



February 17, 2023

Senate Energy and Environment Committee
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Findley, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF), I am writing to express our support for the passage of SB124 and SB125 in this legislative session.

BEF has been deeply involved with renewable hydrogen for the past five years and has seen a dramatic increase in the support for renewable hydrogen and the awareness of the large role it will play in decarbonization. This is evidenced by the passage of major supportive policies for renewable hydrogen in the European Union, Asia, and in the US.

Oregon has some catching up to do. Neighboring States and Canadian provinces have advanced policies, incentives and projects to deploy renewable hydrogen infrastructure and are well positioned to secure US DOE hydrogen hub funding. These policies will support good paying jobs and large investments in their communities. Oregon is just new beginning to evaluate renewable hydrogen as a synergistic decarbonization tool and needs more leadership at the State level to facilitate the industries growth.

We urge, as a tool and pathway to assist in achieving Oregon's climate goals that the Legislature pass HB 2718/SB 124 and HB 2720/SB 125 which would implement recommendations from ODOE's [2022 Renewable Hydrogen Study](#) and the Oregon Department of Transportation's [2022 Hydrogen Pathway Study](#).

As an independent 501c3 non-profit, BEF is uniquely positioned to evaluate the various production methods and end use sectors for renewable hydrogen, without bias. BEF's mission focuses on expanding the amount of renewable energy generation in the Pacific Northwest. A zero-emission energy system is a monumental challenge with no easy solutions. We need to have every tool at our disposal to effectively utilize renewable energy and provide workable consumer choices. Renewable hydrogen is a major opportunity to realize greater incorporation of renewable electricity on the grid and provide a zero-emission fuel for other sectors.

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These bills are important and a necessary step to reduce climate-damaging emissions in the near term and work in tandem with other State efforts such as the Climate Protection and the Clean Fuels programs. We urge adoption of these bills and efforts to create policy that integrates the production and use of renewable and green electrolytic hydrogen to address GHG emission reductions in Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Evan Ramsey

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