

Submitter: Diane Hodiak
On Behalf Of: 350 Deschutes
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure: HB2816

Testimony in support of HB 2816

My name is Diane Hodiak, and I am the executive director of 350 Deschutes, a nonprofit with about 2000 stakeholders that are situated primarily in Central Oregon in Jefferson, Crook, and Deschutes Counties. We work on climate policy and education.

- I urge you to pass HB 2816. Authors of this bill have worked with many stakeholders, creating amendments responding to concerns. It addresses the concerns that bigTech, Energy providers, and local governments are heavy energy users and could upset the balance of equitable energy use. Rules from HB 2816 are consistent with publicly stated goals by Tech Companies to achieve carbon free or renewable energy by 2030, ten years earlier than HB 2816's 100% clean energy requirement in 2040. Now is the time to ensure that this happens.

The bill aligns with HB 2021 in requiring clean energy. With a climate in crisis, and raging drought, flooding and extreme weather, it is time to regulate that this energy use be clean, and not sourced from fossil fuels or biomass. Regulations are currently in force to require big polluters to use clean energy and maximize efficiency. We need to get heavy energy users into the same bucket, through programs at DEQ. This would minimize reporting and administrative burden. Heavy energy users should not be exempt.

The following amendments should be integrated as they address stakeholder concerns.

- o Remove the requirement that the targets be met in order to be eligible for Enterprise Zone Tax benefits. Local authorities are free to continue these ETZ agreements.
- o Remove the additional 2027 target.
- o Remove the prescribed penalties and leave enforcement to DEQ's discretion
- o Clarify that the legislation would not regulate backup power needed during a power outage, only primary power
- o Clarify that market sensitive information reported to DEQ will be kept confidential.
- o Explicitly allow for the use of bundled RECs acquired directly from an energy provider (amendment may or may not be posted by hearing date)
- o Clarify that new data centers in COU territory will not contribute to the assessment of total load that could trigger the COU into the RPS (amendment may or may not be posted by hearing date)

Thank you for your consideration.