

Letter of Support for Renewable and Green Electrolytic Hydrogen Policy in 2023 Oregon Legislative Session

We, the undersigned organizations, enthusiastically support a policy initiative that will build out a renewable hydrogen economy in the state. Production and use of renewable and green electrolytic hydrogen are key solutions to decarbonizing hard-to-electrify and/or hard-to-decarbonize sectors such as long-term energy storage, transportation, and industrial processes. How hydrogen is produced matters and Oregon should advance hydrogen policy that encourages “renewable” and “green electrolytic” hydrogen. Both methods are reliant on renewable energy to create hydrogen rather than fossil fuels.

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

SB 124 would:

- 1) Define “Green Electrolytic Hydrogen” and “Renewable Hydrogen” for purposes of eligibility for state funds and incentives;
- 2) Establish a grant fund to acquire and replace diesel standby (backup) power generation systems with renewable or green electrolytic hydrogen-fueled generators with a prioritization of emergency shelters and infrastructure, hospitals and utilities;

SB 125 would:

- 1) Create a \$25 million grant program for hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV) and hydrogen fueling demonstration projects; and
- 2) Require ODOT to evaluate existing statewide regulations and processes to ensure there are no obstacles to FCEV deployment or hydrogen fueling infrastructure siting.

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.



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