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February 17, 2022

Subj: HB 4139-2

Co-Chairs Beyer and McLain, members of the joint committee:

My name is Ethan Hasenstein, I am the Contracts, Risk, and Legislative Affairs Manager for Knife River Corporation – Northwest, is one of Oregon’s largest producers of construction aggregates, concrete, precast concrete products, and asphalt. Knife River supports HB 4139 with the -2 amendment.

In furtherance of our commitment to sustainability, Knife River has obtained Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for ready-mix concrete produced at its four Portland-area concrete plants and for asphalt produced at our Coffee Lake, Redmond, Farmington, and Sundial plants. We are also working toward obtaining EPDs for our other concrete and asphalt production facilities statewide. The demand for these products and a higher level of environmental transparency is strong and getting stronger, and Knife River is positioning itself to meet that demand.

The -2 strikes the appropriate balance between a focus on the carbon lifecycle of ODOT’s construction materials and project design and delivery considerations. Our industry is evolving rapidly and so are the methods by which we make our products and the standards by which their carbon footprint is assessed. This program will be an adaptive process. The -2 provides flexibility for ODOT to consider a range of factors, including regional considerations and emerging technologies, to meet its GHG-reduction goals, in consultation with technical experts and stakeholders like Knife River.

Knife River thanks Speaker Rayfield for his leadership on the bill and looks forward to our continued involvement in helping shape the program.