forward to continuing to engage in the thoughtful process that will lead to a strong 100% Clean Energy for All, a crucial step for Oregon. We will continue to engage with you and the many other partners and stakeholders working tirelessly to advance the just energy transition that our state needs.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments and ask for your support of a just transition to 100% clean electricity.

Sincerely,



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